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BLENDED TEACHING AS A PILLAR FOR ACHIEVING QUALITY IN EDUCATION IN THE NEW ERA

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ABSTRACT

Teaching foreign languages in general and English in particular, in the time of technological development in the new context of the pandemic, requires that educators should keep hand in hand with the recent innovations and make use of the technological means either in the way of training teachers or in the ordinary classes for school and university learners. This is clearly noticed in online learning and distance learning as well as the intensive integration of Internet and technology in teaching and learning processes.

The West has already experienced distance learning and considered it an alternative to face to face teaching methods. This proved to have lots of advantages and many scholars considered online teaching an alternative to the traditional methods. On another hand, many educators point out to the drawbacks of online education and considered the teaching learning process as a human activity that necessitates interaction within the context of human to human communication. Between these two views arose a third opinion calling for "blended teaching" as a compromise wherein teachers and learners interact in the real classroom context with a strong emphasis on the presence of technology in the educational process.

"Blended teaching" is considered a style wherein technology should function complementarily with the teacher in order to provide high quality instruction and practice. The focal point of "Blended Teaching" is basically about the ability of relating online materials to real classes in order to make more effective teaching.

KEYWORDS: Teaching, Learning, Education, Online, Distance, Technology, Quality

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