

DISADVANTAGES OF E-TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION AND ITS CHALLENGES

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Abstract

Use of technology and development in the advancement-Information Technology Act,2000-Computer Ethics –Disadvantages of technology in education- knowledge seeking style and in depth concept clearance-lack of balancing traditional as well as modern methods of teaching-challenges faced by technology in getting the students back to classrooms.

Keywords: Computer ethics, technology, challenges.

Introduction

Technological advancements have made the world a great and convenient place to live in. There is no denying of how they make lives better and easier, especially in the fields of science, medicine and education. But, like most things, technology also has its drawbacks. In fact, some of the more recent inventions are now being categorized as lazy aids, and are considered major contributors of obesity and a generally unhealthy population.

Tools, such as computers, mobile devices and the internet, are now integrated into the educational system. While they are beneficial in certain academic aspects, they also have negative implications.

The Information Technology Act, 2000 was passed on June 9, 2000. The act is intended to perform the following functions.

a. To provide recognition for legal commerce:

Legal commerce refers to transaction carried out by electronic means. The transaction and data related to the transactions are communicated electronically.

b. To facilitate electronic filling of document with government agencies:

The act recognized that individuals would increasingly prefer to file document with the government electronically, rather than stand in long queue to do so manually. Electronic filling of document offers several advantages. People no longer have to wait in long queue, which are a waste of time and therefore, a waste of productivity.

Also, documents filed electronically lodge instantly with the government, avoiding the time lag involved in physically sending the documents from one department to another or from one state to centre or vice versa.

c. To amend and augment existing laws:

Realizing the importance of the enactment of suitable Act to combat cyber crimes, the Government of India after careful consideration passed the Information Technology Act 2000. But, experts felt that the IT Act, 2000, is primarily

meant to be a legislation to promote e-commerce and it is not very effective in dealing with several emerging cyber crimes like cyber harassment, defamation, stalking and so on.

Therefore, keeping in view the use of technology following were the Ten Commandments which individual should adopt especially computers in order to follow the ethics

The ethical values vis defined in 1992 by the Computer Ethics Institute; a non-profit organization whose mission is to advance technology by ethical means, lists these rules as a guide to computer ethics:

Ten Commandments of Computer Ethics

1. Thou shalt not use a computer to harm other people.
2. Thou shalt not interfere with other people's computer work.
3. Thou shalt not snoop around in other people's computer files.
4. Thou shalt not use a computer to steal.
5. Thou shalt not use a computer to bear false witness.
6. Thou shalt not copy or use proprietary software for which you have not paid.
7. Thou shalt not use other people's computer resources without authorization or proper compensation.
8. Thou shalt not appropriate other people's intellectual output.
9. Thou shalt think about the social consequences of the program you are writing or the system you are designing.
10. Thou shalt always use a computer in ways that ensure consideration and respect for your fellow humans.

The disadvantages of Technology are discussed below:

1. Pollution:

Too much use of technology has resulted in an increase in waste products into the environment. This has

caused pollution. The discharge of industrial wastes into the environment diminishes the quality of soil, water, air, etc. The vehicle emission is among major causes of air pollution. Excessive use of pesticides in farming has caused soil erosion.

2. Faster depletion of natural resource reserves:

Modern equipment are very powerful. They can quickly extract huge quantity of natural resources. However, the total reserves of natural resources are depleting as a result of quicker extraction of natural resources.

3. Production of unwanted products:

Technology has also opened doors for the production and demand of unwanted products or unnecessary products.

4. Wastage of time in non-productive activities:

Some people waste immense time and energy in doing non-productive activities. For example, internet technology has enabled people to browse the internet for information. However, some people get addicted to internet activities such as browsing, gaming, etc., and waste time and energy.

5. Excessive dependency:

We are dependent on technology for all of our task. People are excessively dependent of modern gifts of technologies such as cars, computers, smartphones, etc. They feel helpless if any of these technological equipment, machinery or tool fail to perform. We have adopted technology in our life to an extent that it is impossible to think of performing our day-to-day tasks without the help of technology.

List of Disadvantages of Technology in Education:

1. Results in a lack of interest in studying

Because everything is now accessible online or through data saved in a computer or mobile devices, students are likely to develop poor studying habits and a lazy attitude towards education. Some of them may even think they can skip school because they can find answers and lessons online. This can also lead to students forgetting the basics of studying. They would rather rely on computers and the internet, instead of their books and the input from their teachers. Most of them will misspell words because they often use spell checkers. Rather than solve mathematical equations the traditional way, they would seek assistance from computers or look for the answers directly through search engines. When it is time to take the tests in the classroom and without any form of technology, students are likely to fail.

