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## Making Waves for Nigerian Youths Through Education and Technology: The Harsh Fantasy of the Environment

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### ABSTRACT

The goal of this paper is to bring to light an adequate understanding of the concepts of "making waves," to capture the minds of parents, students, and other members of society, on how education and technology can help to excel, and to educate one on the negative effects of social vices on the environment. However, the benefits of education and technology to both individuals and society were examined as a catalyst for social and economic sustainability. Hence, education and technology have been unraveled as a medium for achieving sustainable development when youths strive for excellence in their academic pursuits and eschew vices. The paper looked at technology and its emergence in the twenty-first century, how to make waves through digitalisation, the importance of digital education in Nigerian schools, challenges to the digitalisation of education in Nigeria, and ways to strive for excellence. This paper suggested, among others, that government should sufficiently fund education from the primary to the high school levels. Drugs, sex abuse, cults, and other vices must be rejected by every member of the community. A decrease in the number of children who are not in school must also be ensured by the government at all levels of the nation, along with provisions for the necessary infrastructure, learning, and teaching tools.

## 1. Introduction

It was stated at the Global Education and Skill Forum held in Dubai that "education is the cornerstone for any nation or community aspiring to build peace and sustain a knowledge economy." The forum brought together world leaders from the public, private, and social sectors seeking solutions to achieve education, equity, and employment for all. A knowledge economy places the IT/ICT industries at the forefront of overall economic growth, and jokes not with the

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importance of ensuring that all children receive quality education to pave way for a bright future both for prosperity and for the nation as a whole. This cannot be achieved in isolation but with a collective responsibility of all stakeholders in a country's educational sector (Abari, 2022). For this reason, it is pertinent to know the meaning of education and its benefits to the citizens, and the concept of technology and its importance in the 21st century economy.

In general, education is the process of acquiring new values and abilities with the goal of effectively functioning in society. It is the instrument of choice for influencing national development. Education, which gives one the knowledge and abilities to be independent and responsible, is one of the most crucial elements of human capital. Education supports the growth of human capital, research, and nation-building, claim Lawal, Akinyemi, and Gbenu (2021). However, it is the process through which people's latent skills are developed so they can be useful to themselves and society at large. Therefore, education can be described as involvement in a pedagogical process that, when done well, causes the learner to mature and become capable of meaningful thought and action as well as relevant engagement with other members of society for the benefit of all (Akinyemi, Akinyemi & Ajoseh, 2021).

However, Nigeria offers education at three levels: primary, post-primary, and postsecondary. According to Federal Republic of Nigeria (2013), the five main objectives of Nigerian education are "the building of: 1) a free and democratic society; 2) a just and egalitarian society; 3) a united, strong, and self-reliant nation; 4) a great and dynamic economy; and 5) a land of bright and full opportunities for all citizens." With each level of education having its goals spelled out, at what level can education be beneficial to the citizens? In the quest for an answer to this question, the paper examines the benefits of education to individuals and society, the of technology and its emergence, technology as social and cultural contexts affecting education, human development index and national development indices, and how to make waves through digitalisation of education. Thus, this paper is aimed at examining how youths can excel through education and technology in Nigeria.

### ***Benefits of Education***

Education is an investment that benefits the individual, society, and the world at large. One of the most effective tools available to combat inequality, poverty, and other social vices is high-quality, broadly based education. It enhances national economies by setting the groundwork for long-term economic prosperity while also having clear advantages for individual health. It is crucial for both individuals and nations to produce, use, and disseminate information in order to build vibrant, internationally competitive economies. Additionally, it is crucial to the development of democratic societies.

