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Examining the Motivation Level of L2 Students in e-Learning during Pandemic (Covid-19)

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Contents:

- Introduction
- Objectives of the Study
- Research Question
- Literature Review
- Methodology
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Recommendations
- References

Abstract: *COVID-19 has disturbed the record of the activities in the world. But education is the only diligence that moved entirely in the online method in most of the countries. And virtual learning and teaching as well as the best option to continue the education throughout the covid-19 pandemic, particularly in tertiary learning. The purpose of this study is to know the motivation level of L2 learners during the pandemic. For that purpose, 1015 undergraduate students were selected randomly from the University of Education FSD campus. The quantitative method was used, and data was analyzed through SPSS software. A questionnaire was distributed among all the students and asked to fill it out. After analyzing the data, it has been seen that covid-19 did not affect the motivation level of the students. It is recommended that Govt. should take bold steps and provide funds to students and teachers as well to continue the education properly.*

Key Words: Online English Learning, L2 Motivation, L2 Motivational Self-system, Novel Covid-19

Introduction

All experts and researchers approved that learners' achievement in learning is influenced by motivation which is a key aspect of learning. Barnett (2009) specified that the greatest significant issue in grasping the English language speciously is motivation. The role of family, intellectuals as well as facilities for learning are other factors. Although such factors cannot be ignored, these are not as important as the key as the motivation. There are two types of motivation that influence the learner they are instrumental as well as integrative motivation (Gardner& Lambert,1972).Instrumental motivation designated a wish to learn the second language to attain a practical purpose, such as to recover a person's service changes. On the other hand, Integrative motivation is important in distant languages, a longing to interrelate with innate presenters of the second linguistic values, as well as a positive approach towards these people as well as their culture. According to Pujals (1986), motivation is a variation of dynamism in an individual, which is noticeable by the spontaneous spirits as well as responses to attain objectives. The root word of motivation is motive. Motive displays an instinct that rises since in somebody that details a being to turn to do somewhat. Temporarily,

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incentive affects someone's behavior which is a dynamic force so that he may achieve his heart by acting upon something to do or to attain the result for a definite purpose.

By comparing with that, it was identified that motivation is an actual significant issue that controls the achievement or disappointment in L2 learning. The frequency of using the learning strategies directly influences the level of motivation. It can be said that it is the perseverance of learning aim setting as well as the power of learning. Students can improve their English ability because learning strategy is another factor in learning (strike&Egan, 1978). Numerous students still have difficulty learning. They find difficulty in reading, writing, and speaking as well. Students sometimes get low scores although they study hard. Apart from this, they need to get proper training along with new strategies in learning. They need to know the proper methodology for learning which is the most powerful and helpful. Specified that learners can enjoy their knowledge if they know the proper strategy for learning Adam and pierce (2006). They can make good progress in their learning like they can be more self-confident, faster as well as comfortable. It can be said that learning is an impression used by the learner to save the data.

It is clarified that a learning plan is an education action done by students as well as through instructors. In this way, goals of learning are achieved competently as well as successfully Jonassen and Land (2012). Students enhance their learning by achieving learning strategies. For communicative competence, learning strategies play an important role in self-direction, self-motivation as well as activeness. Gagne (2008) stated that students feel interested when they have high motivation with good strategies for learning. Then the learning achievement will be attained by the students properly. It is also seen that such students are lazy and do not have proper strategies and high motivation for learning. And it will be difficult for them to learn English and they say learning English is boring.

Impact of covid-19 on Education

The sphere is being changed unceasingly as well as building expansion almost in each part unrelatedly of the impetus of its development. This procedure is named evolution. There can be a lot of issues that carry about evolution as geographical, conservational, wars, spiritual as well as pandemics, etc. What we share with others rather not learn is the prime dishonorable of each development which is possible with information and education as well. It can be said that education is learning as well as teaching.Covid-19 almost affected every field of life even it did not let go of the pitch of learning. Previously, there had been offline education which is face-to-face now. It has been changed in virtual learning and teaching as well. English language learning is being affected by numerous factors. It was cited that learners were inclined to choose as well as declaim a book of a distant philological as well as try to express in that dialectal as well. However, it can be said that students are continuously prepared to absorb the language. Face-to-face learning stopped because these are the days of covid-19. So, each institution is converted into online education, and this is an original tendency in education and teaching as well, so it varies from learner to learner. Everyone wishes to absorb the language of English, but each does not accept this virtual learning. It has been observed that online education is dissimilar from offline learning in the terms of environment and physical presence as well. It is seen that all students are not equal and have attitudes towards online learning equally, so there is still a need to train them properly in the usage of IT.