2. Makes students vulnerable to potential pitfalls

While computers prove to be an invaluable educational tool, it can also be a source of problems. This is especially true for students who lack the skills needed to maximize a device's functionalities. Technical problems and computer malfunctions can cause loss of assignments and other materials, resulting in high levels of stress that students would rather not experience. Difference in internet speeds and a device's capabilities can also lead to certain difficulties that will de-motivate students. Add to this other things that they will discover online, which are completely unrelated to school and education, and they will be distracted to no end.

3. Negative views on technology

Consumerism has taught us that technologies, from computers to mobile devices, are widely viewed as tools to entertain rather than educate. Textbooks, on the other hand, are seen as tools for learning. So, between a tablet and a textbook, students are likely to gravitate towards learning when reading a book, while they are likely to use a tablet to play games or spend time on social media.

4. Raise instructional challenges

For professors and teachers to stay abreast with technology, they may need to be retrained. Those who have been teaching all their lives using traditional methods may not be very susceptible to the changes being applied. They may even see it as a threat to their job security and shun technology altogether. In fact, a majority of teachers believe that constant use of digital technology is affecting a student's attention span and his ability to persevere when a challenging task is thrown his way. Although such belief is subjective, scholars, experts and teachers all agree that technology has changed the way students learn.

5. Can diminish overall value of in-person education

Although research on online learning did not establish a direct link to how personal interaction affects a student's performance, data gathered did show that those who enrolled in online courses have higher chances of failing, dropping out of classes, and are less likely to benefit from them. This may have something to do with the fact that lessons delivered online or through digital resources lack the face-to-face interaction between teacher and student that provides a more personal experience.

With the rapid growth of technology, the increasing use of the Internet, and the advancement in information and communications technologies, businesses around the world are increasingly changing the way they do business. Furthermore, with the emergence of the global economy, electronic commerce, e-commerce, is fast being regarded

as the way to go global at the touch of a button. This new development is faced with many challenges that include the use of the new technology and communication medium, and the flow of information from enterprise to enterprise, from enterprise to consumers, and also within the enterprise. We discuss the different technology and conceptual components of the e-commerce in general, address the key advantages and disadvantages of e-commerce, and identify and classify the different types of challenges facing e-commerce businesses.

6. The crutch

Students are so quick to turn to the Internet to answer questions that some believe critical thinking has gone down the tube. Spelling is no longer something tested if everything is autocorrected and spell checked. This may be a larger issue of technology on our memory and brain-strength, but if we are using the Internet in schools, then kids are being taught to use Google to answer all their questions and to essentially, copy and paste their knowledge. Education needs to figure out how to use technology in a way that doesn't replace knowledge, but reinforces it. Yet for students with disabilities or language barriers, using technology in the classroom can be less of a crutch and more of a launchpad for understanding.

7. The crash

When using the computer and all its glitches to create a project that requires hours of work, it sometimes gets erased, doesn't transfer over correctly, doesn't save, or for one human error or another is gone. Many technology rookies have been in this position and curse at the computer that has stolen hours. Some students struggle simply to complete work that it seems unfair to put obstacles in their way, especially when some students may not have programs or the technology at home to become familiar with it. The problem with technology glitches is also seen with online textbooks. Some students have issues accessing textbooks at home if they don't have a large enough bandwidth. Other access problems to online materials can delay students and put them behind in class. This is one of many reasons to make sure your school has a stable, reliable cloud storage system in place.

8. The old-timer

Some teachers do not utilize the technology they've been given. They have been teaching for years and don't want to incorporate something new into their time-tested lesson plans. Some schools are pushing instructors to incorporate technology into their syllabi and when it is poorly taught the technology is not used at optimal level. Any teacher given high-tech programs and expected to

teach it in the classroom deserves proper training, and sometimes it isn't provided. But all hope is not lost.

9. The Facebook

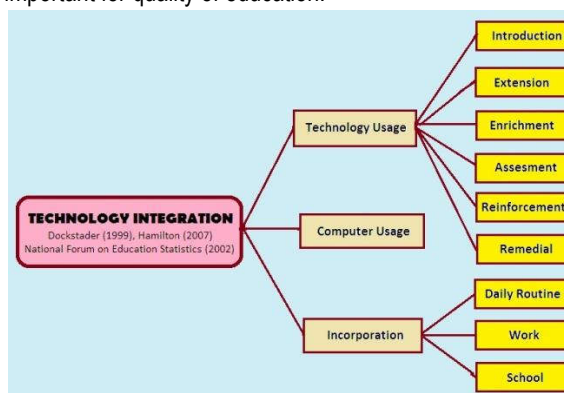
Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube, etc. Putting a computer in front of a high school student and expecting them NOT to go on Facebook or any other distracting non-school related site is kind of a joke. And it isn't just the younger students that are in danger of losing focus; even graduate students can hardly help themselves to online distractions in the classroom. When keeping students excited and focused on the lesson at hand is one of the hardest tasks a teacher faces, a computer can be one of the most detrimental things to that student's learning..