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### ***Benefits to the Individual***

According to Olaniyonu and Gbenu (2017), and Siampani (2021), the benefits of education to the individual include but not limited to the following:

- i. Promotes better nutrition and health. Education has a big impact on one's health. It has a substantial impact on reproductive health, especially for girls, and it also improves child welfare and mortality through better nutrition and increased immunization rates. The most powerful tool for HIV/AIDS prevention may be education.
  - ii. Boosts production and income. According to research, each additional year of education raises individual income for both men and women by an average of almost 10% across the globe. Gains are significantly more pronounced in developing nations.
  - iii. Cuts down on inequality. As one of the main indicators of poverty, illiteracy, education serves as a bigger "leveler". For those who are most at risk of poverty, such as girls, members of underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, orphans, disabled individuals, and rural households, primary education is a catalyst. Education has the capacity to lift all boats by allowing more people to participate in the process of growth.
  - iv. Protects one from being deceived. People with education can analyze most situations and are capable of critical thought. They can defend themselves against being duped and misled by opportunists because they have a greater awareness of the world. The majority of potential threats are not still rare in the world, which is not always tranquil. To trick and take advantage of them, people wait in the corner for gullible victims. The most effective weapon we have in this battle is education, thus we must be on the lookout for traps.
  - v. It fosters self-assurance and independence. Every person aspires to learn new things, and one's capacity for learning closely correlates with their capacity for goal achievement. They are motivated to increase their self-assurance and independence by this procedure.
  - vi. Opens one horizon. Schools provide young kids with a variety of options to learn about the world and pique their curiosity. The tendency to accept social diversion rises with education. There, people of all races and sexual orientations are accepted. They have a common understanding of how the world and nature work, which makes it simple for them to tolerate differences. In essence, they accept themselves and stop from making judgments on things they don't understand. "Ego gets smaller as learning expands," as Albert Einstein once said.
  - vii. Encourages interaction and networking. Through education, students are given the chance and setting to interact with people who share their interests, either as peers or mentors. While they are in school, kids have
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the chance to network with accomplished people, local leaders, and other students.

### ***Benefits to Society***

The benefits of education to the society or community one lives are numerous but the following some the benefits as posited by Olaniyonu and Gbenu (2017) and University of the People (2022) include the following.

- i. Encourages stability and peace. The relevance of peace education, which encompasses themes of human security, equity, justice, and intercultural understanding, cannot be overstated. Education also reduces crime: poor school environments lead to deficient academic performance, absenteeism, and dropout rates—precursors of delinquent and violent behaviour.
  - ii. Fosters environmental awareness. Education can improve national capacity for catastrophe prevention, management of natural resources, and acceptance of new, environmentally friendly technology.
  - iii. Assists in democratization. Democracies typically flourish in nations with higher rates of basic education and a narrower disparity between rates for boys and girls. Democratic political institutions (for instance, power sharing and clean elections) are more likely to exist in countries with higher literacy rates and education levels.
  - iv. Has synergistic and poverty-reducing effects. Education can vitally contribute to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. While two of the goals pertain directly to education, education also help to reduce poverty, promote gender equality, lower child mortality rates, protect against HIV/AIDS, reduce fertility rates, and enhance environmental awareness.
  - v. Promotes economic competition. One of the foundations of the knowledge-based economy is an educated and skilled labour force. Increasingly, comparative advantages among nations come less from natural resources or cheap labour and more from technical innovations and the competitive use of knowledge. Studies also link education to economic growth: education contributes to improved productivity which in theory should lead to higher income and improved economic performance. In addition, countries with high literacy rates have citizens with high per capita income. In contrast, developing countries, where a large number of people live below the poverty line, usually have high illiteracy rates. For instance, in 2050, the GDP per capita in low-income countries will be almost 70 percent lower than it would be if all children were learning.
  - vi. Reduces crime. Educating people about right and wrong as well as exposing children and teenagers to the perspectives of others helps to reduce crime. Empathy and a sense of morality help people be less likely to commit crimes. The average level of education in a society reduces
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overall arrests; an increase of just one year in a state's average education levels reduces arrests by 11% at the state level.