After noticing the above singularities, the researcher envisioned to investigation on learning achievement as well as motivation as well. Therefore, the researcher would like to show the research in the light of covid-19 by applying the current matters. Based on the issues, the researcher recognized the problem in the present research.

Statement of the Problem

The living style of the countries has been changed because of the covid-19 pandemic. It converted the traditional mode to a digital one, and it affected the education system as well. The "social distance" is the main theme of all this which is presently the proper

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treatment of this covid. The standards of education are also being changed. The traditional method of teaching is converted into online mode. It can be said that the learning changed starting offline to a connected approach. The language of English is a while tough since other old-style teachings as well as learning. The problem of the study is to analyze the motivation level of the students during the pandemic and its effects upon the learners. How will the learners overcome the challenges of online learning? Will the online mode change the motivation level of the students or not as second language learners? The current learning is all around the motivation level of the students during the pandemic by e-learning. It is a positive as well as an engaging activity for the students to learn L2.

Significance of the Study

Virtual learning has become an integral portion of the world. Pakistan is also facing the current situation of covid-19, which is at its early steps of Pakistan. The present trend of pandemics troubled each field of life as it also affected higher education relentlessly. Now the system of higher education commission is being moved on an untried base to minimalize the harm of instruction. So, there are numerous difficulties in implementing it. This is the chain of this research project. Numerous fragments of research were completed on a lot of knowledge magnitudes, i.e., impact as well as barriers of virtual knowledge in the achievement of the learners academically, but the smallest education was completed on the motivation level of L2 learners in their e-learning. The undergraduate students of Education University, Faisalabad, were selected to fill out the questionnaire about their incentive level in e-learning during the pandemic. Because this is a vital phase of learning, as well as learners, have extra interest to achieve the research. Therefore, knowing their motivation level is of countless significance.

Objectives of the Study

- To catch the motivation level of L2 students in e-learning at undergraduate level students.
- To inspect the competence of online learning as well as its impression on learners 'motivation.
- To treasure the perception level of the learners.

Research Question

- How does online learning shake the motivation level of undergraduate learners?

Literature Review

Maslow (1954) identified that if motivation were a direct concept, it would have been monotonous. The definition of motivation has no agreement on it. As a general term, there are numerous concepts on it. Different components include the complexity of motivation like individual's need, achievement, curiosity, success, as well as longing for inspiration and innovative experience. Motivation is a Latin term which is derived from "Movere" which means to move. The people are moved by motivation and inspiration as Lewis and Hill (1992) maintained the notion. They said that the motivation is the will, longing as well as interest to do. So, it can be said that motivation is a complex term as numerous scholars have tried to provide their best in this regard. McCormick and James (1989) recognized some key requirements which help build learners' motivation, such as:

- The requirement for knowledge, which districted as the need for accomplishment.
- The requirement for inspiration, the necessity to be encouraged by the situation, by other people or my opinions, opinions as well as feelings.
- The need for ego improvement, for the self to be recognized and to be acknowledged as well as permitted by others.
- The need to procedure and adopt the results of the examination, management, action, and stimulation, to decide ambiguity, to hunt for explanations to difficulties as well as for the consistent system of knowledge.

It has been stressed by the researchers as well as experts that it is significant to identify the structure of incentive. Learners are encouraged differently

according to their performance of learning. They are judged equally to become the differentiation in the result which matters most. The types of motivation are divided into two parts by Lambert and Gardner (1972). They are instrumental incentives as well as integrative incentives.

