

The Ambivalence in Online Classes

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ABSTRACT

The reason for this analysis was to direct a web-based study to bring the insights of students' and teachers' experience with online classes to the limelight. Conveyance of classes through a mode that conglomerates the different aspects of learning at one's comfort has been a recent change brought out by the Indian educational system in the wake of the covid pandemic. Subsequently, this study depicts the perceptions and concerns of school and college students, as well as the teachers about taking online based classes, which have been made mandatory after this pandemic. The sample comprised of 56 under graduate students from Food Technology and Chemical Engineering of Alagappa College of Technology, Guindy, Chennai. Online review technique was utilized for the motivation behind information assortment. The discoveries show that the accompanying domains are significant for lecturers and the students fulfillment with online classes, these domains are: quality and ideal communication among student's and teacher, specialized help accessibility, organized on the online class modules, and adjustments to oblige conduction of physical classes.

Keywords: *Online Classes, Covid-19, Pros and Cons.*

Online learning and classes are progressively turning out to be essential for the school system around the world. Online channel has made schooling helpful and effectively available by one and all. Instruction area in India has been a consistently developing substance. India has been one of the biggest areas on the planet with regards to advanced education. However, on the web and distance courses have been there from quite a while, presentation of the internet-based method of taking classes in contrast with the conventional eye to eye homeroom approach in colleges and universities have been viewed as just over the most recent couple of years in India. With regards to the Indian schooling system, up close and personal homeroom approach has generally been the most noticeably utilized. Commonality and simplicity of involving disconnected techniques and absence of necessity for on the web channels of showing has been the significant boundaries for reception of online channels of instruction. Be that as it may, following current COVID-19 pandemic circumstance conduction of online classes at school and college level has been made obligatory by the instructive sheets. Corona virus has drawn out an exceptional change in the schooling system not just in India but instead the whole world. Colleges across India as well

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as around the globe have moved to the virtual classes suspending actual study halls. Online instruction in India is at a beginning phase of advancement.[1]

Online Learning envelops a scope of advancements, for example, the around the world web, email, visit, new gatherings and texts, sound and video conferencing conveyed over PC organizations to give training. It assists the student with learning at their own speed, as per their own accommodation. Online Education requires an incredible arrangement of assets and cautious preparation. In this, instructors go about as facilitators rather than transmitters of content information, and ICT is viewed as asset that upgrades the opportunity for growth of understudies. Students learn through e-learning instruments which are accessible to all. E-Learning has given back the pleasure in learning through its creative and intuitive substance conveyance and has ended up being more engaging among understudies.[2]

In the meantime, up close and personal study hall setting can give prompt input to staff individuals and understudies about the nature of illustration, conveyance, and experience. In a homeroom arrangement an educator can notice understudy's non-verbal communication and these non-verbal signs helps the educator to quickly make change in their helping way to deal with best suit the necessities of the understudies. Extra addressing and individualized consideration in study hall climate to acquire a more definite thought regarding the understudy's lucidity with ideas being educated is a significant advantage when contrasted with online channels. What may be effectively seen and drawn closer in the study hall requires somewhat more testing and readiness in a web-based class. Examining and investigating how online classes ought to be planned and organized by taking into thought the understudies' and instructors' point of view ought to be a necessary piece of building internet showing procedure as well as learning. Past exploration studies have examined understudy's discernment and fulfillment toward internet learning and up close and personal learning. They examined 156 students who took and signed up for either a web-based learning area or eye to eye learning of the Recreation or the travel industry course at multicultural college in Northern California, United States and found. [3]

One more concentrate by showed tremendous contrasts in understudy fulfillment levels when online classes were contrasted with up close and personal learning of English as an unknown dialect. Understudies taking the eye-to-eye course were viewed as more happy with the course contrasted with their on the web partners.[4]

Due to the covid-19 pandemic of 2020, schools and colleges were forced to turn to a relatively new mode of learning: online classes. While online classes look easier, they often require far more discipline and commitment than offline courses. With this in mind, we have conducted a survey among students, to look into the difficulties and their opinions and perspective on online classes

