

The Impact of Virtual Learning Environment on Teaching English as a Second Language

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Students who are born and raised in the modern digital millennium are natives to the digital world where the teachers are digital immigrants. Students being more active in the modern technological world, the dire need arise in the education system to craft education to meet modern educational needs. The integration of modern teaching platforms to education is an affirmative pace towards active learning. Hence this study focused on investigating the effectiveness of Virtual Learning Environment on teaching English as a second language. To achieve the key aim, the researcher investigated the perception of the students and teachers on using VLE as an English language teaching and learning platform and identified problems and challenges of using VLE. The data for the study was collected from second-year undergraduates of Uva Wellassa University where students were tested on a pre and post-in-class test after allowing them to do supplementary English language modules via VLE. The researcher found that there is a positive impact of VLE on learning on students' performance in the English language. The mean value of the English assignment via VLE is 15.077 while the mean value of the in-class English language assignment is 14.281. Hence, incorporating English language activities to VLE could make the students more engaged and feel motivated to do the activities. Hence, in Uva Wellassa University where 99% of the students use the VLE for their academic purposes, VLE is a good platform to learn the English language.

Keywords- E-learning, Learning platform, Virtual learning environment