A Study of Challenges Faced by Students while Switching from Online to Offline Classes

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Abstract: *The idea behind online education is to make learning more interesting and interactive for students. It is essentially a supplement to traditional education. In India, where there is already a significant digital divide, offline education is more appropriate because a significant number of students live in remote areas with inadequate network infrastructure. Even the students' financial situation prevents them from owning smartphones and laptop computers. There is also a human touch to offline education, where learning is not limited to the walls of the classroom but also to human interaction in canteens, libraries, playgrounds, and so on. As a result, once the situation is under control, we should promote traditional education alongside safety guidelines. Some scholars advocate for offline education, while others advocate for online education. Both of these provide numerous opportunities as well as unique challenges. So in this article we will study the challenges and opportunities of switching from online to offline classes.*

Keywords: Mental Stress, Facebook Post, SVM, Social Networking

I. INTRODUCTION

At the start of the Covid pandemic, everyone struggled to adjust to the new challenge of moving from physical classes to online classes. Parents and faculty were also concerned about the students' loss of a valuable period of their academic year. Even if students and teachers have adopted sophisticated digital teaching methods, nothing can replace real human interaction between students and teachers. The unprecedented damage caused by Coronavirus on the mental health of young students is indescribable; of being separated from their friends for an extended period of time. They had lost their interactions, ideas, and thought exchanges. The Covid epidemic has had a significant impact on student performance. The majority of the students are now used to working with this new version. The outlook for offline classes has undoubtedly been influenced by COVID-19. The current situation has demonstrated that academics can continue without the need for physical classes. However, there are numerous disadvantages to taking online classes. Because the classes are being held online, there is a greater chance that the teachers will not be able to give individual attention to each student as opposed to offline classes. Because there is no supervision, students may be less motivated to study through online classes. Because of the lack of human connection, most students are finding the transition phase difficult and refrain from participating in various class activities. Things will not simply return to normal as the return to in-person school, college, and learning takes effect.

1.1 Objective
1. To study the challenges and opportunities of switching from online to offline classes
2. To study the difference between offline and online learning.

1.2 Opportunities
- It is a positive development. There is a big difference between online and offline classes. The kind of education one gets offline is not possible through the virtual mode
- "Physical interaction among students will foster competition, exchange of ideas and will ensure their educational and social growth
- After being closed for nearly two years due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, schools are slowly reopening. While most students are relieved to be back in school and happy to be able to interact with their friends, classmates, and teachers in person rather than through a screen, the transition can be difficult. The pandemic caused a significant shift in the learning spectrum, as well as a shift in school systems from pre-pandemic times.

According to a UNICEF report, 14% of young Indians are depressed during COVID but are unwilling to discuss it. The same has been discovered among students, with the majority of them finding the transition phase difficult and refraining from participating in various class activities and preferring to keep to themselves due to a lack of human connection. Things will not simply return to normal as the return to in-person schooling and learning takes effect.

1.3 Challenges

Incomplete class work, lack of concentration, slow writing, mobile phone addiction, short attention span are some major challenges in switching from online to offline. There are some other challenges as follows.

1. **Socio-emotional support:** It is critical to assist students in developing their socio-emotional skills when they return to school. Schools should offer counselling and support to all students, as well as sessions on managing emotions and rebuilding social skills now that they have returned to school after a long absence. Building resilience in students and assisting them in supporting one another is critical for reconnecting and maintaining a sense of community and camaraderie.

2. **Fear and Anxiety:** Another challenge will be assuring parents that their children will be safe at school. Despite the fact that students will be permitted to attend class with their parents' permission and will adhere to strict Covid protocols and guidelines. Maintaining school safety will also be a challenge. It may be difficult to adhere to Covid appropriate behaviour such as hand washing, social distancing, and wearing masks at all times. It is nearly impossible to ensure that a large number of students in a class maintain social distance and wear masks throughout unless the classes are held in a large space such as an auditorium or stadium.

3. **Parental Adjustment:** Schools for higher grades have begun, and the same is planned for primary grades. The most difficult challenge is persuading parents to send their children to school. Schools have reopened in accordance with government guidelines. Schools have been instructed to place a greater emphasis on health and sanitation measures, but parents are still uneasy about exposing their children, especially without a vaccine.

4. **Adjusting to the environment:** After almost 24 months of schooling at home, students barely remember what "real" school is like. The task of bringing every child back to school in India is herculean and requires meticulous planning. Schools will have new rules in place for social distancing and extra care to maintain a sanitised environment. Given the large numbers of students we host in schools, it seems like it will be hard and a tough task to bring in all students on a full-day schedule for all days. School schedules should be planned accordingly to accommodate multiple needs and also maintain the required protocols. Also, the situation is still not stable and due to this uncertainty schedule must be kept flexible and alternate solutions to keep learning continuity should be planned.

5. **Restoring routines:** As a result of the pandemic, many students have lost their regular school routine. This has had an impact on their overall skills, particularly in basic reading and writing, which has become increasingly dependent on technology. After months of relying on recorded lectures and PDF notes, as well as typing out homework and exams, they must now begin taking notes and submitting handwritten assignments once they return to school. Students' sleeping and eating habits have shifted. Students could attend classes from the comfort of their own homes thanks to remote learning. Returning to school necessitates some extra effort and a change in the relaxed schedule they had grown accustomed to. During online learning, none of these were a problem. The challenge is to get students to return to school on time and to stick to a schedule. Allowing students time to re-adjust is the only way to assist them during this period of transition.

6. **Conducting classes online and offline:** Finally, schools must assist all students in reaching the required grade level. Schools must ensure that students who do not attend school do not fall behind the rest of the class in this situation. One of the most effective ways to address this issue is to use hybrid class models while restarting physical classes. However, this presents a challenge for teachers because they must manage two forums at the same time, and schools may need to invest heavily in technology and infrastructure to keep the two platforms running.

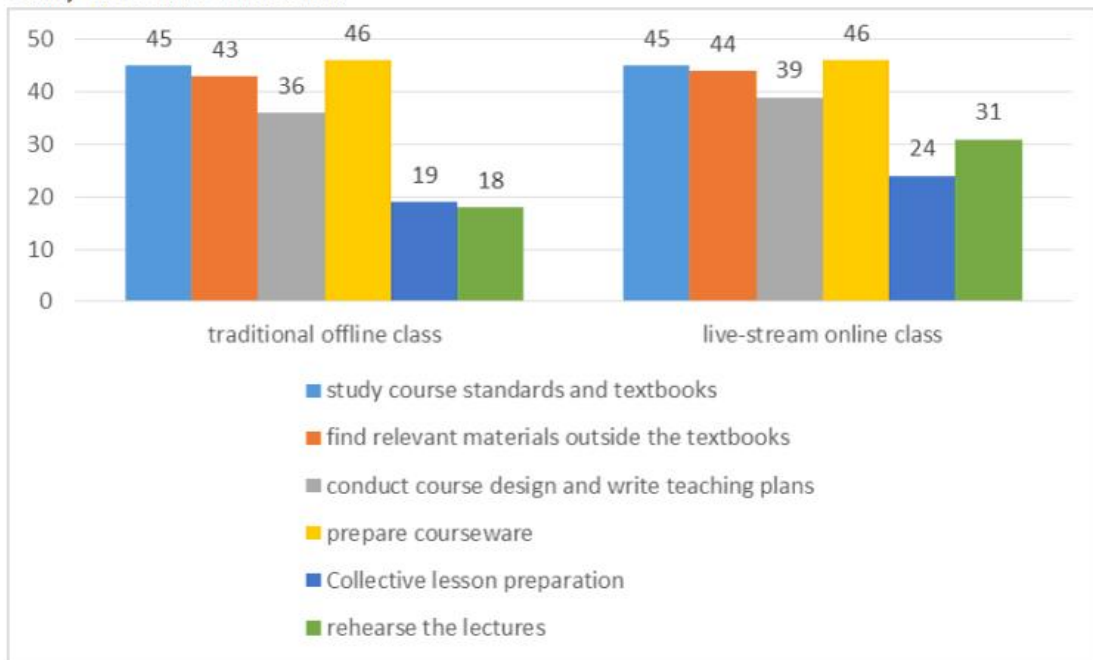### 1.4 Reasons for Preferring Offline Classes Over Online.