Instrumental Motivation

It occurs when outside issues sort the being do somewhat as well as derive from an external basis inspiring or nurturing an individual to prosper. It is the outcome of any number of outside aspects. For some functional reasons, learners take action to learn L2 to permit the inspection to develop a good job or to grow a residence at university. For instance, some persons acquire English to catch a good occupation in distant companies. To get the scholarship, teachers, as well as students, learn English abroad for higher studies. That is why extrinsic motivation shows a significant part in the accomplishment of L2 learning because of some compression or prize from the social environment. It is an internal behavior that one endures to get something good like a reward or to evade penance.

Integrative Motivation

It plays an important role in the success of students' L2 learning as well as in making them encouraged and highly motivated towards their learning. An activity is not a prize in such type of learning. Students are attracted towards their learning in this sort of motivation. Students make their self-more better by learning. It can be said that students are intrinsically motivated when experience and pleasure are obtained from the activity. This thing leads to the curiosity to learn more.

Learning is the procedure of acquiring new behavior by interacting with their environment through a new experience by Harmer (2007). Learning is a variation that ensues within the individual, as mentioned above, according to the interest and activities with different experiences. Temporarily, education success is the consequence that attained or developed form of the topic kid by Piet and Herrlitz (2007). They have explained that knowledge attainment is the result of which resulted in variations within the individual as a result of activity in learning. They have clarified that education is an action that has the resolution to sort a control of performance, boldness, characteristics, information as well as ability as an outcome of separate involvement with the situation. In addition, learning, showed by Lee (2015), originated that there is an alteration in behavior after knowledge, something which is called good learning. There is a response given by the student, which is called learning. It can also be said that there is a change in students' behavior from positive to negative.

However, the learning process and system for learning have been changed because of the worst condition of pandemics. It was a face-to-face system of learning in normal conditions. And it was really easy not only for the students but also for the teachers to interact directly with the students and to get feedback from them. The issues of students 'learning were resolved easily in offline education. However, the current system of education, as well as teaching, has not been changed yet because of the pandemic to acclimate to fresh and usual lifetime. In this situation, everybody is facing difficulty and following the virus prevention protocols, including learning as well as teaching. Offline learning and teaching converted to a virtual one and implemented in all colleges and universities as well. The essential for learning is mandatory because of the firm signs of progress in skill. They want to acquire at any place as well as at any time. And in any way, it has to be achieved (Wolfinger, 2016).

Newly, education organizations everywhere in the world are located in disordered circumstances due to the coronavirus pandemic. The data bits of intelligence show that over 60 million students have been momentarily out of school throughout the covid-19 infection in Indonesia (UNESCO, 2020). They accompanied a review which presented the important anxiety for students who study at home in the lack of internet entrance as well as electronic devices. In circumstances of study at home, the powerful factor for learners to obtain a second language learning English is internal motivation. Li (2020) specified that the achievement of the learner in SLA is shaped by the skill to act on their own

motivation through vigorously applying the reserve as well as affordance in the education environment.

The mode of learning has been changed over the past two years. Online learning is triggered in certain worldwide institutions. Though, some colleges, schools, as well as universities did not use this online approach as well as also they do not know how to do it and what is involved.MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) permitted and increased instructors' consciousness of online education and its involvement (Lynch, 2004). The utilization of guidance for students to be motivated in virtual learning depends on the practical direction on intellectual, expressive as well as interactive commitment (Eccles et al., 1993; Harter, Whitesell, & Kowalski, 1992; Midgley, Anderman, Hicks, 19995; Roeser & Eccles, 1998). The unexpected alteration in the organization with numerous difficulties has a vast perspective to decrease learners' inspiration in education. So, the achievement of students is also influenced because of less motivation. So, there is a need to investigate, and also researchers take an interest to get the knowledge about the motivation equal of the learners throughout the Covid-19. Moreover, the researchers also investigate the level of motivation as well as attainment, particularly in learning the English language during the covid-19.

Advantages of E-learning

There are numerous advantages of online learning. According to Sadeghi (2019:83) defines that there are several advantages of online learning. Such as:

Saving a Significant Amount of Money

According to Bijeesh (2017), for any given program, the fee of a distance education degree may be much more reasonable than the fee of a regular on-campus degree. Such students who are poor and needy can't continue their studies and afford expenses they can go for distance learning. Because in this way they don't need to go anywhere, they can get admission anywhere, just need to get strong access of internet.

