

the ARTICLE

Read the article.

E-learning is also known as electronic learning. Classes are not face-to-face. E-learning instead takes an older model of distance learning and updates it with technology. Classes are conducted over the Internet, and may include videos, lectures, and forums for participation. Tests and essays are also conducted online.

There are many benefits of e-learning. For example, students who obtained a degree from an accredited university, but took all classes online, better retained the course contents. Students must engage in discussion via forums, supporting their ideas with assigned readings. The amount of supported discussion is much greater. Other benefits include convenience, because students can study at any time. They aren't limited to daytime or weekdays. In addition, students develop essential computer and communication skills, which will be much-needed in the 21st century.

WARM UP

Discuss the question with your partner for five minutes.

1: What is e-learning? What do you think about it?

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Answer the questions before/after your read the article.

1: What is not a specific benefit of e-learning from the article?

- a: flexibility
- b: improved computer skills
- c: more able to remember the information from the class
- d: improved thinking skills

2: What is the purpose of the article?

- a: to explain some of the benefits of online learning
- b: to persuade someone to take online courses
- c: to state that e-learning degrees is the best form of education
- d: to talk about a personal experience

DISCUSS

Discuss these questions with a partner. Remember to support your answers.

1: Would you ever take (or have you ever taken) a course online? Why/not?

2: Is there any difference in quality between online classes and face-to-face classes?

3: What benefits are there to face-to-face classes? Please explain.