10. The Band-Aid

The idea that technology can save education may have some truth in it, but it may be problematic to treat all our educational issues with technology. In 2007, Education Week reported on a major federal study that found, "no difference in academic achievement between students who used the technology in their classrooms and youngsters who used other methods." If students aren't proficient in their studies to begin with and technology is used incorrectly, a whole mess of problems could arise. What's wrong with the Band-Aid thinking is that technology needs to be planned out into schools in a very precise manner in order for it to be effective, and to cover all of education's problems in a Band-Aid may further aggravate the issues.

Challenges

Demand for widening the access to education for all is still a challenge in our world. Balancing between global processes and local context in educational use of ICT is important for quality of education.



From the above it is clear that how technology is used and day to day life and so much dependency on the same.

1. Immense expenditures

Gone are the days where students have to depend on paper and pen. This is an advanced era of technology where machines like computers substituted the use of paper with its hi-tech features and to maintain them a huge sum of money is required by schools and colleges which can otherwise be spent to buy necessary resources. In addition to it you have to spend thousands of dollars to update the out-dated software which are incompatible with present technology.

2. Insufficient methods of teaching-

With the advancement of mechanization, teachers are not equally trained with its proper implementation. Thus learners are just using technology instead of gaining knowledge from it. Using applied science to achieve education in the proper way is a good thing but to transform it into an active set of skills is a matter of time. Inquiry-based learning is the best way to teach the learners where they get an opportunity to research on different topics individually. Therefore, technology should be fused with this method of teaching to make the learner's brain keep working instead of being totally dependent on them.

3. Transforming learners into inefficient learners

Very difficult to find the word "diligent" in learners nowadays as most of the lessons can be easily accessible to them online through different websites in their computers which are making them inattentive in classrooms or making the mote skip schools frequently.

Relying completely on computers are creating poor studying habits. Many students keep browsing websites to find the shortest possible way to solve problems in Mathematics instead of solving them in a traditional way which actually helps them to gain in-depth knowledge of the subjects. Spell-checkers prevents them from learning the correct spelling thus resulting infinite spellingmistakes in paper.

4. Waste of valuable time

It is the humanbeing who built technology not the technology that created a human. As humans are not error-free, similarly technology too does not come error-free. There are lots of problems like server error and connectivity problems which take oodles of time to troubleshoot it, therefore, hindering the learning process which can sometimes be a matter of frustration both for the learners and the educators. Wastage of time because of unnecessary issues is not at all advisable in schools or any learning institutes where every second is valuable for the learners.

5. Misguided by the wrong information

With the speeding development of technology, the websites owner urges to rank their websites higher in search engines, so they only concentrate on rankings instead of the content that they are posting. Many websites come with wrong information that has been copied and pasted from other sources without checking its authenticity. Thus the learners are misguided by the wrong information available on the websites. These things can perhaps become serious obstacles in their development.

6. Majorsources of distractions-

Due to attractive innovationsstudents and learners are busy in checking their posts and updates, counting the number of likes, checking the status that they themselves or any of their near and dear ones updated, engage in commenting on social sites etc. all these activities create a huge distance between them and their education.

7. Creating enough room for cheating

The mechanized world is making you more and more lazy giving all the powers to control everything by a click of mouse. Cheating is an illegal activity but technology made it more powerful and easy to use with its powerful wings. It has really become very tough to control this activity, especially in the examination environment. Smartphones are available with all its advanced features and instant internet accessibility which compel them to use it without any hassles.

8. Increase rate of cyber bullying

Cyber bullying is an illegal activity where especially youngsters fall under the trap of illegal crimes without their knowledge. The young learners have an easy access to umpteen accounts that tends them to enter into the dark tunnel of harassment which has an entry but no exit at times. They lost in its darkness along with their shining future which could have given miraculous results if cultivated properly but with cyber bullying everything gets washed off all of a sudden.

9. Makes learners disconnected from the real world

In recent days to keep equal pace with technology educators are busy in educating the learners with its online education tools instead of communicating orally that makes them unable to interact with their teachers and share their problems openly to overcome it. Teachers fail to draw student's attention. To avoid these problem educators should always use verbal communications along with online education tools so that their students can dynamically learn the topics along with proper interactions.

