

## **EXPLORING THE ROLE OF E-LEARNING THROUGH BLOGGING IN TEACHING B.Ed STUDENTS: A STUDY**

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### **Abstract**

Technology plays a vital role in human lives. It has got a very deep impact on every aspect of our life. The way we live, communicate, interact and talk has changed. Life has become more comfortable and easier by the use of technology. Today technology reaches well beyond the classroom to serve the needs of learners. A blog is a personal website that contains content organized like a journal or a diary. Nowadays students are more enthusiastic in making themselves more equipped with knowledge than their teachers. They make their learning environment using the online technologies such as e-learning. This study emphasizes the need and importance of e-learning through Blogs so as to give importance to the individual differences and encourage self paced learning.

**Keywords:** BLOGS, EDUBLOGS, E-learning, Effectiveness

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Education is facing a significant challenge in preparing students and teachers for future 'knowledge based society'. ICT can influence much in developing teaching and learning environment in many ways, which is quite different from older technologies. Information technology, while an important area of study in its own right, is having a major impact across all curriculum areas. Educational Technology is a revolution in educational systems to increase effectiveness and efficiency of teaching. The National Council for Educational Technology has defined Educational Technology as 'The development, application and evaluation of system, techniques and aids to improve the process to learning'. Twenty-first century technology has changed the way tools are used to support and enhance learning and instruction. Teaching in today's classroom is technology driven. To be a successful learner, students need to develop skills in self-directed learning. To transform the students from being passive receivers to active investigators of knowledge, multiple web tools such as wikis, podcast, virtual world tools etc are presented to learners for interaction and exchanging ideas. The educational affordances of blogs offer opportunities for students to become self-directed learners. The term blogging is the use of a blog on the internet, which has undeniable educational benefits that enable dynamic activities, creativity, enriching and innovative tasks and communicative learning.

## **2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- To find out if there is any significant difference between the experimental and control group students in their gain scores.
- To find out if there is any significant difference between the male and female students of the experimental group in their gain scores.
- To find out if there is any significant difference in the gain scores of the experimental group students with respect to their knowledge in computers.
- To find out if there is any significant difference in the gain scores of the experimental group students who possess own system.

## **3. HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY**

- There is no significant difference between the experimental and control group students in their gain scores.
- There is no significant difference between the male and female students of the experimental group in their gain scores
- There is no significant difference in the gain scores of the experimental group students with respect to their knowledge in computers.

- There is no significant difference in the gain scores of the experimental group students who possess own system.

#### 4. METHODOLOGY

The researcher adopted two group two test experimental research design for this study. Author selected 60 samples from two B.Ed colleges located at district. Stratified random sampling technique was adopted for this study. The Blogs designed for the instructional purpose on the particular topic of the B.ed syllabus. The duration of the developed Blogs was 45 minutes. Developed Blogs for learning E-learning topic for B.Ed students were subjected for validation with subject experts, experienced teachers, and experts in education and Computer technician for content validation in respective aspects.

#### 5. EXPERIMENTATION

Blogs for learning E-learning topic developed by the investigator was implemented for the experimental group and the controlled group was treated with conventional method of instruction. The same topic was given to both groups. Both groups undergone an achievement test prepared by the investigator considering all its components appropriately. The investigator used mean, standard deviation and t-test for this study.

**Table – 1 Significant difference between the gain scores of the Experimental and Control group students**

Group	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value	Remarks
Experimental group	30	57.80	8.372	14.946	S
Control group	30	26.07	6.878		

In order to check the null hypothesis (H<sub>1</sub>), the t- test was calculated. The mean value of experimental group students is found to be 57.80 with standard deviation 8.372. The mean value of control group students is found to be 26.07 with standard deviation 6.878. The calculated 't' value 14.946 is much greater than the critical value 2.61 at 0.01 level of significance. This implies that the difference in the achievement of experimental group and control group is significant. Hence the null hypothesis is rejected and it is concluded that the experimental group and the control group students differ significantly in the gain scores.

**Table – 2 Significant difference in the gain score of the Experimental group students with regard to their sub-samples.**

Factor	Sub factor	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value	remarks
Gender	Male	10	56.40	7.877	0.664	NS
	Female	20	58.50	8.721		
Computer knowledge	Yes	23	57.35	8.768	0.530	NS
	No	7	59.29	7.319		
Possess own computer	Yes	12	58.92	8.501	0.590	NS
	No	18	57.06	8.44		

- In order to check the null Hypothesis (H 2), the ‘t’ value was calculated. The calculated ‘t’ value 0.664 is lesser than the critical value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore , it is concluded that the male and female students in the experimental group do not differ significantly in the gain scores.
- In order to check the null Hypothesis (H 3), the ‘t’ value was calculated. The calculated ‘t’ value 0.530 is lesser than the critical value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore , it is concluded that the experimental group do not differ significantly in the gain scores, with respect to their knowledge in computers.
- In order to check the null Hypothesis (H 4), the ‘t’ value was calculated. The calculated ‘t’ value 0.590 is lesser than the critical value 1.96 at 0.05 level of significance. Hence the null hypothesis is accepted. Therefore , it is concluded that the experimental group do not differ significantly in the gain scores, who posses own system.

## 6. MAJOR FINDINGS

- Achievement of students at B.ed level on learning E-learning topic through Blogs is more than the students’ achievement through conventional method of instruction. It is clear that the developed Blogs statistically proved its effectiveness on achievement in learning, E-learning topic at B.ed level.
- Both male and female students are not differing in availing this new blogs on achievement in learning, E-learning topic. It shows that the variation of gender in

experimental group is not a significant factor on achievement in learning, E-learning topic through Blogs.

- Both computer knowledge having and do not having students are not differing in availing this new blogs on achievement in learning, E-learning topic. It shows that the variation of gender in experimental group is not a significant factor on achievement in learning, E-learning topic through Blogs.
- Both students who are having own system and do not having own system are not differing in availing this new blogs on achievement in learning, E-learning topic. It shows that the variation of gender in experimental group is not a significant factor on achievement in learning, E-learning topic through Blogs.

## 7. CONCLUSION

It is found that the Blog teaching is effective in the achievement of the B.Ed. students in learning the concept e-learning. The achievement of the students who learned through blog is found to be higher than through traditional method. It shows that as an emerging tool, blogging is known to be a way for students to learn and develop critical thinking skills and information literacy. It is also found that the students have understood that blog is also a platform of knowledge sharing. The study suggests that Blogs can constitute a dynamic forum that fosters learning motivation, understanding of how to harness the unique communicative elements of the Blog. Further Blogging provides an opportunity to a social constructivist learning environment where the teacher and the students can experience a community practice. Blog facilitates to the students for their expression of thoughts, learning and sharing of each other's knowledge and enhancing the students understanding of the concepts that they have learnt as their classroom teaching.

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