A Study from anywhere, any Time

According to (Nagrale, 2013), the good thing about distance learning is you can study anytime, anywhere. You just need to get a proper internet facility to continue your study. Wherever you're living, you can do it easily. You just get the material related to your study and get online admission where you want to get. This is the big benefit of distance learning.

Earn while you learn

Distance learning is the best option when you want to get higher education while you earn. Distance learning will accommodate both learning and earning as well. It is possible in the case when you want to feed your family as well along with your study. So, that time distance learning is the best option to learn more. Online learning has numerous disadvantages. Like:

Disadvantages of E-learning

Feeling Isolated

The drawback of online learning is isolation because we do not interact physically. Rather, we sit in a room and feel isolated, which is a negative point of online learning. Students get bored by sitting alone at far-off places and are unable to touch as well as greet one another like in the physical room. They use different apps like Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp, etc., and this thing leads them towards isolation. They take stress because of being isolated, and they get dropped out of the places because of the fear of isolation.

Lack of Motivation

There is a sort of distraction in online learning because students can get easily be distracted by any other thing, and they get lack motivation because of it. Students get the disadvantage of it, especially those who have an issue with time management. Such students want to be more efficacious with the construction of old-style learning.

Lack of Quality

Virtual learning has its lack of quality in the

teaching-learning process. Galusha in Dhulll & Sakshi (2017:33) explores that offline faculty has issues with respect concerning to the reliability of online courses. It rarely happens that online mentors take their lesson preparation as seriously as they can. Then the lack of commitment leads to negativity and affects the quality of virtual learning.

It was indicated that the attainment of learning is a skill to be mastered in the related field by Johnson and Oborn (2015). The success of learning is judged by the marking or grade which is given by a teacher. It can be said that there is a parameter of learning which is called achievement, used to measure the level of the students. So, it can be said that if the achievement is good, then success is good. If the achievement is bad, then the level of success is also bad in its result.

Methodology

This study was conducted to classify the level of the motivation of L2 students in e-learning throughout the pandemic. The nature of the research is quantitative. The population of the research is undergraduate students of Education University, Faisalabad campus.1015 students were selected randomly. A questionnaire was disseminated amongst the learners to ask their motivation level of e-learning during the pandemic. All the composed evidence arrived in SPSS. Percentage, as well as connotation, were analyzed through the software with a 0.05 level of significance. The precise purposes were to get the problems of the students while learning the English language with the level
of their motivation throughout the pandemic.

Data Analysis

Among 1015 students, the majority (30.5%) of the defendants were of the age group 20-25 years. All the defendants were females (50%). The mainstream of defendants (34.5%) was from BS English; likewise around half of the respondents (47.8%) were from language SLA class during the time of covid-19 pandemic Lockdown. And finally, more than half of the defendant's (26.5%) family income per month was less than Japanese RS. 60,000.

Information about Students

Table 1. Motivation level of defendants towards benefits of E-learning n=1015

Statement	Yes n (%)	No n (%)	Don't know (%)
It was tough to take an offline class, and to face different people now is easy for me.	268(26.9%)	678(67.8%)	87(4.5%)
I enjoy learning while at home.	358(35.4%)	556(54%)	97(8.7%)
I can do lots of other work while learning	672(65.2%)	243(22.3%)	98(7.8%)
I'm glad that I am updated with digital literacy.	815(70.3%)	135(13.3%)	61(6.0%)
Virtual learning saves the expenses of foldaway from household to school.	725(71.4%)	201(18.8%)	88(8.5%)
I can take good care of my family while learning virtually.	726(60.7%)	188(17.6%)	95(8.4%)
Virtual classes save me from accidents as I take online classes.	724(70.5%)	160(16.5%)	110(11.7%)

Table 1 illustrates the motivational level of undergraduate students and their responses towards the benefits of e-learning. As 26.9 % of students said, it was difficult to attend offline classes as compared to online classes. And 35.4, 65.2, 70.3, 71.4 % of students agreed with virtual learning and said that it saved their time and money as well. Some such students responded that they do not like online learning and they do not know the proper methodology of learning strategies. And 4.5%, 8.7%, 7.8%, and 8.4% of students responded that they do not know about virtual learning. And they don't take an interest in online classes.

