

## ONLINE TOOLS FOR TEACHERS TO CREATE DIGITAL LEARNING CONTENTS

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### Abstract

Education is the backbone of any nation's development. Without education any nation is not possible to develop. Now the situation of Covid-19 the teachers and students are not able to go to the school. So that, we have to increase our dependency on digital learning. Most of the institutions of India, they choose to teach through online mode. So teachers need to teach through digital learning content. That's why teachers need to use some tools for creating digital content learning content. This research paper focuses on finding tools for creating digital learning content, to find out the challenges of teachers for creating digital learning content and at last give some suggestions for solutions to the challenges.

**Keywords:** Digital learning, content creating tools, challenges, suggestions

### INTRODUCTION

Teaching is a key component of the teaching-learning process. Learning will be effective when teaching will be obvious. At present new methods are being adopted to make the teaching process more explicit. One of these methods is digital learning content. Digital learning content is content that is displayed on web pages and screens in the form of digital text and images. When teaching with these materials, students take it with great interest and the learning process becomes more effective. So teaching with digital learning content has now taken the teaching-learning process to another level.

Education is a complex process. This process achieves success by working together different components. These elements help the students to learn in the same way that elements also help the teacher in teaching. One of these elements is digital learning content. Lockdown period is currently underway for Covid-19. These lockdown period teachers will be not able to take classes in a classroom that's why teachers need to necessary digital learning tools for create digital learning content. So, we can say that in teaching-learning process, digital learning content is much important aspect near teachers'.

### CONCEPT OF DIGITAL LEARNING

Digital Learning is not limited to laptops or mobiles but extend far beyond. It is a combination of technologies, digital contents and instructors.

According to Wikipedia, Digital learning is any type of learning that is accompanied by technology or by instructional practice that makes effective use of technology. It encompasses the application of a wide spectrum of practices including: blended and virtual learning.

## NEED & SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The present time is called the time of modern technology. Digital learning content is being used to make education effective by using modern technology. Digital learning can increase learning experiences, save teachers time, enable teachers to better tailor learning to student needs, help in tracking student progress and much more. In the current situation, the lockdown due to the outbreak of the corona virus has closed all schools, colleges, universities and many others educational institutions, making it impossible for teachers to teach in regular classrooms and so digital learning content is very important in this situation.

## VARIOUS TOOLS TO CREATE DIGITAL CONTENTS

The various tools to create digital contents are

- **Info graphics and Visualization tools for teachers**
  - (i) Charts Bin – It will be used teacher to create own interactive map. It's totally free for now.
  - (ii) Dipity Create – It can be use for teachers to create dynamic visualization tools to display photos, videos, news and blogs in sequential order.
  - (iii) Google Chart Tools – It can helps teachers to create Google Chart. Teachers can easily use this charts for creating digital learning content.
  - (iv) Lucid Chart – By this chart teachers can create flowcharts, org charts, mind maps, concept maps and many types of helpful visual communication. It is free for students and teachers.
  
- **Free Text to Speech tools for teachers**
  - (i) Chrome Speak – It help teachers to select the text and right-click to speak with offline text to speech engine, TTS (text to speech).
  - (ii) D Speech - It is helpful for teachers to create digital learning content for text to speech program with functionality of ASR (Automatic Speech Recognition) integrated.
  - (iii) Free Natural Reader - It can help teachers to convert any written text such as Microsoft Word, web pages, PDF files, and E-mails into spoken words.
  - (iv) Power Talk - It is very helpful tool for teachers, by this tool free program that automatically speaks any presentation or slide show running in Microsoft PowerPoint for Windows.
  
- **Free Digital Storytelling tools for teachers**
  - (i) Bubblr – It help for teachers to create comic strips using photos from flickr.com. Begin searching images and add bubble to them.
  - (ii) Capzles media – It helps for teachers to create rich multimedia experiences with videos, photos, music, blogs and documents.
  - (iii) Slide story – It helps teacher to combine sharing pictures and narration and by this tool teachers can do free way to make presentations and share them on the Internet.
  - (iv) Zoo Burst – By this tool teachers easily create his or her own 3D pop-up books.
  
- **Free Survey, Polls, and Quizzes tools for teachers**
  - (i) Add poll – It helps teacher to create polls, surveys and html forms on the web easily.