10. Major challenges for teachers

Every day, scientists come with new discoveries and challenges that keep technology rolling every second. Softwares keep on upgrading and if a teacher does not possess technical skills, it becomes difficult for him to execute it in the right direction. Hence, educators have to be expert in technical skills too the school has to hire technical experts adding extra expenses to their expenditures to overcome these technical challenges.

11. A major drawback of losing assignment for students

Computer is a machine which often faces malfunction at times due to its wear and tear. Just imagine you have to submit your assignment tomorrow which is your last deadline and you have put all your hard labours to complete the assignment and saved it in your laptop to get the highest grade in class but all of sudden just the night before submission your laptop isn't working. What will be your reaction? Will you be able to put the same efforts within that limited time? All your efforts went in vain with the malfunctioning of your laptop. You cannot rely completely on these gadgets for your important projects and assignments.

12. Difficult to deal with online courses

You keep on exploring the world each day but still there are lots of facts that are left unexplored. Knowledge has no limit and no age. Many students or learners have urge to keep their learning go on and on but at times it becomes difficult for them to attend regular classes due to their job or other difficulties but with advance science it has become easy nowadays as it has given us the marvellous option of perusing online courses along with our regular activities, but problems like slow internet speed and network issues keeps troubling you. The other disadvantage is that these online courses often fail to create motivation for learning or self-discipline and usually ends with monotonous experiences and frustration.

13. Extinct of good handwriting

As smartphones, laptops, desktops and tablets wholly replaced the use of paper and pen, therefore, finding a person with good hand writing is just like finding a needle in the haystack. All the important documents are now typed and fitted in that small folder icon in your laptop. Experts say that people are sacrificing their handwriting to adopt the technology for fast learning. Using of technology in place of handwriting slow down your thinking process by making your neurons lethargic.

14. Partial to the low-income group

Technology needs a huge sum of money to shower its blessings to the educational institutes especially the colleges that requires large number of computers to educate its students with advanced science.

15. Replacing books with e-books-

The world is shrinking day by day and so all your important stuffs are now compressed in your favourite gadgets even the books which have now become e-books which are called electronic books. Books are your real assets and can never be replaced by e-books which may not be cost-effective at times and can cause eyestrain. E-books are not compatible in all the devices so your laptop or tablets should have e-book reader to access electronic books and the worst part is your e-book can be hacked easily by the hackers.

Wherever there is light, there is a shadow. Technology can make you fly higher and higher in the sky but at the same time it can even ruin your life with its negative features. Technology can enhance your knowledge at the same time it can even lower your grade in education.

Conclusion

Although ICT has the potential to improve education system of a country to a great extent, yet it is not the case in the developing countries. There are multiple issues and challenges confronting the implementation of ICT education in schools and educational institutions in these countries and the problems are much more magnified in case of schools located in remote villages and rural areas. For rural schools in specific, the introduction of ICT faces hindrances in the form of internal and external barriers.

Integrating technology in education has its advantages and disadvantages, but proper implementation might help keep the drawbacks to a minimum. Better planning is necessary. Somewhere, there is a need of introspection that if we want people to adopt e-technology and that too in education field then the area of concern that how to and upto what extent the technology use is appropriate because idea of technology is not only saving time and innovativeness but also to understand the concept in depth in which sometimes it is necessary to adopt both technological and non –technological methodology.

There is also a negative facets of new technologies used in education. Many ethical questions and issues arise with this use of the latest technologies in education. The Copy and paste syndrome– Schools and universities have more and more problems with students who prepare

essays/ project/ presentation by using material from websites or blogs. Often, students just copy pieces of information that look relevant and paste them together, without sometimes even understanding them, let alone citing them. Distortion of reality – When students are looking for some information on the website, they usually employ a search engine. This will give them a ranked list of often incredibly many search results. There is the real danger that their view of reality is distorted by the website, by the fact that someone with enough money can influence what is written or ranked. Too much trust in the information found – When searching for some information on the website students tend to accept what they have found as true information, often without looking at other sources and hence having no justification to accept the information at face value. Loss of privacy and profiling – When students use services offered over the websites it is clear to us that they are making often information about us known to the service providers. The situation gets much more complicated if a company has a set of services so that combining all the information that potentially can be extracted gives a very detailed profile. There can be no doubt that some companies are collecting information or profiles on users, and on economic relevant developments.

This may be done through stealth as described or from open social networks where many persons give away information that may well be harmful to them at some later stage.

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