Learning the English Language the Fun Way through VLE: a Proposal



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"Be the change you want to see." (Mahatma Ghandi)



Introduction

 Learning is a difficult concept to define, let alone gauge.

 Learning the English language/can be fun through the use of VLE



Virtual Learning Environment

The trend nowadays is the application of modern technology.









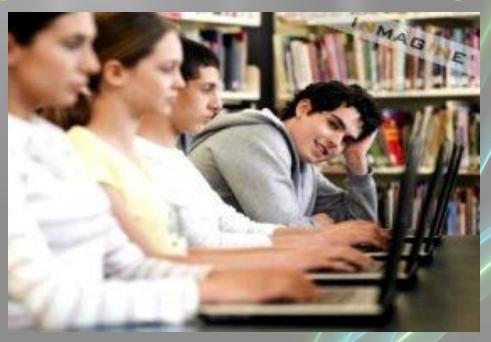
This paper answers the following questions:

- What is VLE?
- What are the purposes of establishing this in a university?
- How will the contents make student learning possible?
- What will its impact on student learning be?



The VLE as a supplementary tool

"Learning how to learn" or metacognition





Significance of the Study

- In order to make the learning experience more meaningful and interactive, this study has been done
- The use of technology is necessary
- If we provide quality materials with our students, it is possible that quality learning can be attained.



What others say about VLE?

It is also similar to blended learning, MLE,
 Content Management System, Online Learning
 Centre, Open Course Ware, etal.

Nowadays, VLE is the term being preferred

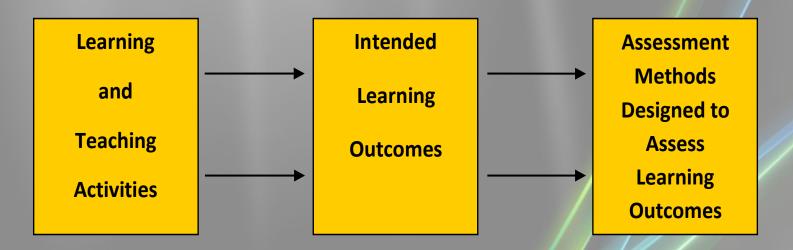


What others say about VLE?

- Keskitalo states that VLE is indisputably invaluable because it brought authenticity to teaching
- In the same study, he found teachers accepted their role as facilitators of student learning
- The idea of Biggs' constructive alignment plays a vital role in this process.



Constructive alignment



Aligning learning outcomes, learning and teaching activities and the assessment. Adapted from Biggs (1999).



What others say about VLE?

 Using VLE is one way to improve student learning.

 Svinicki pointed out that teachers should model and describe their own thinking

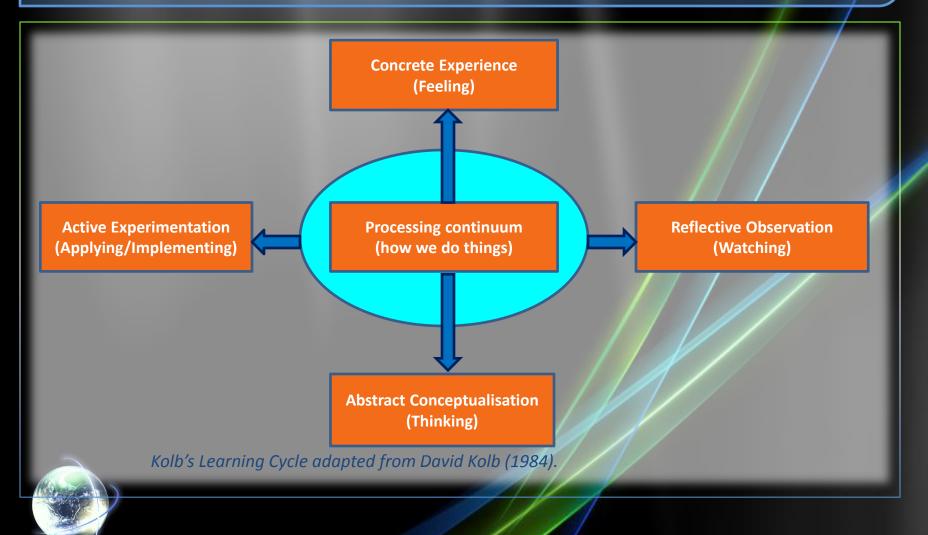


Method of Research

- Descriptive (documentary analysis, observation, interview, feedback system)
- Kolb's Learning Cycle Theory was used



