

DIGITAL STRATIFICATION OF UKRAINIAN STUDENTS

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The modern world is the one, which cannot be imagined without computers, smart gadgets, and artificial intelligence. They are involved into different fields, different processes, including the process of education. To surf the Internet while searching for the necessary information for studying is a normal everyday activity. Using content produced by artificial intelligence for educational needs is widely spread among both teachers and students.

In 2020 people all over the world had to start working and studying online because of coronavirus and quarantine. For most of them, it's the past. Meanwhile in Ukraine some of those students, who entered in 2021, have their fourth online year of Bachelor's Degree almost without breaks. In 2020 transfer to online happened not only unexpectedly but also without tested and recommended software and very often without more or less appropriate hardware and accessories. When the urgency to study online came in 2022 teaching staff and students were, more or less so-called, “morally prepared” to accept this necessity. But what about technical capabilities to join online studying process?

The aim of our discourse is to find out if the aspect of technical background is still influent nowadays in studying online. The actuality of the work is provided by the fact that in modern world online studying is a solution while prolonged emergency state (epidemic, war, ecological or technogenic disaster, etc.). And also it is a possibility to get the desired education in a calm and peaceful environment if a person has special needs, which don't let the one move to another part of the world or communicate in reality etc.

According to the observations, the following can be said. The most common technical problems are poor Internet connection, microphone or/and speaker disability, inappropriate software. They look ordinary but while studying can cause misheard (and, respectively, mispronounced in the case of a foreign language), misunderstanding, gaps in necessary educational information, lack of skills trained and practical experience, problems with concentration etc.

Unfortunately, in present day situation there are students who can have the only gadget, with no possibility to change, improve or fix it. So, even if these students want to take active part in the studying process they are not able to do it. That's why they are not in the same conditions as students with appropriate technical background. As the result, such students have not enough possibilities to adopt everything proposed by university in full.

This fact should be taken into account during the studying process. Organization of online lectures, double periods and proposed tasks should predict technical problems and their consequences for educational capacity to reach the highest productivity of studying. This also concerns software to be used for online education. It should be the most adoptable for a wide range of different models of gadgets.