Advantages of online Learning:

- Accessibility
- Personalized Learning
- Develops cognitive abilities:
- Globalization

Disadvantages Of online Learning

- Poor communication

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- Feeling Isolated
- Lack of motivation
- Lack of quality
- Poor accessibility in Remote Areas

Psychological Impact of Online Learning

- Frustration and online Learning
- Fear, Anxiety, Apprehension and Online Learning
- Stress, Depression and Online Learning
- Online class - Students approach

Few college students were enquired about the online classes. The feedback given by the students community is explained below. Students who were toppers and secured good marks and attentive in live classes too lost interest in education after learning through online teaching.

- 1) The first and foremost complaint posed on them was, since the students stayed at home, they were so casual and made them lose interest towards learning. Since students are practiced to sit in classrooms and learn during the entire year the ambience, the class room setup everything plays a main role. The student's community feels that the practice they have been following since childhood has got modified and it was new and made students to stay in relax mode. Also the way of life, example students sit in classrooms wearing casual wears for online classes. The students didn't have any restrictions like eating or taking any food at any time. Also few students felt that they didn't have proper place to sit. The normal noise that is made from house hold appliances causes a greater level of disturbances. This makes a greater level of disturbances and students get diverted from online classes.
- 2) Students also admitted that their lethargic behavior towards online classes made them distract from listening to classes. Also there was no teacher nearby to check if they have written in their class works or not.
- 3) The students felt that they lost interest towards studies for various reasons, also few teachers also lost interest towards online teaching and took classes casually.
- 4) Few students confessed that if the teacher frequently asked questions in every sessions students had no choice other than being attentive in classes. Most of the teachers had time just to take classes and doubt clearing sessions other than asking questions in between the classes.
- 5) Many students after losing interest in class after few minutes of commencement of the online class, due to any distractions opted one choice, not following the class(virtually present mentally absent) Few students concluded that they can leave the subject from wish list.
- 6) Few students made the time spent in online classes for travelling or playing online or offline games or even sleeping.
- 7) Since many students use Smart phones and very few use laptops. The students using laptops used smart phones for playing or chatting (PUBG, whatsapp, Instagram etc). The Android phones have an option of split screen, they have online class in half of the screen and the other one for playing or chatting. Doing so will fetch them attendance also they while away the time.

Students were raised this question and their response was the following.
What will you do if the teacher refused to share their teaching materials?

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Students feedback where in two different ways, first one was they will listen so that they can take notes. The other set of people said that they will not follow the class for getting the notes since the notes from their fellow classmates will circulate in their respective class WhatsApp groups. The students had another chance of getting resources from their respective seniors.

Teachers being strict in sharing notes alone does not play a main role.

The subjects students had can be categorized into theoretical, problematic, programming, Few teachers and students were enquired about handling these subjects. The feedbacks were, Teachers answer- Theoretical were so lengthy and it was difficult to take classes or make them follow or understand.

Students answered that theoretical classes were too boring.

- Teachers answers - Problematic (Especially Maths and Circuits) were difficult to make them understand
- Student's answers- Were easy and were able to follow better when compared to theoretical paper.
- Teacher's answers - Programming subjects were very difficult to make programs and concept to understand. Board teaching was better for programming subjects like Mathematics.
- Student's answers- Programming were interesting to certain extent later lost interest.

Difficulties Faced by Students During Online Classes

This report presents the results of a survey conducted among 56 college students on the difficulties faced by them during online classes. This survey was conducted to better understand a student's perspective on the difficulties they face, and try to provide efficient solutions to overcome them.

The survey was conducted among 56 students, from different departments and colleges. A questionnaire, created by Google forms, was circulated among them, and their responses were collected and analyzed. The results are presented in this report the questionnaire consisted of 12 questions in total. 3 of them focused on general information, 4 on the comfortable of online classes, 3 on the issues faced by them, and 2 on their opinion about online classes. This questionnaire was distributed among them, and all 56 responses were collected and analyzed.

