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**ONLINE INSTRUCTION: PANACEA TO INSECURITY IN NIGERIAN TERTIARY
INSTITUTIONS**

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Abstract

Educational institutions in Nigeria are striving to convert their face-to-face sessions to virtual ones as tertiary schools across the country migrate from onsite to online instruction in a bid to decrease the impact of insecurity and the evolving coronavirus pandemic. The need for online education is currently on the rise. Academic institutions that do not provide this choice risk losing potential students to other schools that use innovative educational methodologies, particularly at this era of uncertainty. As a result of this shift, universities are scrambling to find new ways to give lectures online or virtually. Many instructors and teachers are now pondering how to provide pupils with a positive learning experience. It is critical to comprehend measures that will prepare academic institutions to handle the challenges posed by this transformation. In this era of danger, developing high-quality online programs that are tailored to the needs of Nigerians while also keeping students off the highways and campuses that have become hideouts for kidnappers, herders, gunmen, and terrorists is critical. The purpose of this article is to examine the various ways in which insecurity impacts schools, how it can harm students and the entire society, and how Nigerian education can shift from the classroom to the internet to address insecurity.

Introduction

To avoid division, the world and current society are dynamic and full of unanticipated changes, which necessitates a shift in the academic culture of all educational institutions. Responding to the unprecedented crisis arising from insecurity in Nigeria, ranging from armed men, herdsmen, Boko Haram and terrorists, has resulted in the serial bombing and kidnapping of students and staff of educational institutions. Stakeholders must have a rethink on how teaching and learning should be carried out. Kidnapping has remained one of Nigeria's most serious security issues in recent years. According to Ashiru, who is referenced by Lawal, the kidnapping of the Chibok and Dapchi schoolgirls conveyed a poor message to parents (2018). Many parents will believe that sending their children to school in Nigeria is a delicate balancing act. Despite the government's efforts to combat abduction, Boko haram, and herders, it appears that their efforts are not delivering significant outcomes. As a result, pupils have been killed and maimed both within and outside the school grounds. In Nigeria, Boko haram has carried out several bombings and assassinations at schools. On a Sunday morning in 2012, when believers were attending a service on the university's campus, a horrific incident occurred, and on Independence Day, more than 40 students from the Federal Polytechnic Mubi were killed. Nigerians

must ignore their educational system in the face of insecurity. If the country is to catch up to the industrialized countries of the globe, it must continue to teach and learn. Another challenge facing educational institutions is the recent COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in the sudden closure of educational institutions globally (Jaci Eisenberg, and Alma Escobar, 2020). Nations must obey an emergency order to close all of their schools and universities. This has led to the idea of delivering instruction online (Czerniewicz, 2020).

Online learning is the newest and most popular form of distance education today in developing countries like Nigeria, where it has been in existence in developed countries for some time. Within the past decades, online learning has had a major impact on teaching and learning in developed countries, and the trend is now increasing (Ogunlade, Akhigbe; and Olowoyeye 2019). Online learning has been used to meet the needs of a growing population of students who cannot participate in traditional face-to-face classroom settings; those who live in remote locations; those who work full-time and can only study after work; and those who simply prefer to learn independently. The requirement for students to participate in an online course is simply to have access to a computer, the internet, and the desire to succeed in non-face-to-face learning. Online courses provide an excellent method of course delivery and accessibility to instruction at any time, from anywhere. The online environment might make it easier for people to fit continuing education into their busy schedules, even if they don't have much time (Renata De Oliveira; Souza Carmo Aléxia and Pádua Franco 2014).

Experience of Insecurity in Nigerian Schools

The state of being open to danger or threat; lack of protection; being subject to danger or vulnerability. (UK English Dictionary). Best (2006) has defined insecurity as a degenerated state of conflict, threats to human security, violence characterized by death or injury, etc. Insecurity, according to Oamosu (2000), is when someone or something is at risk of not being able to live or stay alive. Insecurity today has been the greatest challenge to the educational system in Nigeria. Aina (2012) opines that gone are the days when Nigerian campuses were safe for teaching and learning. Today, lives and properties on campuses are not safe because society in general is not safe. Many students have been in tertiary institutions for many years without graduating because of cult-related activities. They are there to cause security problems for students and the entire eco-system of the institution. People who write about Nigerian education say that cultists have made it dangerous for both students and teachers.

