ABSTRACTS

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ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF USING ON-LINE EXERCISES FOR LEARNING LANGUAGES

A key reason for the use of technology within a learning situation is to enhance the quality of learning and teaching. Computer-based on-line exercises and tests have been used in a wide range of setting to provide more favorable conditions for getting information and practicing.

Though the technology that makes on-line exercises and tests possible is a great thing, it can also cause problems. If you do on-line testing, you should have a back-up plan for students who have technical difficulties and be ready to receive some frantic emails from students who have poor internet connections or faulty computers; unlike collaborative, project-based assessments, on-line exercises or tests can feel more impersonal than they do in the classroom which may contribute to an online student's sense of isolation.

Advantages of on-line exercises and tests are also meaningful: they can be more accessible to students with disabilities who have assistive technologies built into their computers than handwritten tests are; they can be a lot more interactive than traditional papers; once an exercise or a test are developed, it is relatively easy to transfer and repeat them.

Key words: Internet, on-line exercises and tests, advantages and disadvantages, skills.