

## A Study on Awareness of Sri Lankan Graduate Teachers towards Web Blog Based Instruction at School Level

A.M. Jazeel

### Abstract

The advent of Information Communication Technology has offered a plethora of opportunities and spaces for educational practices. At present, the pedagogical delivery of lessons in most of the countries in the world has got reshaped and absorbed Web Blog Based Instruction (WBBI) as means of modern learning and teaching process. However, most of the graduate teachers in Sri Lanka, seem to be reluctant to capitalize on this effective instructional strategy of web blog based instruction instead of their conventional method of teaching. The main objective of this study is to find out the differential influence of selected demographic variables on web blog based instruction. A self-prepared tool of Attitude Scale was employed among graduate teachers and data were analyzed by using "t" test and ANOVA. The results revealed that the extent of awareness among graduate teachers is mediocre and the selected factors have differential influence in awareness towards web blog based instruction in teaching learning process in school level.

**Keywords:** Awareness; Web Blog Based Instruction; Learning Teaching Process; Graduate Teachers.

### Introduction

The advent of Information Communication Technology has offered a plethora of opportunities and spaces for educational practices in the recent years. The education sector has attained a paradigm shift in its modalities of teaching learning process. The pedagogical delivery of lessons and methods of educational administration in most of the schools in the world have got reshaped and absorbed Web Blog Based Instruction (WBBI) along with Computer Assisted Instruction as means of modern learning and teaching process (Jazeel and Saravanakumar, 2016). Nonetheless, most of the graduate teachers in Sri Lanka seem to be reluctant to capitalize on this effective instructional strategy of web blog based instruction instead of the conventional method of teaching since they have lack of resources and

awareness of the new inventions in the educational sphere and arena.

As a result of the invention of information technology, a large number of web sites are being used in education sector as means of delivering lessons in most of the schools in the world. Web blog based Instruction is teaching learning process supported by the attributes and resources of the internet (Khan, 1997). Web blog based Programmes are in general interactive and can illustrate a concept through attractive animation, sound, and demonstration. They allow students to progress at their own pace and work individually and in group. They also provide immediate feedback, letting students know whether their answers are correct. If the answers are not correct, the program shows students the correct answers. In addition, web blog based programmes offer a variety of learning activities. These facilities will assist the students to go ahead with their studies leisurely and devoid of any burdens. Furthermore, learning programmes capture the students' attention easily since such programs are interactive and engage the students' spirit of competitiveness to increase their scores and allow the students to master in their subject of learning.

As in other countries, even In Sri Lanka, the

---

**Author's Affiliation:** Lecturer in English, Government Teachers College, Addalaichenai Sri Lanka.

**Reprint's Request:** A.M. Jazeel, Lecturer in English, Government Teachers College, Addalaichenai Sri Lanka.  
E-mail: amjazeel@yahoo.com

**Received on** 13.12.2016, **Accepted on** 09.01.2017

graduate teachers are encouraged to employ information communication technology in learning teaching process. Graduate teachers in most of the schools have already been trained to use computers to deliver their subjects under several Information Communication programmes such as "Intel Teach", "ICDL for Teachers" Further, Most of the schools have been provided computers, multimedia projectors and internet facilities in order to motivate teachers to apply web blog based instruction in their school by the ministry of education under school-Net programme and "Developing 1000 secondary school projects" and non-governmental organizations, particularly after tsunami.

Yet, only a limited numbers of researches have been conducted in this area and even they have addressed different aspects. Therefore, the study of awareness of Sri Lankan graduate teachers towards Web blog based Instruction in learning teaching process in school level has become necessary to give a boost to the graduate teachers, policy makers, and educationists to review their present projects and to make use of ICT tools maximum for the benefits of students in school levels.

Web blog based instruction is using of different blogs which are available in the Internet for educational purposes. Most of the university students are using the opportunities. But the availability of blogs is rarely used in school level teaching.

In this innovative approach, learning is made ease and fast and that most of the graduate need to know about this facilities. Therefore, this study attempts to find out the awareness of blogs among graduate teachers in Sri Lanka

#### *Objectives of the Study*

- To find out the influence of sex of the graduate teachers on the awareness of the graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction.
- To find out the influence of subject studied in degree level sex of the graduate teachers on the awareness of the graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction.

#### *Hypotheses of the Study*

The followings hypotheses were formulated for the intended study.

- There is significant difference between the mean score of male graduate teachers and female graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction

- There is significant difference between the mean score of graduate teachers with arts and commerce degree and graduate teachers with science degree towards web blog based instruction.