The amount of insecurity on educational campuses is colossal. Educational institutions have witnessed the killing of professors, lecturers, teachers and students in universities and polytechnics for the past two decades in Nigeria. Some Nigerian university communities have been engulfed by fear and panic following an email allegedly sent by the Islamic extremist group Boko Haram to 15 universities in southern Nigeria. One of the goals of the group was to get rid of Western education in Nigeria. They said that these universities were going to be hit by a lot of bombs soon (Odigbo, 2013).

Today, terrorism is the order of the day because of the Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria. They are militants who employ intimidation and compulsion to inspire terror in the population. In Nigeria, suicide bombings, vehicle bombings, rocket-propelled grenades, assassinations, abductions, kidnappings, disguises, and hijackings are becoming commonplace. Many students have died because of Boko Haram's, herdsmen's, armed men, and other herdsmen's operations. Boko Haram raided Chibok Government Secondary School's dormitories in Chibok, Borno State, in April 2014, abducting almost 300 schoolgirls studying for the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE). Children were taken from Babington Macaulay Junior Seminary, a school near Lagos in Nigeria, on February 29, 2016. Three schoolgirls who were studying for an exam were taken by three men with guns.

Insecurity has no doubt negatively affected the students learning process and employees at postsecondary institutions because of fear and insecurity. Boko Haram militants seized over 189 girls from the Government Girls Science and Technical College in Dapchi two years later, on February 19, 2018.

Kidnapping has remained one of Nigeria's most serious security issues in recent years. Ashiru, who is quoted in Lawal (2018), says that the kidnapping of Chibok and Dapchi School girls in the school compound sent a bad message to parents. Many parents will think that sending their kids to school in Nigeria will be like walking a tightrope for them. Although efforts have been made by the government to tackle kidnapping, Boko haram and herdsmen, it seems their

efforts are not yielding positive results. This has resulted in the killing and maiming of students both inside and outside the school premises. There have been a lot of bombings and killings by Boko Haram at schools in Nigeria.

From December 2020 till date, more than 1,000 schoolchildren have been kidnapped while in school in three separate incidents. A school kid was killed, and 27 others were abducted from their school in Kagara, Niger State, Nigeria, on February 17, 2021. Three members of the school personnel, as well as 12 of their families, were abducted together with the students. On the 26th of February 2021, approximately 300 pupils from the Government Girls Science Secondary School in Jangebe, Zamfara State, were abducted. The Federal College of Forestry Mechanization, Afaka, Igabi LGA, in Kaduna State, was kidnapped on March 11th, 2021. Thirty-nine students were abducted. Greenfield University students and some personnel were kidnapped on April 20, 2021, in Chikun LGA, Kaduna State, Nigeria. This is Nigeria's fourth academic institution kidnapping in 2021, and the fifth since December 2020. It comes five weeks and six days after the Afaka kidnapping, in which 39 students were kidnapped. All these have led to disruption of the academic calendar; teaching and learning face-to-face has been threatened. Insecurity is hurting Nigeria's growth because no country can rise above the abilities of its education.

Conceptual Issues in Online Instruction

Distance Education: The training of students who are not physically present at a school is known as distance education or remote learning. Traditionally, correspondence courses were used, in which the student connected with the school via mail. It now includes the use of the internet. Wikipedia

Digital learning: Among the strategies it uses are blended learning, flipped learning, and individualized learning, which are all ways to use technology to help people learn better.

Online Learning Environment: This can be defined as an Internet-based or virtual learning environment that uses the internet for collaboration, feedback, and assessments in order to facilitate educational interactions, teaching, and learning (Dillenbourg, 2000).