- vii. Reduces Gender-Based violence: Gender-based violence is less common in areas with high rates of education for both sexes. Higher educated individuals are more likely to support gender equality and seek to halt and prevent gender-based or domestic violence. Communities that value education for both genders are less likely to experience terrorist attacks on girls' schools.
- viii. Reduces child marriage. Girls who have finished secondary school or above are three times less likely than those who have not to get married before reaching 18 years old. When education is promoted in a community, girls may be seen as capable adults who can seek education and make their own decisions rather than only as potential brides and mothers.
- ix. Reduces maternal death rates. Societies with high rates of education see a considerable reduction in maternal mortality. Women with 12 years of schooling have a 2.7-fold lower risk of dying during childbirth than those with no education at all. For women with one to six years of schooling, the rate of maternal death is twice as high. This is true because mothers with higher levels of education are more likely to use healthcare services, particularly in areas with lower socioeconomic levels. Lack of education can be stressful for mothers who are giving birth. When a pregnant woman is more stressed out, negative outcomes are more likely to happen.
- x. Promotes Equality. The lack of access to basic education for many children living in extreme poverty is seen to be the main contributor to poverty. For instance, if every child graduated from school with the ability to read at the beginning level, 171 million people could be lifted out of severe poverty, according to the 2016 UNESCO Gem Report. In terms of the global total, that is a 12 percent decrease. Furthermore, the Education Commission's suggested educational improvements could contribute to a 30% reduction in absolute poverty.

### ***Understanding Technology Concept***

The creation of tools and the development of methods to accomplish tasks more effectively and efficiently marked the beginning of technology thousands of years ago. It has persisted in evolving, resulting in the development of one civilisation after another. Machines are getting smaller, and production periods are increasing shorter.

Today, technology has reached the point of complex genetic engineering and information technology; it has gone as far as creating human parts and cloning living organisms. Generally, the world is now in the digital era, which indicates that advanced science and technological developments are major indicators of

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developing countries. However, the materials, tools, and apparatus utilized to facilitate living are referred to as technological products. Because they are the end products of engineering effort, such as pressing irons, cell phones, air conditioners, airplanes, laptops, gas cookers, and other items, they are sometimes referred to as tools. Thus, the systematic use of structured or scientific information for human benefit might be described as technology. According to Macdallys (2020), technology is the body of knowledge, aptitudes, strategies, and procedures employed in the manufacture of goods and services as well as the achievement of goals like scientific research. Assembling, rearranging, reformatting, or altering natural things produces technology. Thus, technology is inherently artificial.

Technology does not, however, exist in a vacuum. It exists in relation to people who reside in a certain community, including men, women, boys, and girls. Our lives and society have greatly improved since the advent of technology. Therefore, technology promotes economic growth in the area where it is used. Then, technology can be used in every aspect of human existence, including business, politics, academia, social interactions, and so forth. Additionally, a culture that uses technology items on a regular basis always has a current attitude and a high level of living. Thus, any process involving materials and their finished products could be referred to as technology (Anaeto, Asiabaka, Ani, Nnadi, Ugwoke, Asiabaka, Anaeto, & Ihekeronye, 2016). Modern buildings, wide asphalt roads with appropriate road signs, markings, and instructions, parks and gardens for recreation, modern home amenities like kitchens, bathrooms, toilets, dining rooms, living rooms, and so forth, as well as the use of modern transportation options like cars, buses, trains, ships, airplanes, and the like have all contributed to raising the standard of living (Macdallys, 2020).

### ***Benefits of Technology***

The benefits of technology to man and his environs are listed according to Sodipe (n.d), as follows:

1. Technology helps man provide for his needs.
  2. Technology provides machines that make work faster, easier, and neater for men.
  3. Technology creates jobs for men.
  4. Technology helps man capture his environment.
  5. Technology creates global networking through the internet.
  6. It provides standard health care facilities.
  7. It enhances development in all areas of life.
  8. It saves time.
  9. It saves energy.
  10. It makes the means of communication faster and easier.
  11. It reduces waste.
  12. It makes transportation faster and more comfortable.
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### ***Technology and its Emergence in 21st Century***

The twenty-first century has seen the introduction of various ground-breaking digital technologies that have altered our way of life. The internet's introduction in 1995 marked the beginning of the revolution, which has given rise to techniques, apparatus, and technology with astounding applications in every field of study and industry. The 21st century has already seen several amazing inventions, some of which have been crucial compared to earlier centuries. Despite the fact that the new millennium is only 20 years old, a lot has transpired. A surge in technology has encouraged the creation of new discoveries that continue to have a significant impact on our daily lives. To identify the most important inventions, though, is not very simple. So, these are the 21st century's most significant technological advancements. Additionally, there are new technologies that are leading to incredible advancements and improvements that were previously unthinkable. These technological developments include, according to Martin (2022), some of the following:

**Social Media:** The most widespread and widely used technology advancement of the twenty-first century is likely social media. It also keeps changing. This is a brand-new kind of communication that runs on the internet and calls for specialized hardware, including cellphones and PCs. There are various social media sites, including Instagram, Facebook, Tiktok, Snapchat, Twitter, and others, that enable real-time communication.

**Drone Technology:** Drones, commonly referred to as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), are among the most important modern technological advancements. Since they can provide high-quality airborne images and films, drones are employed for a variety of tasks. Creative designers describe how drone technology has fundamentally changed the photography and film industries. In addition to performing property marketing tasks and offering security, drones can be utilized for a variety of other tasks. Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) are particularly useful in a variety of fields since they deliver accurate, real-time information on events elsewhere. Drones can be sent by the security services to various locations for observation, and the operators on the ground will receive precise data. Drone technology improves accuracy and precision and is a dependable form of data collection in the mining and construction industries. UAVs also help several other areas operate more efficiently.

**Blockchain:** Although many individuals are still unaware of blockchain technology or cryptocurrencies, they ought to be aware of it by now. This technology functions as a substitute for fiat money but is digitally based. As long as both parties have the cryptocurrency, you can conduct all transactions that you can with conventional currency. The only distinction is that crypto currency is not governed by a central bank and cannot be held in your possession like physical cash. The birth of bitcoin, which is now the most well-known crypto currency, marked the introduction of the technology in 2008. The banking industry has since embraced blockchain, which is gaining universal acceptance. Blockchain is being used in other industries for a variety of functions, including money transfers

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and the purchase of goods and services. Fiat currency can be exchanged for cryptocurrencies.

**Electric Cars:** Electric vehicles are not a true invention of the twenty-first century, but the technology has recently gained popularity. The electric automobile is powered by an electric motor that draws power from a rechargeable battery to move it forward. The most noticeable advancement in this technology is the introduction of gas station-like charging stations for these autos. Electric vehicles utilize less energy and produce less air and noise pollution (Visor, 2019). These electric vehicles are a good substitute that can address the problems associated with environmental degradation. Given the reality of climate change and the urgency of the problems caused by global warming, a long-term solution should be developed. The fact that Elon Musk owns Tesla is a prime illustration.

**Smartphones and Tablets:** Nearly everyone in the current day owns a smartphone. Mobile phones used to have keypads with buttons, however more current technology has surpassed this. Since its debut in 2007, the touch screen has been incorporated into a variety of gadgets, including tablets, laptops, stereos, and television sets. You can control every feature of your device using your fingers on a touch screen, which is made of chemically reinforced, ultra-thin glass. The touch screen glass is robust and unlikely to shatter. You can still use your device even if the screen cracks. Numerous technological advancements have occurred since the start of the new millennium, including but not limited to the following: drones, social media, cellphones, electric motors, blockchain, and other technologies. In many ways, these technological advancements have made our lives better. We haven't yet seen any brand-new technological advancements, nevertheless, that would elevate us.

**Payment Solutions:** The global payment system has gone cashless and, as such, requires payment solutions that would enable hassle-free transactions. The demand for financial payment solutions has prompted the emergence of several financial technologies that enable payment via card and cryptocurrency. Some of these payment solutions are Interswitch, MasterCard, Visa, Paga, Flutterwave, and so on. Here, users can make payments physically or on the world wide web by using their bank cards with chips. In some cases, third parties can make these payments on their behalf through the popular banking applications or internet banking. In general, it has become increasingly easy to transact from any part of the globe in just seconds.

## **2. Methodology**

This research is a conceptual review that aims to explore the impact of education and technology on Nigerian youths. The focus of the study is on all youths in Nigerian society, specifically those in secondary and tertiary education. The research is conducted ethically and rigorously to contribute to existing knowledge. The study design provides an outline of the overall plan, including the framework for data collection and analysis. The research is grounded in a case study

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approach. Various data collection methods are employed to gather contextual information, and document analysis is used for data analysis.

### **3. Results and Discussion**

All aspects of life are being impacted by technology, which increases opportunities for connection and access to information while also posing serious hazards to social cohesion and equality. Technology has its pros, but it also has some cons. Addiction to games can be seen as a negative effect of technology in the sense that students sometimes exhaust time meant for other learning activities by playing games. Playing games to some extent can be useful, but long-term playing leads to various physical and mental complications (Zamani, Chashmi, & Hedayati, 2009). Cyberbullying (Reynolds, 2022) is also a negative factor that has led a lot of people into depression and some to commit suicide. This has become increasingly rampant in our environment today, and if appropriate action is not taken, it could degenerate into a more complex problem. Misinformation and bad press are also part of this socioculturally negative effect. As a result, we require schooling that is focused on fostering a sense of community that would welcome everyone regardless of their socioeconomic orientation. All these factors have the potential to eventually lead to social isolation and vices.

Social vices are also bad for you and unethical because they are seen as deviant behaviours that go against society's morals and are frowned upon. However, the country has demonstrated that social vices, such internet fraud, cultism, prostitution, and the like, have reached peak levels and are now the norm as a result of citizen behavior. Young people of both sexes frequently engage in social vices. One would be intrigued and shocked to learn that some of the so-called "elders" or "parents" engage in unethical and immoral behaviour, which raises the question of who is providing the right examples or norms. According to sources across the web (as of 2022), the list of and causes of commonly known social vices are as follows:

1. Smoking.
  2. Drug addiction/Abuse.
  3. Poverty.
  4. Gluttony.
  5. Hooliganism.
  6. Gambling.
  7. Pocket picking.
  8. Peer pressure.
  9. Poor parenting.
  10. Sloth.
  11. Greed.
  12. Corruption.
  13. Domestic violence.
  14. Alcoholism.
  15. Thuggery.
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16. Robbery and kidnapping.
17. Examination malpractice.
18. Cultism.
19. Indecent dressing.
20. Pre-marital sexual activity.
21. Rape.
22. Envy and pride.

All of these vices would unquestionably and perfectly hinder both individual and societal advancement.





























### ***The Human Development Index and National Development Indices***

The human development index concentrates on the mean years of schooling, expected years of schooling, life expectancy at birth, and gross national income per capita to quantify the social and economic growth of a country. It is a widely used statistic for measuring well-being and is used to examine how economic policies affect people's quality of life as well as to determine whether a nation is developed, developing, or underdeveloped (Wikipedia, 2022). Education and technology play a crucial role in human development because they increase the status and capabilities of humans in areas of health, technical know-how, social, political and economic development. According to the World Economic Forum (2016) cited in Grant (2017), education is a crucial element of a nation's human capital, which boosts workers' productivity and aids economies in moving up the value chain beyond simple production activities and manual labour. Education is highly important because it transfers existing knowledge and also creates new knowledge that results in employment, creation of wealth and economic growth. Table 1 shows the lists of the top-chosen African nations for 2019 by Human Development Index, which is divided into four categories: Very High, High, Medium, and Low.

As seen in Table 1, the Human Development Index Report 2020 for Nigeria is unfavourable. The problem was made worse by the world ranking in 2013. Indeed, "the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has said that Nigeria is not one of the African countries registering notable development in its Human Development Index," (Paul, 2013 cited in Akinyemi & Mohammed, 2023). According to the agency's 2020 Human Development Index (HDI) Report, Equatorial Guinea, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Uganda, Kenya, Eswatini, Morocco, Gabon, Egypt, and the Seychelles were among the African countries that made the most progress in HDI improvement since 2018. Nigeria was ranked 161 out of 189 countries having a low development index in the report. Between 2003 and 2019, Nigeria's HDI score increased by 19.8%, from 0.450 to 0.539. Between 2003 and 2019, Nigeria's life expectancy at birth grew by 7.4 years. The expected years of education grew by 1.5 years, whereas the average years of education increased by 1.4 years. According to the UNDP's (2020) Report, Nigeria's GNI per capita increased by around 47.0 percent between 2003 and 2019.