Table 2. Activities of Respondents during E-learning n=1015

Statement	Yes n (%)	No n (%)	Sometimes n (%)
I get disturbance because of electricity problem.	639(62.1%)	101 (9.1%)	190 (17.8%)
I have internet entrance for my virtual learning at household.	651 (63.3%)	168 (15.6%)	190 (17.8%)
I get disturbance because of an internet problem.	643 (62.5%)	102 (9.0%)	266 (25.3%)
I use the net package for my classes.	332(31.8%)	360 (34.6%)	317 (31.3%)
I know about digital literacy (like mute-unmute, joining, recording, etc.).	711 (70.3%)	182 (17.0%)	116 (10.5%)
I feel like I'm less privileged in an online class.	325 (31.1%)	417 (40.2%)	267 (25.4%)
I use the laptop for my virtual learning.	404 (39.0%)	408 (39.3%)	197 (18.5%)

Table 2 explains the activities of L2 students of the graduate level while taking online classes.62.1% of students said that they have electricity problems when taking online classes.63.3% of students told that they have internet access at their homes.62.5% of students get disturbance because of internet problem.31.8% of students use net packages for online classes.9.1 %, 15.6%, 9.0%, 34.6% respondents marked with no responses.17.8%, 10.5%, 25.4%, 18.5% students responded by marking sometime. So, it means that students face a lot of difficulties in virtual learning according to the above-mentioned percentages.

Table 3. Activities/problems of Respondents during E-learning n=1015

Statement	Yes n (%)	No n (%)	Sometimes n (%)
I can make a good statement with my teacher during virtual class.	468 (46.1%)	291 (27.8%)	241 ((22.8%)
I use my phone for my online classes.	581 (57.3%)	130 (12.8%)	289 (27.6%)
I get lecture notes from my teachers even when I'm not capable of attending the online lecture.	663 (64.5%)	160 (14.8%)	186 (17.4%)
I'm not interested in taking a virtual class even when I do not have any related tricky.	158 (14.6%)	620 (60.3%)	231 (20.8%)
I get regular assignments from my teachers after virtual classes.	482 (46.6%)	181 (17.0%)	346 (33.2%)
I can clear all my queries during the question/answer session.	651 (63.3%)	169 (15.7%)	189 (17.7%)
I get happy when my instructor provides me the feedback for my homework.	606 (59.0%)	175 (16.3%)	228 (21.5%)
I do not have any difficulty with my assignments after my online classes.	600 (58.2%)	189 (17.7%)	220(20.8%)
I'm worried because of the electricity problems during my online classes.	645 (62.7%)	109 (9.8%)	255 (24.2%)
I feel like I am suffering from headache problems during virtual classes.	645 (62.7%)	109 (9.8%)	255 (24.2%)

Table 3 explains the problems and activities of the students in virtual learning. Students who responded with yes said that they could get lecture notes from teachers even after the online classes, are 46.6%,146% of students said that they could skip their cases even when they do not have any technical problem.63.3% of students said they could clear all their queries after the virtual classes. Some students said they find it difficult because of internet connection when they take online classes, they're

62.7%. Some students replied with no responses like 14.8% say they are not capable of joining virtual classes, but then also they can get lecture notes after the class .9.8% said they do not find the problem of electricity when taking online classes.9.8% said they do not have any health problem by virtual learning. Some students responded with sometimes responses like they are 24.2%, 20.8%, 27.6%, and 24.2% who responded they get health problems sometimes not regularly.

Discussion

Research conducted on "Exploring the critical challenges and factors influencing the E-learning system usage during COVID-19 pandemic "illustrates that technical issues are also one of the thoughtful issues that disturb the practice of e-learning system conferring to defendants which were comparable to this education that more than half learners (62.1%) bothered for their virtual class because of the internet and electricity issue as well. Another study was conducted on "The impact of COVID-19 on learning". The viewpoint of Ghanaian students highpoints that only 17.6% of the defendants were approved of reality capable of learning efficiently in the home. Likewise, in this research, 71.4% of respondents marked that virtual learning is the best option for them because they take good care of their families while taking online classes.65.2% of students' response was also positive, they say that online learning is good because they can do a lot of work at homes while learning.70.3% said that they are happy and eager to learn during covid-19 because they know about digital literacy, they can use and solve technical issues during online classes like joining, mute-unmute, recording and leave as well.64.5% of respondents response was that they can get lecture notes from the teacher even after online class because it happens when sometime they can't attend the lecture because of urgency or any other work at home. And 27.8% of students answered with no responses they said they couldn't make good communication with teachers during online classes.54% of students said they do not enjoy at home, it may be because of their interest or they need to be motivated extrinsically.24.2% respondents replied that it sometimes happened with them that they get electricity problem or internet issue, sometimes they get headache or eye-pain because of online learning not regularly.