Online Pedagogy This is a way to teach online that both the students and the teachers can work together and learn together. This helps the growth of online instruction.

Asynchronous Learning: Asynchronous learning allows learners to go through an online learning course at their own pace and on their own schedule when they participate in the course at different times.

Blended Learning: Blended learning is a method of learning that combines online and in-person activities. This can be done by exposing learners to the internet through some devices and, at the same time, meeting in a class room for discussion. For example, students can work on self-paced assignments online at their own pace and then meet in person for more learning.

Ecosystem: implies different units in a school environment. These include the administration, counseling, and help desk for online learning.

Learners can learn outside of the traditional classroom by using electronic devices like computers or mobile phones to get educational materials. E-Learning is short for "electronic learning."

Synchronous Learning: Synchronous learning occurs when students from different locations participate in an online learning course at the same time as the instructor. Through software that creates a virtual classroom, synchronous learning allows students to connect with the lecturer and other students immediately away.

A webinar is a seminar or workshop in which the facilitator and participants all view the same screen at the same time, which is enhanced by the internet. The webinar usually includes an audio component that the facilitator may control, as well as elements that allow participants to interact via typing, answering polls, raising their hands, and asking questions.

Online instruction is any formal educational process in which the learner and the instructor are not in the same place at the same time. It refers to any type of training, education, or instruction that takes place in a digital medium and involves the use of internet technology to connect the instructor and students.

Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT) is a temporary movement in instructional delivery to a different method of delivery owing to a crisis. Understanding these terms could make a huge difference in creating and moving to a successful online training program and keeping up to date with the latest developments in online learning.

Online Instruction

An online course is a course taken online using a computer and the internet without being physically with the instructor in a classroom, as well as other students it allows for more flexibility because it may be done from the comfort of one's own home. Learners are not required to be online at a specific time of day or night for most courses, but they must actively participate in the course during the course time frame. (Ogunlade; Bahago, and Ogunmodede, 2021), (Aboderin (2015) emphasized that online learning encompasses an array of systems, from using visual effects to allowing students to access academic material, computers and the internet are used only for teaching and learning. Because it mixes in with its surroundings, online training is dynamic. It can be distance learning, it can be digital, e-learning, it could be blended, or emergency remote teaching, etc. Because it makes use of electronic technologies to access educational curriculum outside of the traditional face-to-face classroom, online instruction is often referred to as "electronic learning." (www.elearning.gov.2019)

Online learning is characterized by e-learning, distance learning, and digital learning. Distance learning can be regarded as an umbrella term for any learning using the internet across distances. Distance learning has been around for decades and comes in a variety of forms, including:

- Correspondence courses, which are delivered via regular mail with little contact.

- Tele courses are those whose content is delivered via radio or television.
- CD-ROM Courses: Students interact with static computer content in these courses.
- Online Learning: Courses delivered synchronously or asynchronously over the internet.
- Mobile Learning Using technologies such as smart phones and digital audio players, students may learn on the go.

Online teaching and learning have been studied with numerous theories, models, standards, and evaluation criteria that focus on quality online teaching and learning as well as online course design having been derived. However, effective online learning results from careful instructional design and planning, using a systematic model for design and development. Tonia Branch and Robert Branch (2015)

Online learning is by far the most common method nowadays. Online teaching and learning have grown in popularity in recent years, according to the Sloan Consortium, and many students are now aware of its ease and benefits. As a result, students at tertiary institutions are already enrolling in online teaching and learning.

Solving Instructional Problem during the Period of Insecurity

Finally, it's appropriate to give pupils with digital tools that can help them learn and perform better during the time at hand. Online classes, dictionaries, grammar-correcting applications, animation tools, games, calculators, and graphical mathematics tools are just a few examples. These may increase possibilities for students to communicate and collaborate with one another, as well as to benefit from each other's knowledge. All the following will improve educational performance almost entirely without putting the environment in jeopardy. However, if stakeholders do not supervise the actions of the learners, kids may become distracted by the usage of a digital device at school or at home. Increased access to entertainment, such as social media and gaming, as well as the World Wide Web, creates a seductive and easily accessible online environment for students throughout this era (Ogunlade, and Omodara, 2021).

