

In this paper, I would like to discuss “With or without Zoom? E-learning and telework vs traditional ways.” Due to COVID-19 outbreak, many things have moved on to online distance e-learning and telework. My opinion toward this is topic, I would agree to continue with e-learning and telework. This is since, over e-learning and telework, I have a several opinions, convenient and able to watch the lecture again or gives flexibility to their working hours.

First of all, with e-learning and telework, it is convenient for many people. If you think about schools and universities, with distance learning, teachers, lectures and students are not required to travel all the way from their house to school and vice versa. People travel from many other places, as well as depending on how far they are living, some people spend an hour or more. This might not sound there is a problem, however, there are traffics, might miss their bus or train, even unexpected road closure, this causes late to the lesson or may even miss. Also people who works, they might miss their important meeting or job they had to do in the morning. However, using such technology like Zoom, Microsoft Teams and many other online meetings, these problems can be sorted out. From my e-learning experience, I think it was a better solution. I felt relaxing with e-learning since I did not have to think about by when I need to get to university on time. The time when I usually travel to university, I was able to spend a bit more time for my own, such as short revision or refresh myself. Furthermore, since I was able to work from the environment where I’m used to, I felt much more motivated and able to focus much better. On other hand, with traditional way, where when we all had to travel to university, every day, I had to wake up early in order to get ready for university and sometimes was frustrated since I missed my bus. Moreover, if you look at from organizational perspective, there was many businesses they struggled to continuing work from home at first, however, due to improvements over VoIP, like Zoom, Skype and many other platforms have been in used for meetings, which made transition to telework smoothly. Moreover, some businesses have provided their employees with computer with essential software provided already, therefore everyone can work from their home. I think many businesses have adapted very well in a short period of time. However, some people may disagree with my opinion, even if it is convenient that they are not required to travel to their work place, some people may find difficulty with the use of technology. Since COVID-19 outbreak, many organizations have moved onto telework. However, from what I’ve seen from news is many people are actually struggling with use of technology. For example, they did not had environment where they can work from home, this includes, Internet is not stable, no software that they can use for their work or computer is not capable to do their work. I’ve been watching many Japanese news, since some people did not have had environment where they can work from home. Therefore, some people actually went to their workplace for a few days until they get a suitable workplace in home even when they had to stay inside home. However, I think this was due to unexpected circumstance and they were not prepared for this situation. Therefore, I think if we think in long term situation, we can move onto e-learning and telework as long as we have right environment in home.

Secondly, with Zoom and other online meetings, it can be recorded, which allows students to watch the lecture again once it is finished. For the people who are working, they can do their job when they feel they want to work. Talking about educational side first, as the lecture will be recorded, students are able to go and watch the lecture they did not

understand, which they can continue learning with the pace that it suits them well. Therefore, even if the lecture was ran fast, students are able to pause the recording and watch that certain section again in order to understand carefully as well as can take notes where the important point was motioned. On other hand with traditional way, once they miss the point, the students are not able to watch the lecture. They either need to ask to the lecturer or friends, however at that point they may forget. Moreover, if the lecturer is too fast, since it is not recorded with traditional way, students will not be able to understand what was covered in the lecture, which this will lead to demotivation to attend the lecture. As well as student who was not able to attend due to illness or other unexpected situation, there is no way they can go back and watch the lecture. This is inconvenient for both students and lecturer, since they will have to repeat important points what was said in the lecture. Moreover, from the organizational perspective, with telework, unless there are any meetings, employees are able to work anytime that will suit their time. Since unlike, where employees have to go to their workplace from early in the morning till late in the night, they can work flexibly. Which again, this will improve every employees' motivation, since they are able to work whenever they want as long as they are able to finish their task on time. As employees are motivated, the outcome of the work will be much higher. Which this may benefit the organization as well, since they want to accomplish work in high standard and see good performance by every employee. As the organization can complete their job in high standard on time, this will allow the business to compete with other competitors as well. For example, think about Google, where they have this system, every employee has flexible time to work as long as they can finish their task on time. Due to this strategy, every employee in Google are well motivated and produces high outcomes, which I think this is why Google is able to compete and successful. Therefore, if many businesses continue with telework, since employees are able to work on their own time, this may even motivate the employees to work well and produce high outcome. However, there are still people who disagrees with e-learning and telework, this is due to security reason, for example with Zoom, there was many privacy problems taken up on news. Such as user data was being sent to Facebooks, even if the meeting was made end-to-end encryption, able to track what activities are being done by other end of the caller, meeting has been available online with just a simple search on Google. Therefore, this has led some people not to trust online meeting which have let some organization not to conduct online meeting. Otherwise, all their confidential data will be leaked.

Overall, there are many perspectives from many people whether they want to continue with or without Zoom, for e-learning and telework. I think e-learning and telework should be continued and kept used, it is up to people who want to attend school or workplace. Since COVID-19 was unexpected event that outbreak quickly, therefore, we were not prepared for any such situation. Therefore, we some educations and organisations were not able to adapt quickly. However, if we look in long term, we will be able to adapt to e-learning and telework, since there are many benefits over traditional way of working style, for example for students, they can go back to watch the lecture again for revision purpose and for organisations, employees will be motivated to work since they can work flexibly from their home. Moreover, with the security perspective, there are many platforms other than Zoom, such as Skype also Google has developed new online meeting platform, which there are many platforms. Since Skype has been trusted and secure source which rather than using Zoom, Skype is one of other methods to be used.