What is the average number of hours of online classes you attend per day? (56 Responses)

The Fig.1 shows the average number of hours of online class attended by students every day. This question focused on general information of students. Out of the 56 respondents, 27 students attended classes for 5-6hrs, 19 students attended classes for 3-4hrs, 8 students attended classes for 7-8hrs and 2 students attended classes for 1-2hrs.

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56 responses

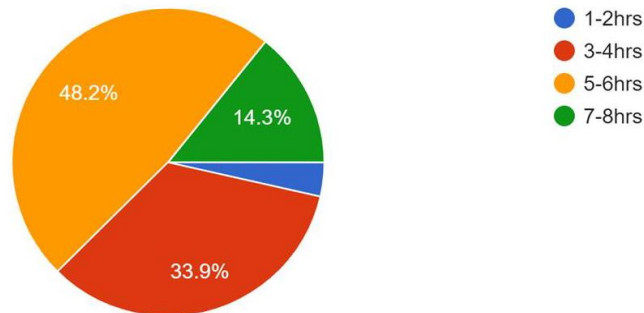


Fig.1 Average Number of Hours in Online Class

What devices do you generally use for online classes? (56 Responses)

The Fig.2 shows the devices preferred by students for online classes. This question focused on general information of students. Out of 56 students, 34 students used mobile phones, 17 students used laptops, 3 students used desktop computers and 2 students used tablets for online classes.

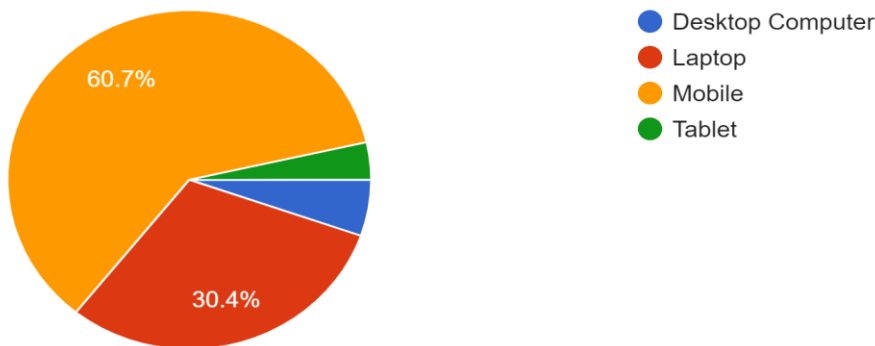


Fig.2 Device used for Online Class.

What are the issues often faced by you during online classes? (56 responses)

The Fig.3 shows the main issues faced by students during online classes. This question was aimed to learn the issues faced by students. Out of 56 students, 7 students claimed to face eye and muscle strain, 4 students claimed to face technical issues and 4 claimed to face mental health issues. The remaining 41 students claimed to face all of the above.

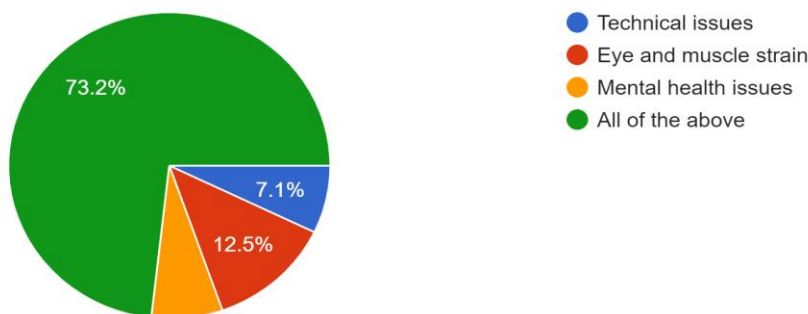


Fig.3 Issued faced in Online Class.

