



GOOGLE MEET: A REMOTE COMMUNICATION TOOL FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

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Abstract:

At the time of this research being conducted, schools have practiced the online learning mode and are slowly fluctuating back from the traditional offline mode, and hence the difference between online and offline teaching can be noticed by the students as well as the school authorities. Students from kindergarten right up to grade ten have spent a lot of time sitting in front of tools, trying to study through this new mode of learning. While some believe that the unplanned and rapid move to online learning without any training and with little preparation will result in a poor user experience, others believe that a new hybrid model of education will emerge, with significant benefits. For those who do have proper access to the right technology, there is an indication that learning online can be more effective in a few ways. Some researchers have found that on average, students retain more material when learning online compared to only in a classroom. However, the effectiveness of online learning varies amongst age groups.

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‘Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today’. -Malcom X
The petrifying impact of COVID-19 has shaken the world to its core. The Covid-19 pandemic hit the world and suddenly everything went on an involvement. Overnight, everything changed for everyone, in every section of society. Educational Institutions were one of the many that needed to come up with an action so that the students could carry forward with their education. The formation of schooling and learning, including teaching and assessment methodologies, was the first to be influenced. Only a handful of private schools could adopt online teaching methods. Their low-income private and government schools, on the other hand, completely shut down for not having an approach to e-learning solutions as they could not afford it. The pandemic converted the traditional teaching model to technology-driven teaching. This disruption in the delivery of education pushed legislators to figure out how to drive engagement at scale while ensuring comprehensive e-learning solutions. At the time this research was being conducted, schools have practiced the online learning mode and are slowly ever-changing back to the traditional offline mode, and hence the difference between online and offline teaching can visibly be noticed by the students as well as the school experts. Students from kindergarten right up to grade ten have spent a lot of time sitting in front of technology, trying to study through this new mode of learning. While some believe that the impulsive and speedy move to online learning without any education and with little preparation will result in a poor user experience, others believe that a new hybrid model of education will emerge, with significant benefits. For those who do have proper access to the right technology, there is evidence that



learning online can be more effective in a few ways. Some researchers have found that on normal, students retain more substantial when learning online compared to only in a classroom. However, the effectiveness of online learning differs amongst age groups.

Statement of Problem:

A study of the effectiveness of Google Meet eLearning tool on secondary school students.

Variables:

1. Google Meet
2. Students of Secondary

Conceptual Definition:

An understanding of the application of Google Meet to gain knowledge and continue learning during Online mode.

Operational Definition:

Effectiveness: the degree to which something is successful in producing a desired result.

e-Learning: “eLearning is electronically supported learning that relies on the Internet for teacher/student interaction and the distribution of class materials.”

Need of Study:

In 2019, when Covid 19' hit the world, the functioning of schools came to a halt. Education is the most important tool for one's success and hence parents as well as the authorities were in search of a way to continue with the process of education. In this case, Online Education was the only ray of hope and hence the online methods of teaching and learning were accepted by all.

Teachers and students both were new to this concept and thus the search for a good application to execute learning began. Various options were considered by different institutes. Teachers had to undergo several pieces of training as it was their first time doing Online teaching. The teaching methods changed.

Google Meet was considered by a majority of the institutes because of its easy use and the teaching comfort it provides. Meet enables teachers to share their screens to show videos, documents, PPTs, teaching content, online games, etc. It supports every app that the teacher wishes to share with her class through the screen share option. Teachers also have the liberty to share a full screen, a window, or a tab as per their choice. Students can clear their doubts or answer by raising their hands through the 'raise hand' option. Teachers and students can exchange their thoughts and actions through the audio and video options provided by Google Meet. It is viewed as the most convenient App to execute Online teaching effectively.

Aim of the Study:

To comprehend the effectiveness of the use of Google Meet in eLearning among secondary school students.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To study the effectiveness of ICT tools in E-learning.
2. To examine the difficulties faced by students in studying with the use of Google Meet during online learning.



Scope and Limitations of the Study:

1. The study is conducted in the Mumbai Suburbs of Maharashtra.
2. The sample included individuals consisting of students of the Secondary Section from class VIII.
3. The sample included both boys and girls.
4. The sample included students from the SSC board only.
5. The sample included students from an English medium school only.
6. This study is delimited to the secondary section of class VIII and does not include Primary or College students.
7. This study does not include students from other boards of school education.
8. This study does not include schools from other vernacular medium schools.

