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THE ROLE OF POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS IN ONLINE EDUCATION; A CASE STUDY BASED ON UNIVERSITY OF VOCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY, SRI LANKA

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Abstract: Microsoft PowerPoint, Keynote and Prezi can be identified as most used applications to create presentations. These applications provide various kind of options which user can use to create appropriate presentations accordingly. Some options are unique to each application as well as some can be taken as common to every application. With current situation of pandemic, most of the online sessions were conducted with collaboration of presentations. So that researcher wanted to identify how these features/ options were helpful to undergraduates to learn and lecturers to teach. As undergraduates in information technology field, researcher thought that it would be better if can identify how these options are effective in learning and teaching. The aim is to evaluate the usage of PowerPoint features in lecture will increase the understanding of lectures by undergraduates and helps lecturers to teach the subject points clearly to the undergraduates. So, this study addresses to explore teaching experiences and to evaluate learning experience in using PowerPoint among undergraduates. The population of this research was around 300 undergraduates and lecturers of the University of Vocational Technology and the sample of this population was 30 undergraduates with 18 lecturers from the academic staff. The methodology is to conduct a survey using a questionnaire regarding the effectiveness of PowerPoint presentations in online education.

Keywords: Online teaching strategies, Pedagogical tools, Teaching effectiveness.