**MODERN ISSUES OF TEACHER TRAINING ON THE VIRTUAL PLATFORM**

**Durgaryan Alesa M.**

**Armenian State Pedagogical University after Kh.Abovyan**

**Fellow Applicant (Armenia)**

**Abstract**

Modern technology offers today’s teachers many different methods to improve and develop their professional knowledge and skills. Due to them it is available to take part in the different trainings on the virtual platform using modern technologies as additional basements for their professional development.

Virtual training is considered to be one of the most prominent and necessary method of teacher training which is quickly spreading all over the world. All of these virtual training opportunities give a chance to keep in touch with fellow teachers from around world. Teachers can share their experience and knowledge and get advice on different teaching problems and difficulties. In addition, virtual training is always updated and includes the latest changes and approaches to the teaching sphere.

**Keywords:** *training, face-to-face training, online training, hybrid training, teacher participation.*

Every teacher needs to be continually educated during his/her whole professional path. This can be achieved by training or by participation in different programs organized by various universities or educational training centers. Training courses can include separate spheres of learning such as teacher training, knowledge, acquisition, workshops, all of which are part of the educational program. Every training has its directions and aims, and they all are unique and specific. If teachers want to specialize in one area several goals to aim for are:

* Introduction of new ways and methods of teaching,
* Giving of new ideas and knowledge,
* Development of new skills for teachers’ further job,
* Capacity of thoughts and mind

In addition every teacher training has additional objectives which are important for those teachers who are eager to take part in different trainings. These reasons may be:

* Integrating language and experience
* Personal involvement
* Language enrichment,
* Cultural experience,
* Maintaining interest and involvement, etc.

There is two different types of training which can be grouped as face-to-face and online training. Both of them are very beneficial but sometimes one may dominate in the training process; however, both of them have their advantages and disadvantages, concrete aims and objectives. Which one is more preferable? No one can exactly answer that. It depends on teacher orientation, outlook and thoughts. Outlined below are characteristic features of each of them. Traditionally the majority of training is held on the face-to-face platform in the period of many years. This kind of training is preferable by most of teachers because they have the following features:

* Standard for centuries,
* Live interaction between teachers and trainers,
* Teachers can physically be present at trainings
* Real way of learning

However, because of to the current situation in the world, online platform training has become more popular. Training is held everywhere, at any time in any place of the world. Online training can be organized in a short period of time and have gained more popularity because of their structure and degree of teacher participation. Online training doesn’t need any effort to move from one place to another place, any kind of time, transport or payment to participate. Any teacher can participate from any part of the world at any time.

Online training can be organized and held in different ways:

* Asynchronous training which is held through the planned context of materials, assignments, discussions and blogs. This training is well-organized by specialists beforehand and can be wrapped-up through quizzes, final tasks and tests, in order to assess the results of the training. This training doesn’t require any kind of specific readiness but can give the opportunity to explore the materials and complete the tasks during a specific period.
* Synchronous training is planned for a specific period by the organizers of the course. Such programs include different kinds of materials which are presented and discussed during the meetings and lessons. This kind of training can be held once or twice a week and each meeting has active interaction between trainers and teacher-students. The sessions can include specific tasks or lesson plans, demo-lessons, etc. The training can be wrapped-up by passing an exam or a test.
* Hybrid training is the mixture of face-to-face and online training. The training is very beneficial from the point of organization and objectives. They include not only online but offline meetings. There are different communication relationships and meetings between teacher-students and trainers. On the other, hand hybrid trainings can contain many preferable and positive spheres of the first two types of trainings.

Online training has many advantages. We prepared some questionnaires for teachers in order to find out what possible advantages are. About 50 high school teachers have taken part in it. The questionnaires produced the following results:

Chart 1

*Advantages of online trainings*

We have asked the participants to mention the disadvantages of online trainings too. They are as follows:

Chart 2

*Disadvantages of online trainings*

If we analyze the disadvantages of online training, we can mention the disadvantages can be corrected or discarded in order to have beneficial and effective trainings. To sum up, we can say that training is a source that forces teachers to be more skilful and experienced in the path of their career promotion.