1. Offline classes provide students with a comfortable learning environment. They are responsible for proper sanitation and hygiene.

2. Because recordings are easily available for offline classes, students can easily recall concepts by revisiting the classes.

3. The student saves a significant amount of time when attending offline classes. There is no travel time involved, which allows the student to conserve energy and concentrate more effectively in class.

While online education is not a new phenomenon, its significance was highlighted following the pandemic. While it has greatly aided in the continuation of education despite the closure of many educational institutions, there is significant debate between online and offline education. A table highlighting the main differences between online and offline education is provided below.

Particulars	Online Education	Offline Education
Method of Teaching	Digitalised tools and methods of teaching	Traditional tools and methods of teaching
Cost and Time	Cost-effective and time-saving	More expensive than online education and consumes more time
Location	Virtual classrooms	Physical classrooms
Flexibility	Online classes have a flexible schedule	Offline classes have a fixed and strict schedule
Communication	Communication and collaboration happens digitally	Communications and collaborations happen face-to-face

Survey on students' satisfaction.

Source: https://www.researchgate.net/publication/344793655_A_Comparative_Study_of_Online_Education_and_Traditional_Offline_Education_During_COVID-19

II. PROS AND CONS

- Online Classes
  - It allows for flexibility and allows us to learn at our own pace.
  - Because we have recordings of the class, we can revise whenever we want.
  - It is inexpensive.
  - Internet access, smartphones, or laptops are required.

- o We have a set schedule for
- Offline classes.
  - o We can't revise because we don't have any recordings.
  - o It is expensive.
  - o There is no need for an internet connection, smartphones, or laptop computers.

III. SUGGESTION

Supervision and management of network learning must be strengthened. To begin with, while online learning can be very convenient, there are some drawbacks, such as a single process that is not flexible enough to meet the needs of different levels of learners. Second, because of the system setting problem, it is easy for some lazy learners to make a hole, such as cheating such as brushing learning time, brushing questions, and so on, so we need to strengthen supervision.

To fully realise the role of network autonomous learning, teachers must constantly explore and summarise experience, as well as fully utilise the benefits of the network to assist classroom teaching. At the same time, the Extracurricular Autonomous Learning content and task should be moderate, with an emphasis on effect and quality rather than mere formality.

Teachers should follow the trend of information technology development, constantly summarise and innovate teaching methods, and raise the level of information-based teaching. We try to use advanced teaching methods such as micro class, MOOC class, flipped class, blue ink cloud class, and rain class to improve teaching efficiency, and to integrate face-to-face teaching and online learning, so that students can gradually adapt to advanced learning methods and methods, and to create favourable conditions for lifelong learning.

Because hybrid teaching is still in its exploratory stage, there is no ready-made theory and experience to learn from, and the construction of the curriculum and evaluation system of hybrid teaching is not mature, so for the time and task allocation of the offline classroom teaching and Online Autonomous Learning in Hybrid Teaching, as well as the scientificity of the evaluation method, more research and demonstration are required. Simultaneously, in order to ensure the smooth progression of hybrid teaching, network technology and services must be constantly updated and improved.

IV. CONCLUSION

With the help of modern information technology, the "online" and "offline" teaching can be organically blended Students can conduct classroom displays under the supervision of teachers or with group cooperation through "online" self-study prior to class, and carry out learning discussions in "offline" class, thereby promoting students' ability of independent thinking and innovative learning. Students of various levels can design their own schedules based on their own learning habits. Teachers' job is to teach students how to learn and build knowledge in order to make classroom instruction more vivid and innovative. College English teachers create hybrid teaching using modern information technology, making traditional English classroom teaching more dynamic.

The effective and proper use of online education in stomatology can significantly improve teaching effect, but it cannot replace the traditional classroom. With the addition of online teaching, stemmatological education may adopt a new mode of combining online and offline teaching, as well as the integration of inside and outside the classroom, in the future.

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