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Did you find the online class tools easy to use? (56 Responses)

The Fig.4 shows the opinion of students on the usage online tools like Microsoft forms, online assignment submission, etc. This question was focused on the comfortable of students. Out of the 56 respondents, 20 students found the tools easy to use, while 6 students found it difficult. The remaining 30 students claimed to find it confusing sometimes.

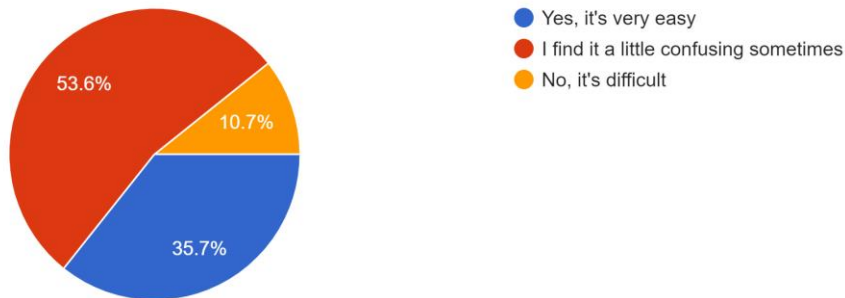


Fig.4 Ease level of Online Class Tools

How often do you face internet issues? (56 Responses)

The Fig.5 depicts how often each student faces technical issues. This question was aimed to understand the issues faced by students, particularly technical issues. Out of 56 students, 20 students faced issues once a week, 17 students faced them every day, 10 students faced them once every 2 days and 9 students never faced any kind of technical issues

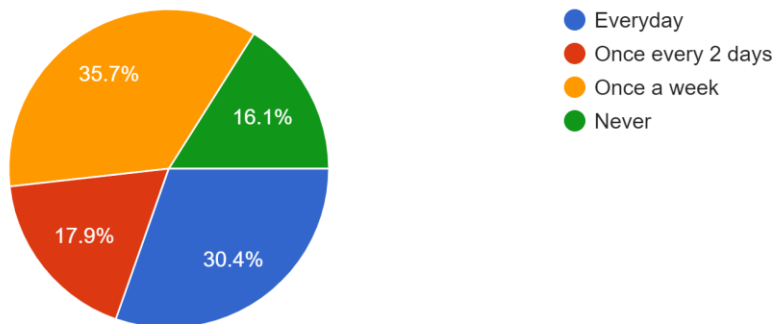


Fig.6 Frequency of Internet issued faced during Online Class.

Is your home environment suitable for attending classes? (56 Responses)

The Fig 7 shows the opinion of students on learning from home. This question was focused on the comfortable of students. Out of the 56 respondents, 16 students found learning at home comfortable while 20 students found it uncomfortable. The remaining 20 students found it comfortable only on some occasions.

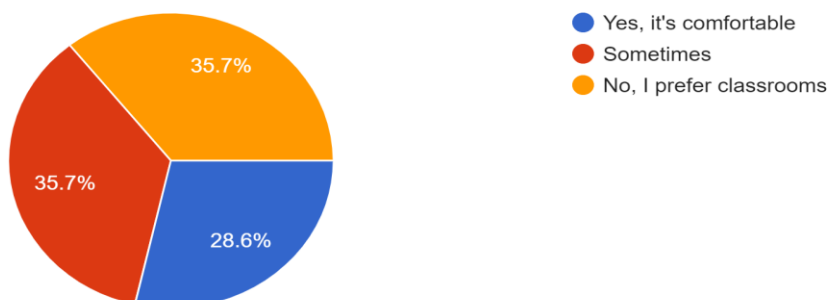


Fig.7 Home Environment for Online Class.

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Is it easy to express your ideas during online classes? (56 Responses)

The Fig.8 depicts the comfortable of students in expressing their ideas in online class. This question was focused on the comfortable of students. Out of 56 students, 5 students found it easier to express their ideas, while 13 students found it hard to do so, because they lacked confidence. The remaining 38 students found it easy only on some occasions.