- (ii) Doculicious – By this tool teacher easily create embeddable web forms that generate PDF documents.
  - (iii) Fluid Surveys online – By this tool teacher can easily create forms & questionnaires.
  - (iv) Free online survey - It helps teachers to create his/her own free online survey.
- **Free Screen Capturing tools for teachers**
    - (i) Clip2Net – By this tool teachers can easily upload desktop area image or files on the web really fast such as desktop area capture and upload, video capture and upload, upload image from clipboard, upload text documents etc.
    - (ii) King Kong Capture – It helps teachers to capture on screen images fast and easy. It's helps teachers to easily printing of screen shots.
    - (iii) Screen Dash Capture – It helps teachers to capture on screen images and they can easily including web pages, PDF file, programs etc.
    - (iv) Skitch Annotate – It helps teachers to edit and share any screenshots and images.
  - **Free Social Bookmarking Tools For Teachers**
    - (i) All My Favourites – It helps teachers to share internet bookmarks.
    - (ii) Book mark G – It helps teachers to save and share interesting sites and articles.
    - (iii) Edshelf – It helps teachers to reviews & recommendations of any tools for education.
    - (iv) Learn Fizz – It helps teachers to find, organize and share the best free learning on the web.
  - **Online Bibliography and Citation Tools For Teachers**
    - (i) Cite fast – Freeciite – By this tool teachers can easily work at APA, MLA, and Chicago.
    - (ii) Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy Wizard – It helps teachers to create many styles like: APA, CSE and MLA.
    - (iii) Ref Dot – Chrome Extension – By this tool teacher can easily store books or journal references and add books automatically from Amazon book pages.
    - (iv) End Note – It helps teachers to creating bibliography and writing research paper.
  - **Free Sticky Notes tools for teachers**
    - (i) Listings online sticky notes –It helps teachers to take notes from any browser. It share and collaborate with others in real-time.
    - (ii) Sticky pad – By this tool teacher can type any notes, set meeting and appointment reminders etc.
  - **Free Photo and Image Editing tools for teachers**
    - (i) Aviary – It helps teachers to create quality photo editing solution for web and mobile.
    - (ii) Chart tool – By this chart tool teachers communicate information visually.
    - (iii) CoSketch – It helps teachers to create online whiteboard designed, by this tool they quickly visualize and share ideas as images.
    - (iv) Pencil – It helps teachers to create traditional hand-drawn animation (cartoon) using both bitmap and vector graphics. It is free and open source.

- **Free testing and quizzing tool for teachers**
  - (i) Class Tools – It helps teachers to create free games, quizzes, activities and diagrams in seconds.
  - (ii) Easy Test Maker – By this tool teachers create tests, like multiple-choice, fill in the blank, matching, short answer and true & false questions all on the same test.
  - (iii) Hot Potatoes – It helps teachers to create interactive quiz, like cross word, multiple-choice, short-answer, gap-fill, matching/ordering and jumbled-sentence etc.
  - (iv) Quiz Revolution – It helps teachers to make free facebook quizzes and free online quizzes.
  - (v) Quiz Slider – By this tool teachers create stylish, interactive online test easily.
- **Free web conferencing tools for teachers**
  - (i) Any Meeting – It is free tool for meetings and conferencing. It allows for meetings of up to 200 people.
  - (ii) Big Blue Button – By this tool universities and colleges to deliver a high-quality learning experience to remote students.
  - (iii) Tok Box Video Chat – It helps teachers to create video chat easily.
- **Free PDF tools for teachers**
  - (i) Adobe Reader - It is interact with PDF content, including multimedia and also adding and verifying digital signature, annotating on PDF pages, creating and filling out PDF forms, and printing out these documents.
  - (ii) PDFTK Builder – It is an open source PDF tool used which allows easily reorder or merge selected pages.
  - (iii) PD Fill PDF Tool - It helps teachers in many things, such as merging, splitting, reordering, rotating and cropping pages and allows add headers, footers and watermarks.

#### CHALLENGES OF TEACHERS FOR CREATING DIGITAL LEARNING CONTENTS

- Introduced technology is not always preferred: Technology is not always the answer. Students may have difficulty writing on small devices over long periods.
- It's easy for students to be distracted: Students regularly use devices for social media, playing games, instant messaging, text messaging and e-mailing rather than for class work.
- Teachers need more professional development: They need access to ICT improvements for classroom implementation and to keep up with continuous technological advances. This needs to be regular, scaffold and sustainable.
- Not everyone has technology at home: Not all students or teachers use a computer at home, are frequent users, have sufficient data or internet access.
- Connectivity: When teachers use tools for creating digital learning content teachers faced internet connectivity error. That's teachers many time not created digital learning content.
- Remote area: We saw many teachers lived in remote area, that's why sometimes slow internet connection or internet not reached.

- Not use modern gadgets and technological devices: Teachers are not comfortable in handling these modern gadgets and technological devices.
- High cost: Digital learning content often requires the use of technology, so it costs a lot more. It is a huge challenge.

### SUGGESTIONS

- To promote student motivation the primary role falls to the teacher to anticipate and prevent motivational challenges unique to digital learning.
- Refresher programmes need to be organized from time to time so that they become comfortable with using technology.
- Providing learners with the opportunity to collaborate, share and create will increase the learner's use of various technologies, enhance their e-learning experience and support self-directed and ongoing learning.
- Teachers should develop a positive attitude towards digital learning and be interested themselves in its learning.
- Two roles in digital learning that must be considered when discussing ways to improve these challenges. The first is the instructor's role and the second the student's role.
- Teachers need to be trained on digital learning contents through various workshop and training programs.
- In remote rural areas, internet connection required and internet speed needs to be increased.
- The Government needs to put more emphasis on digital learning and allocate budget for digital learning.

### CONCLUSION

In this present time digital learning is an important part of education. This digital learning is able to make education much more effective. The current pandemic corona virus outbreak has led to a lockdown situation in which all schools, colleges and universities have been closed, in this case the teachers are teaching with the help of this digital learning content. Teachers often have a hard time creating digital learning content, but it is important to note that digital learning content is very important at the present time. Every teacher needs to be teaching through digital learning content to make education more effective. Every teacher should be encouraged to provide education through digital learning content. Therefore, in the current lockdown situation, the need for digital learning is important enough to provide continuous learning and make education more effective.

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