Conclusion

The outcome of the data analysis shows that a variation of the education scheme that happens throughout this innovative regular influences the motivation of students' learning. It explores different students' nature, their temperament along with their basic problems in virtual learning. No doubt, the pandemic has changed the world dynamically. It affected the education department as well. However, it has been analyzed through the correlation that there is a low frequency of such students who are not willing for online classes. It can be said that the motivation level of the students is very high instead of the covid-19 pandemic. They want to learn a second language, and they want to read books also from the internet and also get lectures from teachers even after online classes. As in this research, it has been analyzed that 71.4% of respondents marked that virtual learning is the best option for them because they take good care of their families while taking online classes.65.2% of students' response was also positive, they say that online learning is good because they can do a lot of work at homes while learning.70.3% said that they are happy and eager to learn during covid-19 because they know about digital literacy, they can use and solve technical issues during online classes like joining, mute-unmute, recording and leave as well.64.5% of respondents response was that they can get lecture notes from the teacher even after online class because it happens when sometime they can't attend the lecture because of urgency or any other work at home. And 27.8% of students answered with no responses they said they couldn't make good communication with teachers during online classes.54% of students said they do not enjoy at home, it may be because of their interest or they need to be motivated extrinsically.24.2% respondents replied that it sometimes happened with them that they get electricity problem or internet issue, sometimes they get headache or eye-pain because of online learning not regularly. It was analyzed through the responses of the questionnaire

that some students enjoy online learning at home along with other works, and the level of their motivation is also very high. This pandemic can't decrease the level of motivation and achievement as well. They are highly motivated and confident while learning online. Because they are very satisfied and comfortable, they manage their domestic work along with virtual classes. They know how to use the internet, how to join, how to record, how to leave, how to use other apps as well. It can be seen that in this new normal situation, not only students but also teachers are also familiar with digital literacy and its use properly. So, when they teach, they guide their students about it so that they may manage their technical glitches. So, it means the students who were highly motivated in learning got good results even throughout the pandemic. Then the equal of their achievement remained excellent because they knew the proper use of technology with new strategies of learning. However, apart from such excellent students, it also has been analyzed that there are some such students who do not enjoy online learning and can't achieve good grades because they have sort of problems like electricity issues, internet problems, health effects, and domestic issues as well. Some students responded that they do not meet such problems on a daily basis rather, they get such issues sometimes like technical issues, health problems, internet access, and many others as well. The students who are highly motivated in virtual learning in the covid-19 pandemic used internet packages during the pandemic to take their classes, which means they are eager and take interest to get online classes during the pandemic.

Recommendations

There are some future recommendations after the above discussion and conclusion. These recommendations will be useful and helpful in the future for the improvement, affirmative and constructive role as well:

- It is perceived that the world elected for virtual technology factually with some goals. Though, in Pakistan, it is selected only on need base conditions during the pandemic. So, it suggested that Govt. should take serious as well as positive steps for the betterment of the future of education by implementing and meeting with HEC. It should be implemented not only at higher levels but also in primary and secondary as well.
- The data should also be collected from other universities colleges as well as it was taken from undergraduate students of Education University, FSD campus.
- The training for online classes should be conducted on a daily basis, not only for students but also for teachers as well.
- All Universities, colleges, and schools should get the latest technology and internet packages to take online classes.
- Current technology should be used with new strategies to promote in Pakistan.
- There should be funds from the Govt. to implement all over Pakistan.
- For the awareness of teachers as well as students seminars, workshops and pieces of trainings should be conducted for its advancement and proper usage.

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