Benefits of Online Instruction

Students may study at their leisure in the privacy of their own homes. Because no travel is required for training, it is less cost. There will be no tardiness or in-class distractions. The experiences of their peers may be beneficial to students. The course is open to anybody who wants to take it. In comparison to a classroom situation, students may be more relaxed. Interacting with technology allows learners to improve their abilities. It is appropriate for students who study in a variety of ways. Different and engaging delivery modalities are used (Renata De Oliveira; Souza Carmo Aléxia, & Pádua Franco, 2014)

Over the years, educational technology experts have systematically defined distance learning, distributed learning, blended learning, online learning, mobile learning, and other terms to differentiate between them. However, few people outside of academia and specialists in educational technology and instructional design are well-versed in the differences. When it comes to online education, we are now confronted with a diversity of terms, and the precise phrase for the type of teaching being provided in these critical moments of insecurity in the COVID-19 combination is Emergency Remote Teaching. This is due to COVID 19's unforeseen commencement of online learning, which brought together students from all over the world with varied levels of technological complexity, regardless of internet speed, smart device availability, or data costs.

Society, according to Moravec (2020), requires people who operate within a context rather than a strict framework. One crucial truth is that the vocations for which students are trained, such as manufacturing employees and bureaucrats, are becoming obsolete. They are being replaced by knowledge- and innovation-based employment that needs employees to operate in context, working practically anywhere, with almost anyone, and at any time. There are several difficulties. The advantages of online courses cannot be overstated; thus, in the context of Nigeria as a developing nation, it is critical to begin with emergency remote teaching.

Funding During Insecurity in Nigeria

Funding to absorb the changes in our educational institutions amid a period of uncertainty is a major concern for our day. These changes wreak havoc on the system, but they also leave learners behind. So, what exactly is online learning in the classroom? While cost must be considered, it is not an issue of whether technology should be used in education, but rather how and when it should be used. Instructional resources such as the smart board, for example, allow for hands-on learning and interactive collaboration, and it is one of the most recent breakthroughs in the learning arena that cannot put students at danger of being insecure. With the introduction of touch screen technology, these resources have become more fluid and convenient. It's also thrilling that at times of insecurity, both students and teachers are engaged in a physical and virtual active learning environment. There will be no loss of life or property if sufficient monies are made accessible to the entire system throughout the period of instability (Hodges, Moore, Lockee, . Trust, & Bond, 2020).

Remote Instruction in an Emergency Period

However, few people outside of academia and specialists in educational technology and instructional design are well-versed in the differences. When it comes to online education, we are now confronted with a diversity of terms, and the precise phrase for the type of teaching being provided in these critical moments of insecurity in the COVID-19 combination is Emergency Remote Teaching. This is due to COVID 19's unforeseen commencement of online learning, which brought together students from all over the world with varied levels of technological complexity, regardless of internet speed, smart device availability, or data costs (Ogunmodede,; Ayinde, and Ogunlade, 2021).

Online courses that are created in response to unrest, catastrophe, or tragedy are not the same as well-planned online learning opportunities. When reviewing educational institutions attempting to continue instruction amid insecurity crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, it's important to know the difference between a well-planned online experience and emergency remote teaching. When switching from on-site to online, there are a few things to think about.

Content Requirements of Students: The availability of technology and the students' familiarity with the subject matter determine the students' involvement with information is taken into consideration in the simplest and most accessible manner (Ogunlade, 2019).

Students' Needs: During the learning process, students need access to course materials, as well as a method for submitting assignments and receiving feedback. They also need a method for sending in inquiries, as well as guidance on when and how to react. This kind of informal social learning assistance is critical to student success (not just socially, but for comprehension and retention as well). Consider including some methods for kids to connect with one another. Here are a few fast and simple fixes: Create a discussion/forum where students may ask one other question and provide encouragement to one another.

