



1. Flexibility and Spontaneity in Informal learning environment are found which has no predefined curriculum or schedule.
2. Learners have the flexibility to explore topics of interest at their own pace.
3. Learners are the main focus of this environment curiosity, interests, and needs.
4. Real-world experiences, conversations, online resources, books, videos are the various learning sources in informal learning environment.
5. Social interaction, such as discussions, collaboration, and sharing of knowledge are found in informal learning.
6. Learning takes place sometimes through observation and interaction with others.
7. Learning by doing and real-world experiences, trial-and-error, experimentation, and hands-on activities are common in informal learning which is known as experiential learning.

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8. Learners are self-directed. They take their own responsibility in learning. Learners are independent to achieve their goals.
 9. Informal learning is a Continuous and Lifelong Learning. People can take education at any stage of a life.
 10. Contextual and Practical aspects are the main focus of informal learning.
 11. Online resources, social media, and mobile apps are the main sources of informal learning . For information and communication, learners can use digital platforms also.
 12. Homes, workplaces, community spaces, or online platforms are the different settings in informal learning situations.
 - 13.No rigid structures or formal assessments are found in informal learning situations.
 14. Informal learning allows individuals to assess their learning experiences as their specific needs and preferences.

Disadvantage of Informal learning


1. There is a lack of structure in informal learning which may not cover all the topics or skills with proper plans.
2. There is no consistency in Learning Quality with proper information
3. Limited Assessments are used in informal settings of learning in which learners can not show their knowledge and skills on their subject.
4. Not found proper guidance. So the learners sometimes get misinformation or biased content.
5. Lack of motivation and self-discipline are found in informal environment.
6. Sometimes, learners take too much time for getting their goals due to their accountability on their courses.
7. All learners are not equally trained for assessing the learning resources due to their economic conditions.


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8. All learners are not equally guided for critical analysis. So, they are lacking in getting deeper knowledge of any topic.
 9. No all rounded education is found here . Informal learning might not covered essential foundational knowledge of the topic.
 10. Variability in the development of skills is found. It is difficult to assess the proficiency of individuals due to the lack of standardized outcomes of the learners.
 11. Diverse social and cultural factors are found in informal learning experiences.
 12. It is a challenging task for the informal learners to engaze themselves consistently.
 13. Informal learning depends on the availability of time for exploration and self-directed study.

Non-formal learning environment

By Dr. Gitanjali Choudhury


1. Non-formal learning environment allows the learners to participate at their own pace and convenience in flexible manner.
2. No fixed schedules and locations are found.
3. Anyone can access the learning opportunities with various commitments or limitations.
4. This type of education does not incline to provide structured qualifications or degree.
5. Learners enrolled in this type of learning for personal or professional development.
6. workshops, seminars, online courses, mentorship programs, self-directed learning, and experiential activities etc. are the diverse learning methods in this type of learning environment.


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7. Practical, applied knowledge and skills rather than theoretical understanding are the main focus points in this type of learning which is frequently oriented toward real-world applications and problem-solving.
 8. Non-formal learning allows the individuals to choose learning opportunities as their personal interests, career goals, or specific needs.
 9. Diverse group of participants with different backgrounds, ages, and experiences are found in non-formal learning . This diversity enriches the learning experience by fostering the exchange of varied perspectives and ideas.
 10. Short-Term and Lifelong Learning are found in non-formal learning environment for providing targeted knowledge and skills.

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11. various settings outside traditional classrooms, such as community centers, workplaces, online platforms, or informal community groups can be the centre for non-formal institutions.
 12. It allows the learners to take participate actively as their interests .
 13. Non-formal education is linked with the changing societal needs, emerging trends, or specific demands in the job market.
 14. It allows the learners to build on existing knowledge and skills with prior learning experiences.
 15. It has diverse and dynamic nature of learning environment.

Disadvantages of Non-formal learning environment

1. No Formal Recognition is given by this type of institutions.
2. There are variations in the quality of instruction which makes it challenging for learners to assess the reliability and credibility of the learning experience.

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3. There is limited structure of curriculum and guidance which hampers the learners for getting their learning at the level best.
 4. Inconsistency is found in content, delivery, and assessment due to the delivery of diverse resource persons which brings lack of uniformity on the reliability and comparability of the learning experience.
 5. Educational inequalities are found in non-formal learning due to financial constraints, geographic location, or other socio-economic factors.
 6. Job opportunities and career advancement are hampered because some organizations may not recognize the qualifications given by non-formal institutions.
 7. No standardized assessment are done to evaluate the learners' outcomes.

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8. There is lack of discipline and commitment among learners due to the informality among the learners.
 9. Without a standardized curriculum, there is a risk that learners may miss essential foundational knowledge or skills, leading to gaps in their overall understanding in non-formal education.
 10. Individuals who lack intrinsic motivation may find it challenging to complete non-formal courses or programs successfully.
 11. Fewer network opportunities are used in non-formal learning due to less formalized settings.
 12. It is difficult for learners to gauge their progress and for institutions to evaluate the impact of their programs due to the lack of standardized evaluation.

Virtual Learning Environment

By Gitanjali Choudhury

1. A Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) refers to an online platform or digital space designed to facilitate and support education through the use of various digital tools and resources.
2. It is known as a Learning Management System (LMS) or an e-learning platform,
3. VLE provides a virtual space where educators and learners can interact, share information, engage in educational activities, and manage the learning process.
4. The primary goal of a VLE is to enhance the educational experience by leveraging technology to create an interactive and collaborative learning environment.

Characteristics of VLE

1. We can manage our prescribed Content or learning materials in Centralized storage including documents, presentations, videos, and other multimedia resources.
2. We can use VLE as communication tools in our discussion forums, messaging systems, and announcements to facilitate interaction among students, teachers, and administrators.
3. VLE has some collaboration features for collaborative learning, including group projects, shared documents, and virtual teamwork.
4. Online assessment tools for quizzes, assignments, and exams, often with automated grading features of VLE through which we can evaluate our learners.
5. To track and analyze student progress, participation, and engagement, VLE provides data and analytics tools for educators to make informed decisions.

6. VLE ensures accessibility for learners with different technological capabilities with the Support for various devices (computers, tablets, smart phones) to ensure accessibility for learners with different technological capabilities.
7. Video conferencing, interactive simulations, or third-party applications can be done in VLE.
8. VLE can ensure the security and privacy of user data, compliance with data protection regulations, and secure login/authentication processes.

Disadvantages of VLE

1. Internet connectivity is not assessable for all types of learners.
 2. Sometimes, technical glitches or issues can be happened such as server outages, software bugs, or device malfunctions can disrupt the learning process.
 3. Learners do not get equal educational opportunities due to the use of Digital Inequality.
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4. Virtual learning may lack the face-to-face social interactions which affects the development of social skills and a sense of community.
- 5.VLE has less teacher-student interaction which establishes poor relationship among student-trainees.
- 6.VLE can ensure the security and privacy of user data, compliance with data protection regulations, and secure login/authentication processes.
- 7.In VLE, if students remain at home, they can find distractions and as a result, their main focus on education could be lost.
8. Students in VLE, can be lost in their concentration due to their use of multitasking effort during class.
- 9.students may have easier access to external resources or assistance during examination time in VLE.
10. Teachers may be faced extra workload in VLE because they have to know latest technology of digital world.