### **Method of the Study**

#### *Population of the Study*

The targeted population under this study is all the graduate teachers serving in government school in Sri Lanka. However, the accessible population of the study is all the graduate teachers working in the government schools in the eastern province of Sri Lanka.

#### *Sample of the Study*

A sample of 300 graduate teachers was selected by using the random stratified sampling technique with the strata as gender, locale, and district. The large stratified random sample was intended to be more representative to the population. The investigator adopted a quantitative approach and normative survey method in this study. The threat of the external validity of prior computer knowledge and experience were controlled by selecting subjects from among those who had prior computer training and knowledge in their degree.

#### *Tools for the Study*

##### *Awareness Scale*

The investigator developed an Awareness Scale which was standardized by subject experts. This tool consists of 25 items, with five point rating scale for the purpose of scoring. Numerical value was given to each of the five categories of response viz, Strongly Agree, Agree, Undecided, Disagree and Strongly Disagree. The reliability of the test has been established by the method of Cronbach Alpha, and the alpha coefficient obtained is 0.79 and that the scale is reasonably reliable and the scale has construct validity as it is based on theoretical assumptions.

##### *Personal Data Sheet*

The relevant information like gender, and subjects studied in degree level, Knowledge of computer, age was collected through a personal data sheet.

**Results and Discussion**

*Testing of Hypothesis 01*

The second hypothesis of the study was “There is significant difference between the mean score of male

graduate teachers and female graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction” and the relevant data were analyzed using “t” test after determining the mean and standard deviation of the sample. The main findings are presented in the Table 1

**Table 1:** Mean difference in the awareness of graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction based on their gender

Sr. No.	Factors	Sub - factors	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t - Value	Remark
1	Gender	Male	144	101.8	9.6	11.6	P<0.01
		Female	156	92.9	8.3		

The t-value calculated for the awareness of graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction in terms of gender is 11.6 which is greater than the table value. Therefore, null hypothesis is rejected and that the awareness of male and female graduate teachers differs significantly. Further, the mean value of the scores for the awareness of male graduate teachers is 101.8 which is significantly greater than that of female graduate teachers whose mean value is 92.9. It may therefore be safely concluded that the awareness of male graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction was found to be greater than that of female graduate teachers.

*Testing of Hypothesis 02*

The forth hypothesis of the study was “There is significant difference between the mean score of graduate teachers with arts and commerce and commerce degree (non-science degree) and teachers with science degree towards web blog based instruction” and the relevant data were analyzed using “t” test after determining the mean and standard deviation of the sample. The main findings are presented in the Table 2.

**Table 2:** Mean difference in the awareness of graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction based on subjects studied in their degree

Sr. No.	Factors	Sub - factors	N	Mean	Standard Deviation	t - Value	Remark
1	Subject Studied in degree level	Arts and commerce and Commerce	218	91.3	7.5	18.5	P<0.01
		Science	82	115.6	7.6		

It is evident that the t-value calculated for awareness of graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction who studied a science subject is 18.5 at 0.01 significant level with df = 298. Therefore, null hypothesis is rejected and that it is concluded that the awareness of arts and commerce and commerce (non- science degree) and science graduate teachers differs significantly. Further, the mean value of marks scored by the graduate teachers with a science discipline is comparatively higher than that of the graduate teachers with an non science discipline. Therefore, it can be concluded that the graduate teachers who offered science in their degree have greater awareness that other graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction.

significant difference between the graduate male teachers and the graduate female teachers towards web blog based instruction. Male graduate teachers have greater awareness than the female graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction.

It implies that male graduate teachers can have more opportunities to get to know of web blog based instruction than female graduate teachers as they have more access to knowledge on ICT. More female graduate teachers should be given more training to use computer in their lessons in their schools.

**Findings and Discussion**

*The Major Findings of the Study Are Summarized and Strengthened with Discussion*

1. It is revealed from the analysis that there is

2. It is concluded from analysis that there is significant difference between the graduate teachers with arts and commerce degree and the graduate teachers with science degree towards web blog based instruction. The graduate holding science degree have greater awareness that the graduate teachers holding non-science degree.

When this result is compared with the recent similar Indian studies conducted, the graduate teachers who belong to rural area need to be given more exposure to computer related studies to encourage graduate teachers to use computer in their lessons in this country (Jazeel and Saravanakumar 2016).