Provide them with a link to a live session that is currently available. Seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Zoom rooms, for example, may be accessed at any time and have connections. You may build a Zoom room for your class, publish the URL, and inform students that it is available for them to utilize and communicate with one another as needed.

Teacher-Students' Needs: The instructor must interact with and provide course information to students. Students must understand what they should accomplish, how they should do it, how to submit an assignment, and how they should get feedback on their work. A learning management system can easily handle these situations.

Synchronous vs. Asynchronous: Knowing whether students will be there live, at a given time, for a lecture is critical for the teacher. Consider recording lectures for them to listen to at their leisure and scheduling live sessions on a regular basis. As a result, the teacher decides what may be recorded and how to make himself or herself accessible to students for questions, discussion, and assistance.

Babara (2014) is a Japanese term that translates to "little" The nine parts of the online instructional design and decision-making process mentioned are modality, pace, student-instructor ratio, pedagogy, instructor role online, student role online, online communication synchronization, role of online assessments, and source of feedback. Adapted from Barbara Means, Marianne Bakia, and Robert Murphy, *Learning Online: What Research Tells Us about Whether, When and How* (New York: Routledge, 2014).

Student-content, student-student, and student-learner interactions have all been studied. It demonstrates that learners can engage more easily with information and technology, which improves their learning results. According to Robert Bernard et al. (2009), thorough design for online learning is critical to accommodate the many sorts of interactions that occur throughout the learning process.

Major Points for Online Instruction

The major points for online instructions are; don't make assumptions, pay attention to the learning objective of the course, read everything, and put it into practice, double-check that you have all of the necessary software and hardware, be willing to try new things, be at ease with text communication, take the initiative, create a schedule that you can stick to and complete the surveys

Online Examinations Software

Exam software is a kind of program that enables for online testing and academic evaluation. They are designed to allow examiners to perform investigations on learners at their leisure or to investigate certain talents and qualities. The following are some prerequisites for conducting an online examination:

1. Exam Format (Objective or Subjective)
2. Question
3. Set a timer.

4. Subjects/Topics
5. Level of Difficulty
6. Negative Marking
7. Take a picture of the candidate
8. Exam Result Management

Universities, test organizations like as WAEC, NABTEB, NUC, and NBTE, as well as commercial agencies and enterprises in Nigeria, may utilize this software: Businesses and enterprises in the current technological work arena are continuously looking for methods to keep their staff up to date, therefore promotional tests are held on a regular basis. A collection of online examination software is provided below.

TCEXAM: TCEXAM is a computer-based testing application.

Instructors and students can use it to prepare, conduct, and report on online tests and exams. It's a web-based test that doesn't require student to use a specific platform or language.

Features according to Sarah, (2021)

- Easy adaptation, quality, innovation, and security are all aspects of the TCEXAM open-source software.
- It requires a GNU-Linux operating system with the Apache Web server, MySQL database management system, and PHP programming language, as well as a LAMP platform and flexible technical requirements that can be met by almost any computer and most web servers in order to function.
- The Open Standard protocols that the program employs to store and communicate data include TSV, XML, and PDF.
- It adds graphics, text formatting, multimedia elements including music and visuals, and mathematical formulae using a common mark-up language.

KALDIN;

Reactions according to Sarah, (2021)

Another online test software is Kaldin. It is capable of efficiently creating and grading examinations. It provides pupils with a simple interface that makes the test process much easier. It's a fully adjustable software that can be tweaked to meet the needs of the user, as well as client feedback.

- Kaldin software is compatible with all major browsers, including Firefox 3+, Safari 3+, Chrome 8+, Internet Explorer 8+, and Opera 9+.
- Multiple users can be added to tests, and results are generated instantly.
- High-security hosting to protect user information and tests.
- Importing questions is simple, and you may reuse them in many sets.
- It's a web-based application that uses the programming languages JSP, Java, and JavaScript, as well as the database environments JDBC and MySQL.

PAPERSHALA: Paper Shala is an online examination software that may meet both the institution's and students' needs. It evaluates based on online publications, outcomes, and analysis. The program provides small institutions with an examination strategy and can assist in the creation of online exams.

Observations according to Sarah, (2021)

- It has a versatile question bank with full customizable features, and it works on all devices including desktop, mobile, iPhone, laptop, and tablet.
- A separate student dashboard with a graphical interface for various test-related information is available.
- It's a browser-based and cloud-based software solution that runs well even on devices with little RAM.
- From the administrator's perspective, the powerful admin panel includes all of the main functions required to take an online exam.

TAO: TAO is a platform based on open standards that was founded nearly two decades ago. TAO software is a standard-compliant, open-source assessment system that works according to client-specific functionality, and the firm designs and deploys multilingual assessment solutions. The TAO testing software runs on an Apache 2.4 web server with PHP 5.6 to 7.1 installed and databases that support MySQL 5.7, Maria DB 10.1, PostgreSQL 9.5, or newer versions, according to Sarah (2021).

- It works with almost all modern browsers and recommends Ubuntu, Debian, CentOS, Red Hat Enterprise Linux, or similar Linux distributions, as well as macOS and macOS Server, and Windows.
- TAO Community Edition 3.3 is the most recent version, and it is available for immediate download.
- It's GNU General Public License-licensed.

R-EXAMS: R/exams is a package that includes some approaches for examining data. The company creates personalized exams, tests, and quizzes using dynamic exercise templates. R/exams is a flexible software that can be used freely and extended to meet the needs of the user.

Features according to Sarah, (2021)

- PDF and HTML versions of the exercise templates are available.
- The software works with 'Rtools' on Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux. For Windows and OS X, there are a variety of interfaces to use R, such as Shell, Emacs, or a dedicated graphical user interface.
- Using a single command, the R package exam system can be installed quickly and interactively from within R.
- Internally, the R/exams software produces PDF output using the typesetting system LaTeX.

EDU EXPRESSIONS: Edu expressions are mostly used by Android-based mobile applications. Zuxus Business Solution Pvt. Ltd. designed it. Exam software like as Edu expressions is usually paid for, and it aids in the management and administration of various types of online examinations without worry.

According to Sarah's description (2021)

- Edu Expression is one of the few White Label App examination systems available.
- This system's software has an advanced dashboard as well as a variety of options such as website customizations.
- Online Edu Expression test The PHP script has a simple configuration panel.
- Triffort.com handles all payments and offers the necessary assistance.

PESOFTS has been around for nearly seven years. Pesofts is a major online examination management program that was created by an Indian team. It's a dependable platform that includes a responsive website panel as well as a mobile app panel.

According to Sarah's description (2021)

- Mobile and tablet support allows for more features to be added.

- Virtual classrooms allow for the personalization of themes and brands.
- Changing the interface language is as easy as clicking a button.
- Session recording is possible without the need of any software or browser plug-ins.
- The software has a secure socket layer security feature that allows you to fully encrypt your personalized host name.

Conclusion

When there is a security crisis, natural catastrophes, or the COVID-19 pandemic, online teaching should be utilized to educate and learn in academic institutions. In this case, it is critical to consider employing online learning via Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT), which allows for the use of CDs, radio, television, WhatsApp, Facebook, and other media for teaching and learning. With them, learning may not be dependent on the internet, and it will begin with a specific emphasis on addressing society's recurring insecurity concerns. Allow the educational system to take use of ICT's potential for high-quality ERT so that we may achieve a true paradigm shift based on vision, improvisation, and determination.

Recommendation

While integrating digital devices into the classroom, schools are cognizant of the security concerns. This must be considered as a parameter in the effective installation of these devices in order to identify those that are failing or need to be improved upon and take appropriate action. When it comes to spending limited cash on instructional and examination software for the safety of students during times of instability, the government must use extreme caution.

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