Methodology:

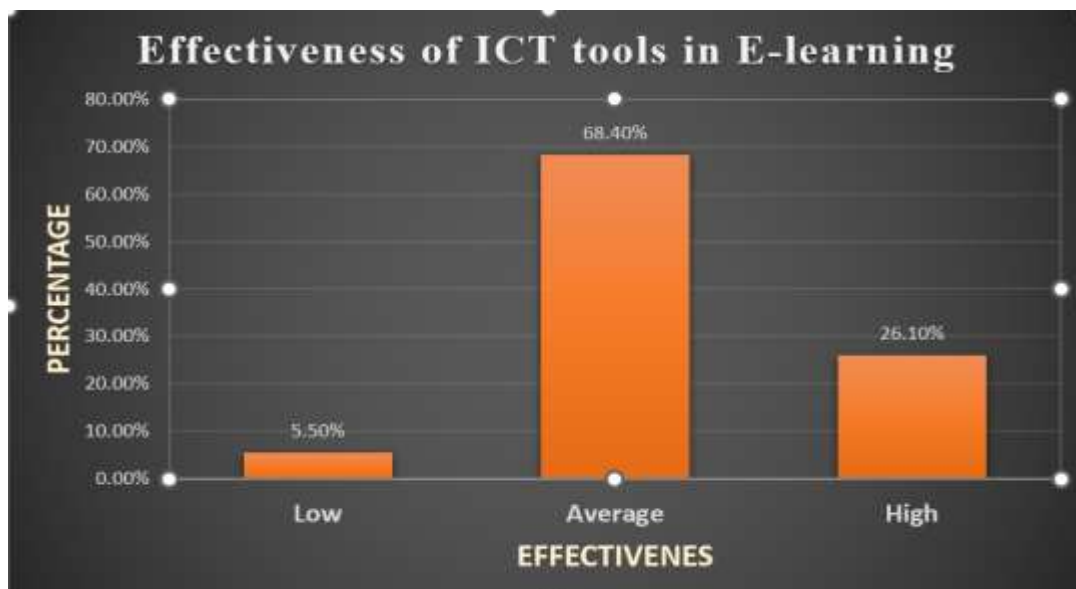
For the present study, researchers followed the descriptive research design where the researcher used a questionnaire to gather data.

Sample:

The sample for this study was a total of 38 students of std. VIII of S.S.C Board students. The sample included both, boys and girls who filled out a questionnaire.

Tool of the Study:

The data of the present study was quantified by assigning scores tabulating and drawing graphs for analysis of data.



Interpretation:

The above graph makes it very clear that online learning has been effective during the pandemic. A very less amount, that is only 5.5% of students do not believe in the efficiency of ICT tools in online learning, while if we merge the positives, 94.5% of students have benefited from the use of ICT tools, Especially Google Meet.

Findings of the Study:

The objectives set for the study were as follows:

1. To study the effectiveness of ICT tools in E-learning.
2. To examine the difficulties faced by students in studying with the use of Google Meet during online learning.

Objective 1 – Findings:

Concerning the first objective, it was found that many students find it a little difficult to concentrate for a longer time on the screen, though a majority of the students thought e-learning was effective. Through the research, the researcher could conclude that students could efficiently continue their education through E-learning. The effectiveness was high.

Objective 2 – Findings

Concerning the first objective, it was found that most of the students were comfortable studying through Google Meet. The various features provided by Google Meet are well used and they have benefitted a considerable number of students. Through this research, the researcher could conclude that Google Meet has been an easy-to-use and effective tool in e-learning.

Educational Implications:

The stakeholders of education, that is, the Board of Education, school, teachers, parents, and students can use the findings of this study to make E-learning effective for the learners.

The educational board can execute training programs for teachers using online tools to make the class interesting. Teachers can try to use a blended approach to teaching. They can use various online tools to make the class interactive and to ensure that the teacher is successful in attracting the attention of the students for a long time.

The students can use the tools to build up self-learning and try various ICT tools for future use.

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