GAINS AND DETRIMENTS OF E-LEARNING

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In modern world where computer, internet and social media dominate the society, E-learning surfaced as one of the effective methods of teaching-learning process. E-learning is an electronic method of learning for web-based education for two persons that are separated by distance. This method requires no face to face communication and becomes popular nowadays because of its advantages and benefits to both student and teacher. It is advantageous in a way that information is very much available, accessibility is just one click away and flexible in terms of time and place. Travel time and expenses decreased because the tiresomeness of meeting in one facility to meet has been eradicated in E-learning.

Just recently, SRI International for the Department of Education reported that students who are studying through online learning performed better compared to those who are studying in a traditional way where teachers and students meet face to face. Elaborately, the report studied various researches concerning online versus traditional teaching-learning process from 1996-2008. Comparative studies were conducted to colleges and educational programs for adults who are training for medical and military. Some studies were also done in K to 12 settings however the research was mostly confined to college where many college students are learning online. The study found out that students who are enrolled in online learning performed better with 59th percentile in examination compared to students who received traditional way of teaching who rank in the 50th percentile. Means (2009) claimed that the significance between online learning and conventional instruction had a big difference that online learning tend to be more significant compared to conventional way of teaching.
Moreover, E-learning offers three separated learning styles namely visual learners, kinesthetic learners and auditory learners.

Relatively, E-learning has numerous advantages that people have to know if they are interested to learn online. These advantages are: students can log-in wherever they are and be informed through World Wide Web; students will be independent when it comes to time because the sessions online are always available; students can control what they want to learn in that way learning can be more productive; students may choose qualified teachers and may exchange ideas and opinions with other students online; qualified teachers are reachable because of this online courses; and students may improve organization of deadlines for assignment and projects.

However, online learning has its detriments as well, students’ social interaction with others may be decreased as they will study alone. The confinement of the lessons they want to study lies only to the lessons they are interested with.

References: