A WORLD ON PAUSE: ITS EFFECT ON THE LEARNING SYSTEM AND STUDENTS’ PERFORMANCE

by:
Jeffrey D. Vicencio
SHS Teacher III, Pablo Roman National High School

The outbreak of the new coronavirus known as COVID-19 resulted in a widespread disturbance such as the closure of schools, travel restrictions, and global economic recession. The COVID-19 pandemic gives a lot of impacts, especially in our education system. Students are still in the process of adapting and adjusting their study culture by handling their tasks effectively in this kind of new modular learning method.

COVID-19 pandemic pushes the government to adopt a new learning system and has been implemented by the Department of Education. Printed Modular Learning Method is one the popular type of Distance learning modality here in the Philippines. Many students were unable to adapt to this new learning system because they are having difficulties managing their time appropriately and, they are used to the traditional types of learning or face-to-face classes. As a result, their academic performances have been affected. But students can develop a healthy habit of organizing and planning daily activities which can help them to be more effective and productive in performing tasks.

According to Hurlbut (2018), the early stage of distance or online education required the usage of access to print materials that were emailed or sent to students and/or teachers. However, Finger, et al (2007) reported that the development of e-learning management systems and web resources, as a result of technological advancement, transformed online education by boosting the pace at which information can be disseminated and digested. In recent online learning trends, videos and live broadcasting plays an important role. This is in line with Kaltura (2019), who posited that
video is a more preferred means to online learning than documents, making learning more interactive and engaging.

Everyone must realize that distance education or modular learning method might not be the best choice for every student but understanding its advantages and drawbacks can help you decide if distance learning is appropriate for you. The advantages of this type of learning are you can save money, students can also save time, you can learn at your own pace and you can study whenever or wherever you want, but there are also disadvantages in this type of learning like chances of distraction are very high, students who are ignorant of technology won't cope up, you need to study by yourself, there is no teacher on your side to explain the subject if you do not understand it and some of the students may lose interest on education because of this new modular learning method.

To summarize it all, this printed modular learning method amidst the COVID-19 pandemic has caused turmoil in students’ study habits which greatly affect their performances. In this new learning method, students do not have an academic environment as compared to face-to-face classes where they can ask anything without delay or any hesitation. Furthermore, the great number of activities in each module is one of the main problems that emerged in the implementation of Modular Distance Learning. And one of the struggles of the students is that they do not have enough time to answer all the modules within a week. Thus, concerned, or authorized people should consider this problem, reduce the activities, and take out the unnecessary topics so that mastery will be attained as much as possible.

Finally, if a student can manage their time properly and effectively, they can obtain or gain maximum learning. Moreover, students can do their tasks successfully and perform better in the academic world. But on the other side of the coin, if one thing is not managed properly then the level of performance also decreased. Therefore, time management is very important for each student, especially for distance learners.
References:

