A STUDY ON STUDENT'S PERCEPTION TOWARDS ONLINE EDUCATIONAL APPS IN COIMBATORE CITY

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ABSTRACT:

This study aimed to investigate students' perception of online educational apps. The research used a mixed-methods approach to gather data from a sample of undergraduate students. The study found that most students had a positive perception of online educational apps and considered them as useful tools for enhancing their learning experience. The majority of students used educational apps to access learning materials, review content, and practice assessments. Additionally, students appreciated the flexibility and accessibility provided by online educational apps, as they could use them at any time and from anywhere. However, some students reported concerns regarding the quality and reliability of the information provided by educational apps. The study recommends that educators should incorporate online educational apps into their teaching practices and consider providing guidance on how to evaluate the quality of information found on educational apps.

Keywords: Online educational apps, learning experience, flexibility and accessibility, quality and reliability, quality of information.

INTRODUCTION:

The act of promoting learning, or the acquisition of information, skills, values, morals, beliefs, habits, and personal growth, is known as education. Teaching, instruction, storytelling, group discussion, and guided study are all examples of educational practices. Education can be formal or informal. Every event that shapes one's thoughts, feelings, or behaviors, even those that occur informally, may be regarded as instructive. Chalk and Talk is a style of teaching in which the teacher writes on a blackboard with chalk and lectures the class. The traditional delivery system for higher education has been a classroom setting with a professor giving a lecture and students listening and writing notes. Interaction between the professor and student has been viewed as an essential learning element within this arrangement. However, innovations in educational delivery mechanisms have challenged this paradigm. Advances in information technology (IT) has ushered in a new paradigm of on-line learning (OL). Online learning has become a part of the 21st century as it makes use of online platforms. Online learning is defined as using online platform technologies and the Internet to enhance learning and provide users with access to online services. Online teaching has three main approaches, namely, enhanced, blended learning, and online approach. Enhanced learning uses the intensive use of technology to ensure innovative and interactive instruction. Blended learning mixes both face-to-face and online education. The online approach indicates that the course content is delivered online. Blended learning is any education strategy that features both digital and traditional teaching methods to help students learn. It's exceptionally effective at helping long-term information retention in a diverse student body. Most often, blended learning incorporates tried-and-true teaching methods like lecture with the latest in educational technology like digital curriculum. Given the advances of technology over the last 10 years, the majority of students already have experienced at least some form of blended learning. In addition to the production of knowledge, students engaging in blended learning also acquire and apply knowledge with a combination of online and in-person modalities. The COVID-19 has made the schools shut all across the world. As a result, education has changed dramatically, with the distinctive rise of online education, whereby teaching is undertaken remotely and on digital platforms.

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OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

- \succ To study the economic status of the respondent using online educational apps.
- > To identify educational apps that are available in higher education.
- > To look for the perception and satisfaction on using the educational apps.
- > To know the awareness of educational apps after COVID-19.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

In recent years, there has been an increasing shift in the delivery of education from the traditional learning to blended learning. Blended learning is an approach to education combines online educational materials and opportunities for interaction online with traditional place-based classroom methods. There are a lot of emerging online education apps that facilitate this method of education. But the effectiveness of such apps are also not widely known. Thus the following research questions aroused.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

The main motive of the research is to understand the student's perception towards online education apps after pandemic. The research is undertaken to know about the usage of the online education apps, benefits, problems and student's satisfaction level in online educational apps. The scope of the research has been limited to understanding the perception of students who are pursuing education with the help of online education apps after pandemic.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The area of study is concerned with the perception towards online educational apps in Coimbatore city after pandemic.

Source of data:

The researcher collected the primary data after completing the research area. Primary data was collected through a questionnaire. It was collected from 50 respondents.

Secondary data:

Secondary data was collected from research-related websites, journals and magazines. It was collected through a library to facilitate a proper understanding of the conceptual framework of the study.

Sample size:

A convenient sampling of 50 respondents was shared up for the current study in which respondent of the study was request to complete the questionnaire on voluntary basis.

Data analysis:

Collected data is edited, combined and subjected to appropriate statistical test and data is presented in percentages and brochures.

Tools used in the analysis:

- > Percentage analysis.
- Chi-square analysis.

Limitation of the study:

- > Due to time and cost constraint, the study was conducted in Coimbatore city only.
- > The maximum number of samples selected is 50. Therefore, the results cannot be generalized.
- \succ The findings of the study are based on the information which was given by the respondents.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

A review of literature is description and analysis of the literature relevant to a particular field or topic. It provides an overview of what the world already had been carried out, who are the key researchers who did that work. It is actually the reading of the works of others before commencing on the research work. Literature review can pave the way for better research. It can help in identifying the relevance of the research. The following reviews were referred for this study.

Antonius Setyawan Nur Agung, Monika Widyastuti Surtikanti, Charito Quinones (2021)¹ had studied about, Students' perception of online learning during COVID-19 pandemic. The current study is a collective case study consisting of analysis of survey on students' perceptions of their online learning during the pandemic. Their perceptions of their online classroom that were recorded through a survey. The recorded perceptions are in terms of students' participation, accessibility, material and assignment delivery, and the use of e-learning platforms. The results were then summarized into tables and narrative descriptions.

Roudlotun Nurul Laili, Muhammad Nashir $(2021)^2$ had conducted a study on Higher Education Students' Perception on Online Learning during Covid-19 Pandemic. This study aimed to investigate the higher education students' perception on online learning during covid-19 pandemic and the supporting factors and constraints during online learning. This study used descriptive method. The total respondents were 103 students of Stikes Banyuwangi who joint Intensive English class in the 2020/2021 academic year. The results indicated that students have positive and negative perceptions on online learning. Online learning offers flexibility but it also presents various constraints such as unstable signal, some students were less motivated, more difficult to practice conversation, and high cost of internet. Mostly students (91%) prefer face to face learning to online learning.

