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Title: **ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER**

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## ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER

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**Abstract:** The article covers a number of issues such as the virtual information environment, its advantages and disadvantages, the role of the teacher in the virtual information environment, lesson design.

**Keywords:** virtual information environment, virtual education system, VLE

### Introduction

The virtual learning environment (VLE) is not a new phenomenon in education. Such software has already been implemented in many schools and universities. Some large enterprises also have their own VLEs for training newcomers at the very beginning of their work experience and improving their qualifications in the future. So what is VLE?

The virtual learning environment helps teachers plan lessons, manage administrative work, track student progress, activity and engagement, and provide additional content and support to those who need it.

The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) is an online platform used for educational purposes. It encapsulates all online environments that act as course add-ons, be it online courses, reading resources and informational sites with offline skills assessment or other forms of virtual learning. Virtual reality helps students learn how software can be used in other fields such as medicine, entertainment, and fashion. VR helps students learn and retain knowledge. The technology software allows students to explore and navigate their classrooms as they study. Virtual learning inevitably increases the amount of time students spend on digital devices every day. ... First, let's reveal in more detail the meaning of virtual education. While the feature set differs from one VLE solution to the next, the core features mainly enable the following:

- planning and managing lessons and other activities;
- access to digital teaching materials: texts, videos, images, podcasts, etc.;
- group discussions Group discussions and individual conversations with the teacher;
- sending home and other assignments; Grading, tracking student progress, providing feedback;
- conducting live lessons.

This computerized approach opens up new possibilities for students, teachers and administration, and also creates some problems. Let's take a look at the pros and cons and find the most effective way to use a virtual learning environment.

Seven advantages of a virtual classroom:

Benefits of Virtual Learning (VILT): Improving learning transfer, improving time efficiency, cost savings (access from anywhere, anytime), recruiting a flexible workforce, improving well-being, encouraging digital technology, facilitating collaboration, ensuring global reach and inclusion, combining structures and freedoms, effective time management, expanded worldview, asynchronous discussions with classmates, immediate feedback on tests, honed digital skills

Although from a technical point of view, attending too many online courses or poor online learning can harm the prospective student. One of the biggest problems in online education is the lack of interpersonal communication. Many at-risk students lag

behind in reading and math. Online classroom management strategies: Create a study time schedule, minimize distractions at the beginning of the lesson, set behavioral expectations, set academic expectations, adhere to work hours, balance voice for different personalities.

## Advantages and Disadvantages of a Virtual Learning Environment

First, let's reveal in more detail the meaning of virtual education. While the feature set differs from one VLE solution to the next, the core features mainly enable the following:

Planning and managing lessons and other activities;

Access to digital teaching materials: texts, videos, images, podcasts, etc.; Group discussions Group discussions and one-to-one discussions with the teacher; Submitting homework and other assignments; Grading, tracking student progress, providing feedback; Conducting live lessons.

This computerized approach opens up new possibilities for students, teachers and administration, and also creates some problems. Let's take a look at the pros and cons and find the most effective way to use a virtual learning environment.

## Benefits of a virtual learning environment

The reason for introducing any new technology is to do something better, easier, and faster. The VLE implementation is no exception. So let's start with the benefits of a virtual learning environment. With the help of VLE, the educational process becomes more flexible, especially over time. With constant and free access to all study materials, students can easily align their classes with other plans and activities. Thus, it becomes easier to continue education, even with a steady job or a baby that requires a lot of time and attention.

In addition to this, students can work at their own pace. Everyone can read the texts and watch the videos as many times as they need to understand the topic, while fast learners do not need to wait for the rest of the group to move on.

Since learning can be done online, there is no need to attend classes. This makes quality education accessible to people with disabilities as well as those living in remote areas or even on other continents. The virtual learning system also contributes to a continuous learning process, as you can continue your studies even on vacation, business trip or lying in bed with a cold.

Another major benefit of implementing a VLE is that getting a degree the day before at top universities becomes cheaper because there is no need to pay for on-campus tuition. For foreigners, the situation is even better, since they do not need to spend large sums of money to move to another country.

The virtual learning environment helps teachers plan lessons, manage administrative work, track student progress, activity and engagement, and provide additional content and support to self-taught students. The VLE also makes it easier to analyze the effectiveness of the current curriculum and update it as needed.

The virtual learning environment is convenient for experimenting with content formats and new approaches. It complements the educational roadmap with online tests and quizzes, videos and podcasts. The combination of different activities allows students to better engage in the learning process and adds more gamification to the learning process.

## Disadvantages of a virtual learning environment

As you know, a coin has two sides. It's the same with the virtual learning environment. In addition to the significant advantages, there is a list of disadvantages to consider when implementing a VLE solution.

The flexibility of a virtual learning environment can be a challenge for people with a lack of self-discipline or low motivation (like some students in school). Without constant supervision and strict deadlines, it is difficult for them to maintain concentration and study effectively. In addition to this, VLE opens up more opportunities for fraud as no one can see if you are using a different device during an online test or if you really do everything

yourself. So self-discipline and high motivation are crucial.

Not all educational activities can be done online: you cannot conduct a complex chemistry experiment in your bedroom or teach a dentist without specialized equipment. This makes some courses and degrees either too theoretical for further use or only available within the traditional curriculum.

Another limitation is delayed responses. In class, you can ask any question and get an immediate response from the teacher, while online learning offers flexibility in time for everyone, including teachers.

While VLE systems provide many tools to facilitate communication — chats, group discussions, live lessons — they cannot provide the same level of interaction as face-to-face conversations. This not only discourages warm relationships and mutual assistance in a particular group, but also prevents students from developing the communication and conflict resolution skills they will need in real life.

The introduction of a virtual learning environment requires an educational institution of time and money. The VLE system must either be chosen from existing solutions, or developed from scratch, and staff must adapt to new ways of organizing the educational process.

From the student's point of view, there is room for significant investment. Many countries are accustomed to personal computers and constant Internet access, but there are still many countries where people cannot afford a laptop or have poor telecommunications services.

A number of disadvantages follow the list of significant advantages of a virtual learning environment. But there is a great way to avoid the hassle - to mix online and traditional education. Together, they provide students and teachers with only their best qualities, making the learning process as efficient as possible:

- communication between students and teachers remains alive, therefore, more effective and engaging;

- the learning process is supplemented with interactive online events and additional materials to deepen knowledge;

- students can get a more personalized curriculum in accordance with their learning pace and interests;

- tasks can be submitted and commented online;

- it is easier to catch up in case of illness, travel or any other reason for missing classes;

- teachers receive computer assistance in planning lessons and managing all related activities;

- When talking about schools, parents can be better aware of their child's progress and more actively participate in the educational process.

So, the use of a virtual learning environment can be leveraged by combining online learning and live interaction with mentors and peers.

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