Now, as the famous saying goes, “Every coin has two sides”. An overview of each side of the coin :

1. Advantages of Traditional method :

A] Personality development : Sitting in the class with fellow students and interacting with them as well as the teacher helps the student in developing his/her Interpersonal skills. These skills prove to be helpful in both, personal and professional lives.

B] Public Speaking and Confidence : Asking questions in the class, explaining our point of view to the entire class and the teacher, and participating in a variety of activities improves the public speaking skills of the student and also increases his confidence.

C] Pressure : A traditional classroom has a set schedule with deadlines and students thereby need to learn to work in high-pressured environments, which is a skill useful in all other areas of life as well.

D] Group work : Group projects are given in both the modes of teaching, but the projects completed in online mode don’t allow for the same level of social interaction and informal learning as is possible in the traditional method.

E] Health : Traditional method of teaching sets a proper daily schedule for the student wherein he has to wake up and get ready early in the morning. This brings discipline in the students life. The student need not sit before a screen long, and this avoids the stress on his eyes. Increased physical activity is also a merit of this method of teaching as the student need not sit one place for long.

1. Advantages of Online method :

A] Lesson notes and recordings : The class recordings come in as a boon for the students if the lecture was very informative or conceptual and they want to see it again or if the student could not attend a particular lecture. Lecture notes can also be easily made by watching the recorded lecture multiple times.

B] Flexibility : Online method enables students from different regions and time zones to attend the class from the comfort of their present location. It therefore helps the students attend classes which they could not have attended otherwise.

C] Choices : As compared to the traditional method, a lot more choices are available in online mode, be it in terms of the number and variety of courses that can be accessed or the teacher we want to learn from. One more advantage is that the lectures can be accessed anytime according to the students comfort.

D] Guest classes or lectures by experts : the Online mode connects every nook and corner of the globe, and this makes learning from any expert possible, even if he/she is miles away from the student.

E] Costs : Online education usually comes at a more affordable price than face to face or traditional education. This lower cost is because there are fewer physical infrastructure costs, and also as they don’t need to employ a teacher full time to conduct the class. However, some online courses are being offered at a cost equivalent to the traditional mode nowadays.

1. Disadvantages of traditional method of teaching :

A] Lack of Flexibility : Teachers and students might find the strict schedule of an educational institution difficult to maintain if they have multiple jobs or other commitments. Also, if a student is unable to go to the institution for some reason, he will miss the lectures.

B] Time : Driving back and forth to an educational facility every day can take up a lot of time for both educators and learners. Getting to and from school can require a lot of time and money spent on gas, vehicle maintenance, or public transit.

C] Limited resources : In traditional method of learning, there is mostly no option to choose from amongst various teachers and courses. All the students have to attend the same lecture and that too from the same teacher. a traditional education structure would have limited course options for a student to choose from

D] Costs :  there are higher costs incurred with a traditional classroom-based course. These include fees, which can be substantial, particularly at the college level, travel costs to and from the school or campus, and lost income for students working and needed to stop to complete their studies.

1. Disadvantages of Online education :

A] Social isolation : Even though there are chances to interact with the other students online, the informal conversations and discussions between students in a traditional classroom setting are difficult to replicate.

* B] Procrastination – putting something off until the last minute is a classic trope of the student. However, in an online class that may not have set deadlines for submitting assignments or a completion date, it is much easier to procrastinate.
* C] Self-motivation – online students need to make the time and effort to complete their course requirements. With no set schedule and, in some cases, no teacher, self-motivation and time management skills are critical to a successful outcome for online learning.

D] Hampers Personality development : listening to fellow students in class, discussing topics, defending arguments, and listening to others’ opinions develop interpersonal communication skills. This is one of the benefits of a traditional classroom setting, and these skills are difficult to develop in an online course, particularly when asynchronous.

Conclusion : both the methods of teaching have their own pros and cons and hence neither can be said to be the all-time winner. The answer to this question also depends on individual interests as some people find studying alone more effective while others find studying in a group more beneficial. In such a case, the first type of category will mostly choose the online method while the latter one will choose offline. each of the two methods have their own advantages and hence none of them can be said to be the best. The best way can be using both the methods simultaneously…i.e. a blend of both. Few lectures can be taken online and the rest offline, depending on the whether the concerned lecture requires practical knowledge or not.