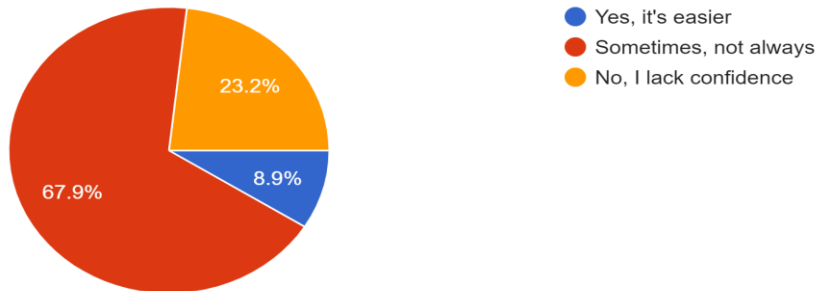


Fig.8 Ease of Online Class.

What do you find most difficult to cope up? (56 Responses)

The Fig.9 shows the main mental health issue students find it hard to cope up. This question was aimed to understand the issues faced by students, particularly mental health issues. Out of the 56 respondents, 11 students found it hard to concentrate with increased distractions, 5 students struggled with time management and 5 students struggled with stress and lack of motivation. The remaining 35 students struggled with all of the above.

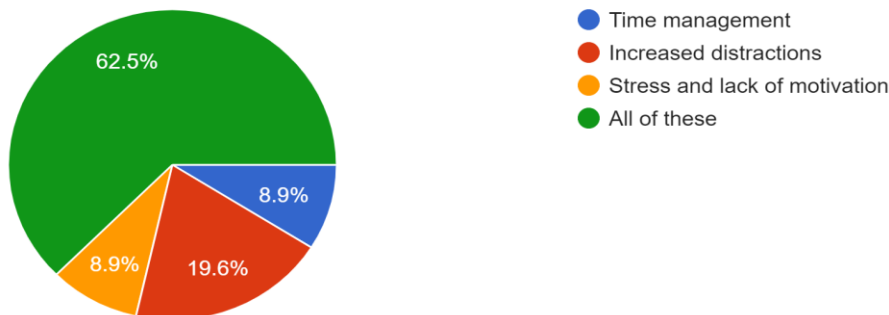


Fig. 9 Difficulty in Online Class.

I found it comfortable to learn from home. (56 Responses)

The Fig.10 depicts the comfortable of students to learn from home. This question was focused on the comfortable of students. The question stated I found it comfortable to learn from home. Out of the 56 students, 2 students strongly agreed while 25 students disagreed. The remaining 29 students neither agreed nor disagreed.

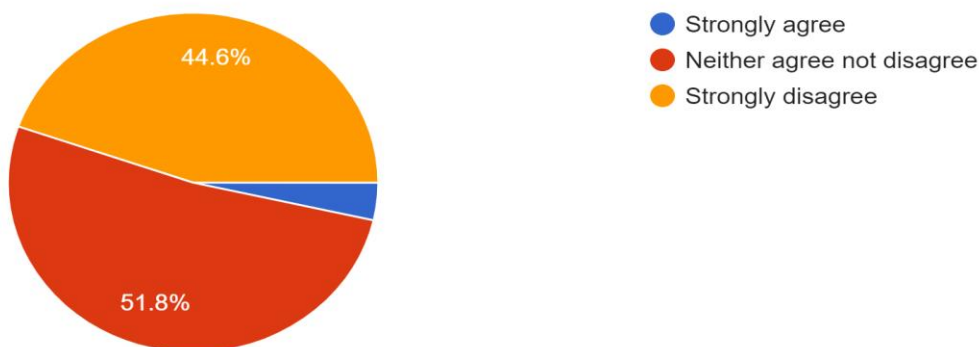


Fig.11 Learning from Home

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In your opinion, do you think online classes are effective? (56 Responses)

The Fig.12 illustrates the opinion of students on the efficiency of online classes as compared to physical classes. This question focused on finding the personal opinion of students. Out of the 56 respondents, 5 students thought it was effective, while 36 students thought it was ineffective. The remaining 15 saw no difference.