Shyam Sundar Sarkar, Pranta Das, Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman, MS Zobaer (2021)³ had studied the topic Perceptions of public university students towards online classes during COVID-19 pandemic. This study explores public university student's perceptions towards online classes during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study followed both a qualitative and quantitative approach, where the survey technique was used as an instrument of data collection. The study also explored that most students did not feel comfortable in online classes. Still, considering the present pandemic situation, they decided to participate in online classes to continue schooling. Besides, the study discovered that female students showed better real perceptions than male students regarding online classes, and urban students have more optimistic appreciation than rural students.

An overview on online education apps:

Online education apps have become increasingly popular in recent years due to their convenience, accessibility, and affordability. These apps provide learners with a wide range of courses, tutorials, and study materials that they can access from anywhere and at any time. Here's an overview of some of the most popular online education apps available:



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• Coursera: Coursera offers courses from top universities and institutions around the world, covering a range of subjects, from computer science to business and the arts. Learners can choose to take individual courses or complete a series of courses to earn a certificate or degree.

• Udemy: Udemy is an online learning platform that offers courses taught by experts in various fields. The courses cover a range of topics, including coding, marketing, and personal development. Users can access the courses on-demand and at their own pace.

• edX: edX is a nonprofit online learning platform founded by Harvard and MIT. It offers courses from top universities around the world, as well as professional education program.and micro degrees. edX also offers free courses for learners who want to explore a topic without committing to a full program.

• Khan Academy: Khan Academy is a nonprofit organization that offers free, world-class education to anyone, anywhere. It offers courses in math, science, computer programming, history, and more. Khan Academy also offers personalized learning tools and resources for teachers and parents.

• Duolingo: Duolingo is a language-learning app that offers courses in over 40 languages. The app uses a gamified approach to learning, making it fun and engaging for users. Duolingo also offers a variety of features, such as a chatbot for conversation practice and a feature that lets users translate real-world content.

Overall, online education apps provide learners with a convenient and accessible way to gain knowledge and develop new skills. With a wide range of options available, learners can choose the app that best fits their learning goals and preferences.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTREPRETATION:

In this chapter the analysis and interpretations on the Study On Student's Perception Towards Online Educational Apps In Coimbatore City.

Demography variable		Frequency	percentage
	15-20 years	22	44%
	20-25 years	28	56%
Age	Above 25	0	%
	Total	50	100%
Gender	Male	40	80%
	Female	10	20%
	Total	50	100%
Education qualification	SSLC	2	4%
	HSLC	5	10%
	UG	38	76%
	PG	5 10%	
	Professional courses	0	0%
	Total	50	100%
	50,000-100,000	25	50%

Table no.1: Percentage analysis

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Family income	100,000-150,000 17		34%	
r annry meome	150,000-200,000	4	8%	
	More then 200,000	4	8%	
	Total	50	100%	
Occupation	Student	50	100%	
	Employee 0		0%	
	Professional	0	0%	
	Total	50	100%	
Place of resident	Rural	18	36%	
	Urban 22		44%	
	Semi-rural	10	20%	
	Total	50	100%	

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From the above table 01, it is clear that the general profile of the respondents shows that:

▶ 44% of the respondents 15-20 years, % are between 20-25 years.

 \geq 80% of the respondents are male and 20% of the respondents are female.

▶ 4% of the respondents are at the SSLC ,10% are of HSLC, 76% are UG, 10% are PG.

> 50% of the respondents are 50,000-100,000, 34% of the respondents are between 100,000-150,000,8% of the respondents are between 150,000-200,000,8% of the respondents are more than 200,000.

> 98% of respondents are students, 2% of respondents are professional.

Table no 02: Chi-Square Tests

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	24.969 ^a	15	.050
Likelihood Ratio	19.512	15	.191
No of Valid Cases	50		

a. 21 cells (87.5%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .06.

FINDINGS, SUGGESTION AND CONCLUSION:

- > Majority (58%) of the respondents are male.
- ➤ Major (56%) of the respondents are belonging to the age group of 20-25 years.
- ➤ Major (76%) of the respondents are pursuing UG degree.
- ➤ Major (50%) of the respondent's income level is between (50,000-100,000).

 \succ It is concluded that the family income has significant influence the respondents to prefer smartphones over laptop's, pc and tablets.

SUGGESTIONS:

Modern technology has undergone fast evolution, which has led to the emergence of new technologies and the obsolescence of older ones. Therefore, it is crucial that the developers of online learning tools focus on the issue of upgrading their Online educational apps should provide new features to improve the user experience for students.

The demand for business courses is rising as more and more students from the present generation prefer to launch their own businesses in the future. Therefore, it is advised that business-related courses be included to online education app offerings.

While utilizing the online education apps, some students experience app crashing issues. This interferes with their ability to learn and has an impact on how well they comprehend the material. So, it is advised to eliminate any problems in online education apps and improve the user experience for students.

CONCLUSION:

According to the study's findings, most students in the wake of Corona showed a favorable attitude towards online classrooms. The flexibility and convenience offered by online learning were considered to be benefits for the students. Students preferred well-organized content with uploaded recorded videos in online learning applications. To maximize the learning process, they also mentioned the need for interactive sessions with tests and tasks at the end of each lesson. Yet, the majority of students also stated that due to technology limitations, delayed feedback, etc., online programs may be more difficult than traditional classroom settings.Consequently, to make an online course more useful and effective for the learner, all these variables should be taken into account.

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