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Table 1. Relative Position of Selected African Countries by Human Development Index for 2019

Africa rank	Global rank	Country	HDI value	2022 Population	Status
1	66	 Mauritius	0.804	1,274,727	<b>Very high</b>
2	67	 Seychelles	0.796	99,426	<b>High</b>
3	91	 Algeria	0.748	45,350,148	<b>High</b>
4	95	 Tunisia	0.740	12,046,656	<b>High</b>
5	100	 Botswana	0.735	2,441,162	<b>High</b>
6	105	 Libya	0.724	7,040,745	<b>High</b>
7	114	 South Africa	0.709	60,756,135	<b>High</b>
8	116	 Egypt	0.707	106,156,692	<b>High</b>
9	119	 Gabon	0.703	2,331,533	<b>High</b>
10	121	 Morocco	0.686	37,772,756	<b>Medium</b>
11	126	 Cape Verde	0.665	Not Available	<b>Medium</b>
12	130	 Namibia	0.646	2,633,874	<b>Medium</b>
13	135	 São Tomé and Príncipe	0.625	227,679	<b>Medium</b>
14	138	 Eswatini	0.611	1,184,817	<b>Medium</b>
15	138	 Ghana	0.611	32,395,450	<b>Medium</b>
16	143	 Kenya	0.601	56,215,221	<b>Medium</b>
17	145	 Equatorial Guinea	0.592	1,496,662	<b>Medium</b>
18	146	 Zambia	0.584	19,470,234	<b>Medium</b>
19	148	 Angola	0.581	35,027,343	<b>Medium</b>
20	149	 Republic of the Congo	0.574	5,797,805	<b>Medium</b>
21	150	 Zimbabwe	0.571	15,331,428	<b>Medium</b>
22	153	 Cameroon	0.563	27,911,548	<b>Medium</b>
23	156	 Comoros	0.554	907,419	<b>Medium</b>
24	157	 Mauritania	0.546	4,901,981	<b>Low</b>
25	158	 Benin	0.545	12,784,726	<b>Low</b>
26	159	 Uganda	0.544	48,432,863	<b>Low</b>
27	160	 Rwanda	0.543	13,600,464	<b>Low</b>
28	161	 Nigeria	0.539	216,746,934	<b>Low</b>

Source: Human Development Index Report (2020); and the World Population Review (2022)

### ***Making Waves through Digitalisation in Education***

In Nigerian schools, digitalization fosters effective teaching by empowering the teacher to work more effectively and pro-actively in terms of appropriate student monitoring and regular review of their classroom behavior. The transformation of analog to digital data is one of the key factors influencing innovation in teaching and learning (Gillpatrick, 2020). However, "digitalization" is the process of converting text, photos, voice notes, video, and music into digital format using equipment like the internet, mobile devices, tablets, digital cameras, projectors, scanners, and laptop computers, among others, in addition to computers. According to Borisenkov, Gukalenko, and Pustovoitov (2021), digitalization in education refers to a number of strategies for transferring traditional forms of

teaching and learning into the virtual space, including online courses, online exams, and web-seminars/conferences or workshops using electronic platforms. Daniel (2020) and Ray (2020) proposed that learning can be done synchronously or asynchronously online using electronic platforms such as Zoom, WhatsApp, Google Meets, Google Hangouts, Skype, Microsoft Teams, or FaceTime.