Experiential learning theory Kolb's Learning Cycle



What is VLE?

- It is a social space
- A computerized program that facilitates e-learning
- A software which enables the use of different learning tools over the internet
- E-learning as learning through electronic interface that is using the so called VLE



Purposes of establishing VLE

To improve teaching and learning

Learners

Needs, motives and prior experience of learning; social and interpersonal skills; preferred learning styles and ICT competence

Approach is matched with preferred learning styles and intended outcomes

Intended

Acquisition of knowledge, academic and social skills; increased motivation; progression Activity

Interaction of learner with environment, leading to planned outcomes with learners' needs and with the resources within the learning environment

Practice matched

Learning environment Victual or physica

Virtual or physical; available tools, facilities, services and resources

Impact of learning environment on intended outcomes



Purposes

- The interactive use of ET allows many different kinds of interaction between people:
 - A. Synchronous
 - B. Asynchronous
 - C. Individual and social use



How will the contents be made to make student learning possible?

Teachers should be designers of learning.

"Teaching is something that takes place when learning does. No matter what the teacher is doing in her class, if her students are not learning something significant, she is not teaching. When the student foils, the teacher fails more."



How will the contents be made...

 The VLE is designed to make students learn the language the fun way without forcing them to learn <u>but teaching them how to learn</u>.



Teachers and students' responses on the significance of each category in the VLE

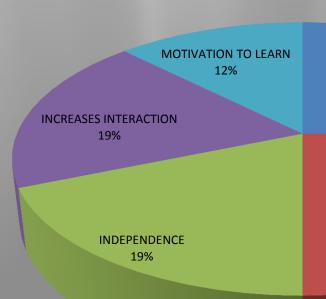
CATEGORY FROM THE WEBSITE	TEACHERS N= 17	STUDENTS N= 70
REGISTRATION	17	59
EXERCISES	17	60
LESSONS	17	60
TESTS	17	60
LANGUAGE GAMES	17	60
QUOTES	17	60
JUC LIBRARY	17	60
FORUM	13	55
GUESTBOOK	13	51
FAQ	16	53
CONTACT	16	57
ONLINE RESOURCES	17	60

What will its Impact on Student Learning be?

- The use of VLE may have a significant role in the deep engagement of learning
- The role of the school is to support and to provide a good learning environment
- Students' interest is equated to how they learn.



Teachers' responses on the impact of student learning

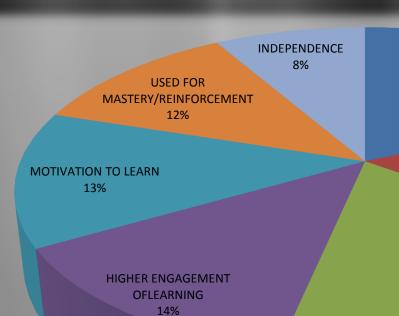


HIGHER ENGAGEMENT OF LEARNING 25%

FOR FUN/ENJOYMENT 25%



Students' responses on the Impact of learning



INCREASES INTERACTION 18%

INCREASES INTEREST TO STUDY 17%

ENJOYMENT/FUN 18%



Conclusion

VLE is one of the most popular trends

It is important to consider the materials to be used



Conclusion

- A Vision of engaged learning
- An assessment of engaged learning
- Grouping for engaged learning
- Teacher roles for engaged learning
- Student roles for engaged learning



The JUCVLE WEBSITE

http://jucvle.ucoz.com

