Effectiveness of Online Learning Environments Developed Based on the Principles of Interactive Environment Design

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Abstract
Online learning environments are technology-based learning environments which allow learners to develop themselves on their own pace independently of time and place through the instructional content presented via computers and which present interactive learning experiences. The visual design as well as the content of the instructional material prepared for effective learning in online learning environments is important. The present study investigated the influence of an online learning environment prepared as appropriate to the elements and principles of visual design on students’ academic achievement and tried to determine the participants’ views about the online learning environment in question. Depending on the findings obtained in the study and on the observations during the application process, it could be stated that the online learning environment prepared in line with the design elements and principles was considered by the students as quite effective; that it increased learning; and that the students had positive views about the learning environment in question.

Keywords: Online learning; design elements; design principles; interactive environment design