Technology engages students with high-demanding technological abilities like Web creation, Video Editing, Mobile graphics, and other areas, much like education does to orient pupils. In order to achieve educational goals and objectives, traditional teaching methods, such as paper papers, are transformed into a digital format that students can understand (Falasteen, 2018). The use of electronic technologies to transmit knowledge and gain skills via the internet, intranet/extranet, audio or video tape, satellite TV, and CD-Rom is known as web-based learning, computer-based learning, or virtual classroom. These tools can help one learn new ideas and enhance their existing knowledge. Learning is made simpler by the digitization of education since it allows students to study whenever they want, from anywhere, and with the least amount of time commitment using the resources at their disposal. This enables one to succeed in this digital age. According to Mohammed (2020), online learning consists of "teaching and experiences in synchronous or asynchronous contexts using various devices (mobile phones, computers, and so forth) and application software with internet connectivity." The use of technology to provide students some control over their location, time, speed, and direction improves digital learning (Ajay, 2020). Accordingly, the advantages of digitalizing education are as follows: the freedom to study whenever and wherever you want; the potential to save a lot of money; the elimination of commuting on crowded buses or local trains; the flexibility to make your own choices; the ability to establish global networking through the internet; the ability to make communication methods faster and easier; and the ability to save time, among others (Nagrале, 2013; Bijeesh, 2017; Brown, 2017; cited in Akinyemi, Amaechi & Etoh, 2022).

### ***The Importance of Digital Education in Nigerian Schools***

Recent technological advancements have resulted in more active and engaging learning experiences. This has made the school instructors to have move from traditional methods of imparting knowledge to digitalized teaching-learning process. With the advent of digital techniques, classroom instruction has taken on a new look and become more engaging (Akinyemi, Amaechi & Etoh, 2022). However, many schools and organizations are turning to digital education as a solution to the current situation. This was one of the lessons learnt from Corona Virus (COVID-19) pandemic. As a result, everyone must understand and appreciate the significance of the digital education system.

Benefits or advantages of digitalisation of education, according to Jain International Residential School (2021), quoting Akinyemi, Amaechi and Etoh (2022) include:

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- i. ***One-on-one instruction:*** The ability for pupils to learn at their own pace is the fundamental benefit of the digital education system. The typical study method results in a knowledge gap. Students become disinterested when they cannot keep up with the rest of the class. In a digital classroom, teachers can modify the curriculum to fit the learning styles and aptitudes of their students.
  - ii. ***Creates intelligent learners:*** Students who use technology and learning tools will be able to study more efficiently. They will be able to evaluate their needs. They are taught how to use online resources to look for solutions. Through digital learning, students' productivity and efficiency are increased. Additionally, digital learning resources and technology enhance critical thinking skills, which are the cornerstone of the growth of reasoning abilities. Students experience positive emotions and gain the courage to try new things.
  - iii. ***High-engagement learning:*** Unlike the digital education system, which offers a variety of learning possibilities, the traditional education system restricts engagement by relying on constrained elements like textbooks, a teacher, and handwritten notes. Because there is a limitless supply of materials, every session is immensely different and entertaining. Interactive and game-based learning activities increase students' attention spans.
  - iv. ***Wide-ranging learning opportunities:*** Students have more learning possibilities thanks to the digital learning approach. The digital education system widens the range of available courses. In order for the children to properly understand the subjects. Any time and any place can be used for the learning.
  - v. ***Students become self-motivated:*** Students that use technology and digital tools for their education become more engaged and motivated. Digital learning is more interactive and memorable when compared to traditional learning. Digital learning allows students to develop a deeper connection to the course material.
  - vi. ***Individualized learning experience:*** One of the underlying issues with the outdated educational system is that many students lose interest when they are unable to keep up with the other students in the class. Thanks to the contemporary digital format, teachers can tailor learning materials to a student's learning style and aptitude. The influence of educational programs is growing as the school system becomes more digital.
  - vii. ***Smart classrooms:*** Instead of using the chalk-and-talk method, teachers are using more tech-savvy strategies to demonstrate to students that studying can be fun and creative. It is straightforward to go from a traditional classroom to an interactive digital session because modern classrooms are equipped with a TV or projector. This may make students pay more attention since they are so accustomed to the digital environment.
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- viii. **Unending information:** There is an abundance of material on the internet, most of it freely accessible. Thanks to the introduction of digital education, students can now investigate and utilize this abundance of information. Prior to the rise in popularity of the digital education system, students relied on limited sources of information, but this is no longer a problem as students may now acquire knowledge without a problem.
- ix. **Ease of sharing:** Before the advent of the digital education system, students primarily relied on bulky notebooks of handwritten notes comprising information provided by teachers in the classroom or acquired through extensive library study. Students may now conserve information and share it with just a few clicks, saving time and effort.
- x. **Digitally updated:** In a world where technology is constantly evolving, techniques and information may easily outdate as new advancements take place. Giving students updated information and other subject-related issues is now required; it was previously optional. Students need to be tech-savvy because they use their phones and laptops so frequently.