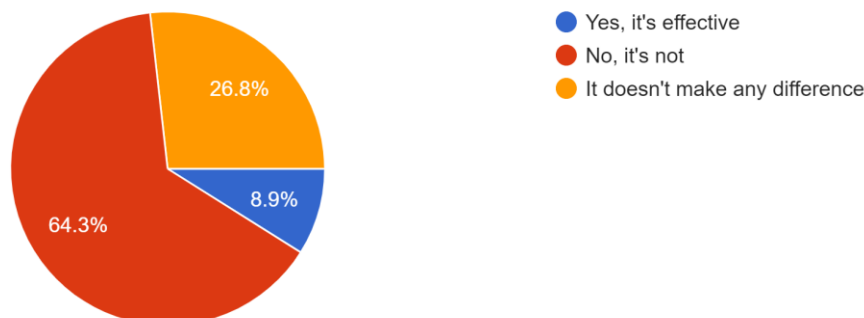


Fig.12 Effectiveness of Online Class.

What do you prefer? (56 Responses)

The Fig.13 shows the of students preference of learning mode; online or physical. The question focused on finding the personal opinion of students. Out of 56 students, 51 students preferred physical classes and classroom learning while only 5 students preferred online classes.

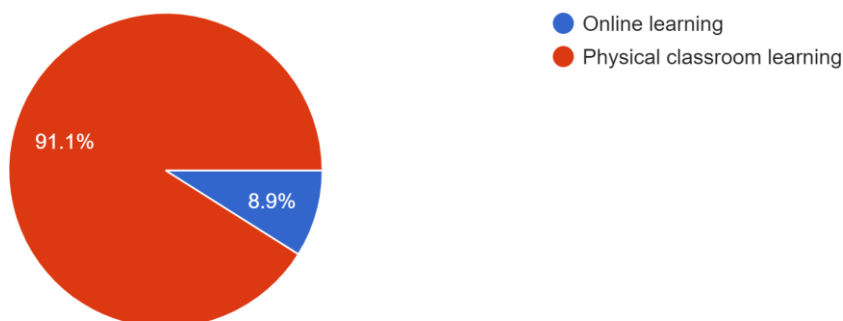


Fig.13 Physical Classes vs Online Class.

From the above analysis it is evident that a majority of students face many kinds of difficulties during online classes. A vast majority of students faced technical, mental health and eye strain issues. They found the online tools confusing to use sometimes and faced net issues almost once every week. They prefer the environment of classrooms more because they don't find expressing their ideas during online classes comfortable always. They also find it difficult to cope up with time management, increased distractions, stress and lack of motivation. Only a negligible amount of students found it comfortable to learn from home while the rest felt difficult to stay home and learn. They do not find the online mode of learning effective, and hence, prefer the physical classroom mode of learning.

So, the following recommendations are suggested to help students overcome their problems:

- It is recommended to keep online classes every alternate day to reduce eye strain.
- Teachers should not fix tight deadlines because of the impression 'students are in their homes all day long anyways'.
- It is suggested to conduct free therapy in all colleges to help students with their mental health.

CONCLUSION

On examining the pros and cons of online learning we find that the task of deciding whether e-learning is a boon or a bane is strenuous. As of now we might want to conclude by saying that online learning is a fantastic choice in training, especially when there are derrents to customary learning circumstances. For instance, some students wish to proceed with their conventional schooling however don't live inside drivable distance of a school or college and hence don't find it practical to drive day to day. Furthermore, they must have the capacity to control all applications effectively and to follow the advancements in pioneer nations in e-learning and distance learning. Models of E-discovering that prohibit any up close and personal contact might have restricted possibilities, yet mixed learning modes offer huge benefits, expected both on and off grounds and ought to be sought after if the advantages of internet learning are to be completely understood. Along these lines, to limit the adverse consequence of online learning, combined learning can be given at all degrees of education.

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Conflict of Interest

The author(s) declared no conflict of interest.

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