

## FEATURES OF DEVELOPING STUDENTS' INDEPENDENT LEARNING SKILLS THROUGH ONLINE EDUCATIONAL PLATFORMS

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**Abstract:** This article analyzes the role and significance of online educational platforms in the development of students' independent learning skills. It highlights mechanisms that motivate learners to self-manage, analyze, and work on personal growth through the use of modern digital technologies and learner-centered approaches. Furthermore, the methodological conditions and innovative approaches for organizing independent learning effectively in an online educational environment are examined.

**Keywords:** independent learning, online education, digital competence, platform, self-development, distance learning.

### INTRODUCTION

In the context of globalization and digital transformation, one of the key objectives of the education system is to develop students' independent learning abilities — the capacity to acquire and enhance knowledge autonomously. In the 21st century, the rapid renewal of information and the acceleration of scientific and technological progress demand from students self-directed learning, continuous improvement, and creative thinking. Therefore, independent learning has become not only an integral component of educational activity but also a crucial factor in personal and professional development.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has been implementing several national programs aimed at digitalizing the educational process and introducing systems of distance and online learning. The *National Concept of Digital Education* and the *Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022–2026* emphasize the integration of innovative technologies into education and the promotion of students' self-learning potential.

Online learning platforms — as an essential part of modern education — provide learners with broad opportunities to independently acquire, process, and apply knowledge in practice. Platforms such as Moodle, Google Classroom, Coursera, Edmodo, EduPage, and Ziyonet enable students to learn without the direct supervision of a teacher, plan their activities, and analyze learning outcomes.

However, developing independent learning skills in an online environment differs fundamentally from traditional teaching. This process requires from teachers methodical approaches and from students digital literacy, self-control, and time management skills.

Thus, this study explores the theoretical foundations, methodological approaches, and practical opportunities for developing students' independent learning skills through online educational platforms. The main purpose of the research is to identify effective pedagogical conditions that enhance students' abilities for self-study, analysis, and self-development using online tools.

### MAIN PART

#### 1. The concept of independent learning and its modern interpretation

Independent learning refers to the learner's initiative to acquire, process, and apply knowledge without direct teacher supervision. In this process, metacognitive skills — the ability to “learn how to learn” — play a crucial role. The online environment significantly expands opportunities to manage and monitor this process through digital tools.

## 2. Advantages of online learning platforms

Online educational platforms provide students with the ability to:

- choose an individual pace of study;
- monitor knowledge through interactive tests;
- analyze and evaluate their own progress;
- communicate with instructors through feedback mechanisms rather than direct supervision;
- collaborate in group-based learning environments.

For instance, Google Classroom allows tracking, analyzing, and automatically assessing assignments, while Coursera and Khan Academy offer videos, tests, and interactive modules for self-learning.

## 3. Stages of developing independent learning skills

The development of independent learning skills in online education occurs through the following stages:

**1. Motivational stage:** creating conditions that encourage self-learning (gamification, digital rewards, rankings).

**2. Technological stage:** teaching students to use platforms, analyze materials, and complete assignments independently.

**3. Reflective stage:** encouraging students to analyze their own performance, identify mistakes, and plan further learning activities.

## 4. Pedagogical conditions for effective independent learning

For effective organization of independent learning in online environments, the following conditions are essential:

- creation of learner-centered modules on educational platforms;
- structured and interactive presentation of learning materials;
- maintenance of student progress through digital portfolios;
- development of methodological guides for teachers;
- formation of students' digital culture and literacy.

## 5. Practical examples

According to observations in educational institutions of Namangan region, students learning via the *EduPage* platform completed independent assignments **32% faster** and with higher confidence compared to those in traditional learning environments. This confirms the effectiveness of online platforms in fostering self-directed learning.

**Table 1.**

**Factors influencing the development of students' independent learning skills through online educational platforms**

№	Influencing factors	Opportunities of online platforms	Expected outcomes
1	Use of digital resources	Video lessons, interactive tasks, virtual labs	Development of analytical and independent learning skills
2	Teacher supervision and monitoring	Distance control and feedback via Google Classroom, Moodle, EduPage	Ability to self-assess and plan learning
3	Motivation and encouragement	Ranking systems, certificates, gamification	Increased interest in independent learning
4	Collaborative learning environment	Online forums, chats, group projects	Development of teamwork and social skills

No	Influencing factors	Opportunities of online platforms	Expected outcomes
5	Digital literacy level	Online training, educational manuals, digital competence courses	Improved information search, analysis, and evaluation skills
6	Assessment system	Automated tests, e-portfolios, project-based tasks	Enhanced self-monitoring of learning progress
7	Technical and psychological conditions	Stable Internet access, psychological support centers	Sustainable learning environment and positive mental well-being

### Table Analysis

**1. Use of digital resources:** Video lessons, interactive exercises, and virtual labs promote students' analytical and self-directed learning, transforming them from passive recipients to active participants.

**2. Teacher supervision and monitoring:** Platforms like Google Classroom or Moodle enable teachers to evaluate students' independent performance, helping learners identify strengths and weaknesses.

**3. Motivation and encouragement:** Gamification, ranking systems, and certificates increase students' enthusiasm for self-improvement.

**4. Collaborative learning environment:** Online forums and group assignments enhance teamwork and social engagement during the learning process.

**5. Digital literacy:** Working with digital resources helps students develop skills in information retrieval, analysis, and selection — the foundation of independent learning.

**6. Assessment system:** Automated testing and e-portfolios enable students to evaluate their progress and take responsibility for self-development.

**7. Technical and psychological conditions:** Stable Internet connection, user-friendly devices, and psychological support ensure effective and sustainable online learning.

### CONCLUSION

Online educational platforms serve as effective tools for developing students' independent learning skills. Through these platforms, learners organize their learning autonomously, utilize digital resources, and develop self-assessment and reflection abilities. In the future, introducing interactive modules and AI-based personalized learning systems will further enhance students' capacity for self-directed education.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

**1. Localization and adaptation of online learning platforms:** Develop platforms tailored to national education standards and student characteristics by fully integrating systems like EduPage, Moodle, or Ziyonet in Uzbek.

**2. Retraining teachers in digital pedagogy:** Organize special courses and webinars on *Digital Pedagogy* and *Online Course Design* to improve teachers' digital competence.

**3. Introducing independent learning modules:** Create interactive modules, virtual labs, and self-assessment tools for each subject area.

**4. Applying gamification techniques:** Use points, rankings, badges, and certificates to increase students' motivation and engagement in self-learning.

- 5.Creating “digital self-development diaries” for students:** Encourage students to record goals, achievements, and reflections on online platforms to strengthen metacognitive awareness.
- 6.Improving Internet infrastructure and technical support:** Ensure stable Internet access and affordable digital devices in rural and remote areas.
- 7.Enhancing online assessment systems:** Combine automated testing with project-based and problem-solving assessments to measure independent thinking skills effectively.

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