### ***Challenges facing Digitalisation of Education in Nigeria***

The issues with digitalisation in Nigerian school enormous and some of these issues are presented below according to Imogie (2002), cited in Akinyemi, Amaechi and Etoh (2022) which include:

- a) Inadequate funding and allocation for digital technology in schools, leading to a lack of space, tools, and supplies.
- b) Inadequate power supply.
- c) Most subject areas lack pertinent educational resources.
- d) Digital education in Nigeria lacks professionalism.
- e) Since the majority of classrooms in secondary schools in Nigeria are not furnished or altered to accommodate audio-visual devices, there is a lack of space and instructional resources.
- f) Bureaucratic bottlenecks and constrictive organizational structures that prevent innovation and uphold the status quo.
- g) The emphasis on testing and certification in the Nigerian educational system limits the use of digital technology in the classroom.

### ***Ways to strive for Excellence***

In spite of national challenges in Nigeria, the following measures are suggested on how to strive for excellence in order to become successful in life and live above poverty.

- a) To overcome societal challenges irrespective of your background, one must remain focused on his goals, shun distractions and crime, and manage time effectively.
  - b) Say no to drugs, sexual abuse, and cultism. On sexual abuse, the United Nations (UN) reported that about 120 million girls around the world—slightly more than one in 10 percent—have been raped or sexually
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assaulted by the age of 20. It is important to note that sexual abuse can occur in places teenagers think are safe, like their homes, schools, and communities—even in religious places.

- c) Correcting social vices must be the major preoccupation of parents. The home is the first point of training, hence the saying “charity begins at home”. Parents should do well to teach their children and wards morals, principles, and acceptable societal values from a young age to help position their minds for making the right decisions and doing the right thing at the right time.
- d) As modernization gradually enters our community or society, people must be alert, vigilant, and current so that they do not become uninformed about the knowledge and the application of technology. Having done these, our country, state, and town will be a better and safer place.

School guidance and counselors, teachers, parents must be more vigilant in monitoring the students when they have access to computers or internet to avoid going to pornographic sites or other sites that may be harmful to their learning.

#### **4. Conclusion**

With its positive effects on health and livelihoods, social stability, and long-term economic growth, education is a potent force for change. A person's career is greatly influenced by their education. Education level aids in a person's ability to gain acceptance and respect in society. The creation of wholesome environments is assisted by education. Everything that man makes is a product of the knowledge he acquires via education. The importance of education in daily life increases as civilization progresses.

Technology and education are unquestionably essential components of modern life on both a social and individual level. Numerous of these benefits are interconnected in that they all contribute to improving a person's life situations. Sadly, despite the many advantages, there are still many regions of the world where access to technology and education is extremely restricted. Lack of access to education and technology exacerbates existing issues like poverty, illiteracy, inequality, and occasionally even crime and violence. In some instances, it also lowers general productivity and human development. To increase the human development index of a country like Nigeria, government must sufficiently fund education from basic to high school.

Everyone in the community must firmly reject vices including drug usage, sexual assault, and cult membership. In order to succeed, students must maintain their focus, avoid distractions and crime, and efficiently manage their time. Infrastructure, instructional tools, and learning resources must be provided. Reduced absenteeism among children must be achieved by all levels of government in the nation. When the vast majority of the population is educated, production is great, development is apparent, and socioeconomic growth is long-lasting. To help prepare their minds for making the correct judgments and acting

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in the right way at the appropriate time, parents should start teaching their children and wards morality, ethics, and accepted social values at a young age. When students have access to computers or the internet, teachers, parents, and other adults must keep a closer eye on them to prevent them from visiting pornographic websites or other sites that could hinder their academic progress.

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