### Conclusions

From the analysis and findings, it reveals that the extent of the awareness of graduate teachers teaching in Sri Lankan government schools is less than mediocre. This state can be as the result of the several projects of Information Communication Technology that are being implemented in government schools. However, this trend should also be promoted for wider use of web blog based instruction for better teaching learning process.

It is further concluded that the level of the awareness of male graduate teachers towards web blog based instruction was found to be higher than that of the female graduate teachers. Male graduate teacher has several more opportunities than female graduate teachers to get to know use web blog based instruction. The level of the awareness of graduate teachers belonging to science discipline was found to be higher than that of the graduate teachers of arts and commerce discipline. This can be as a result of those who studied science in their degree would have studied computer as a component of subject. Further, the level of the awareness of graduate teachers who are having computer knowledge was found to be higher than the graduate teachers who are not having computer knowledge.

It reflects that resources are easy to access and adapt at present. Graduate teachers at different levels are trying to develop self-instructional material according to the needs of the subject, and they are trying their level best to use the material in the teaching learning process.

Any innovative instructional strategy and its success depend on the knowledge and positive awareness of the graduate teachers. The author suggests that steps should be taken to conduct in-service training and refresher courses by the respective bodies in the working environment of the graduate teachers to develop a favourable awareness towards web blog based instruction as well as to provide hands on experience for graduate teachers in computer. Train them to develop computer based instructional software of their own.

### References

1. Arbaugh JB. Is there an optimal design for on-line MBA courses? *Academy of Management Learning and Education*, 2005; 4:135-149.
2. Benson, GM. "Combining Web blog based instruction and a live TV graduate teacher to extend learning opportunities into the home", A Learning Productive Research and Developmental Project of the Research foundation of the State University of New York and Instructional System Inc. Albany, NY. 1996.
3. Bernard RM, Abrami PC, Lou Y, Borokhovski E, Wade A, Wozney L, Waiet PA, Fiset M, Huang B. How does distance education compare to classroom instruction? A meta-analysis of the empirical literature. *Review of Educational Research*, 2004; 74:379-439.
4. Clark R. (1994). Media will never influence learning. *Educational Technology Research and Development*, 42, 21-29.
5. Jazeel A.M. and Saravanakumar AR. "Perception of Sri Lankan Teachers Towards Web Based Instruction in Learning Teaching Process at School Level" *Proceedings of National Conference on Perspectives and Prospects of Technology Enabled Learning*, Education Department Alagappa University, India. 2016.
6. Jazeel, A.M. and Saravanakumar, AR. Improving Writing Skills of PGDE Students in English through ICT-Enriched Instructional Approaches, *Proceedings of International Research Conference on Humanities and Social Sciences*, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sri Jayawardanapura, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015. p.123, ISSN 2279 - 2309.
7. Jazeel, A.M. and Saravanakumar, AR. Infusion of ICT Tools for Enhancing the Quality of Teacher Education in Sri Lanka, *Proceedings of International Conference on Recent Advances in Educational Technology: Implications and Future Directions*, Department of Educational Technology, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2014. p.112, ISBN 81-909199-9-8.
8. Jazeel, A.M. and Saravanakumar, AR. Computing and ICT as a Change Agent for Education, *Proceedings of International Conference on Recent Advances in Educational Technology: Implications and Future Directions*, Department of Educational Technology, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2014. p.6, ISBN 81-909199-9-8.
9. Kozma RB. A reply: Media and methods. *Educational Technology Research and Development*, 1994; 42:11-14.
10. Khan, B.H. "Web-Based Instruction", *Educational Technology Publications*, Englewood Cliffe. 1997.
11. Kumar and Sarita. "Increasing Role of Technology

- in Education", Isha Books, New Delhi. 2005.
12. Spiro RJ, Jehng J. Cognitive flexibility and hypertext: Theory and technology for the nonlinear and multidimensional traversal of complex subject matter. In D. Nix R. Spiro (Eds.), Cognition, education, and multimedia: Exploring ideas in high technology. 1990.p.163-205. Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.
- 

### **Special Note!**

Please note that our all Customers, Advertisers, Authors, Editorial Board Members and Editor-in-chief are advised to pay any type of charges against Article Processing, Editorial Board Membership Fees, Postage & Handling Charges of author copy, Purchase of Subscription, Single issue Purchase and Advertisement in any Journal directly to Red Flower Publication Pvt. Ltd. Nobody is authorized to collect the payment on behalf of Red Flower Publication Pvt. Ltd. and company is not responsible of respective services ordered for.