



MULTI-TASK
MULTI-LINGUAL
MULTI-MODAL

Transforming Education in Albania: Harnessing the Power of Human Language Technology

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COST ACTION 18231

Introduction

- The aim of the study is to identify and argue the need to improve the digital competence of instructors and students in Albania.
- Needs assessment analysis was incentivized by the COVID-19 online education shift.
- To evaluate the access and use of ICT, and the need as such to train learners and instructors with human language technology, two Surveys were utilized to collect recent data.

Target groups of the surveys

Survey 1

The original questionnaire-based survey was used by the University of Cambridge in October 2020 to evaluate the needs and weaknesses of online academic English courses worldwide.

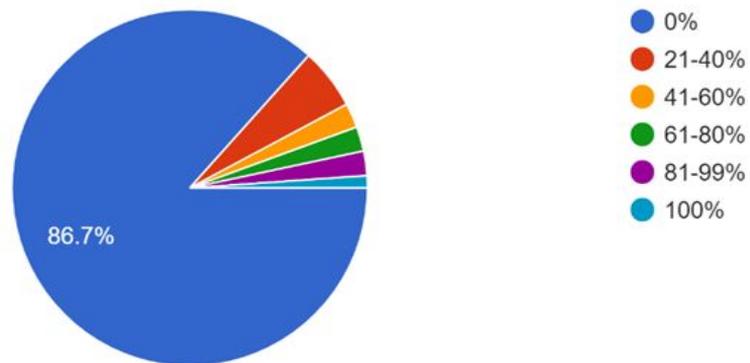
This Google form is comprised of 24 questions. They are both closed and open-ended questions to measure the degree of approval or disapproval, open-ended to give comments or to assess the learners' perception of the challenges and benefits of the Academic English master course during the fall semester 2020-2021 pandemic year in Tirana with the participation of 92 graduate students

Survey 2

- It targeted high school teachers in Durres second biggest city in Albania.
- The study included 60 teachers at the high school “Rilindja”, comprising 37% women and 63% males the age of 30-48 years who shared their views on the use of electronic platforms in teaching to attain the set curricula learning aims.
- This study was carried out utilizing random sampling.

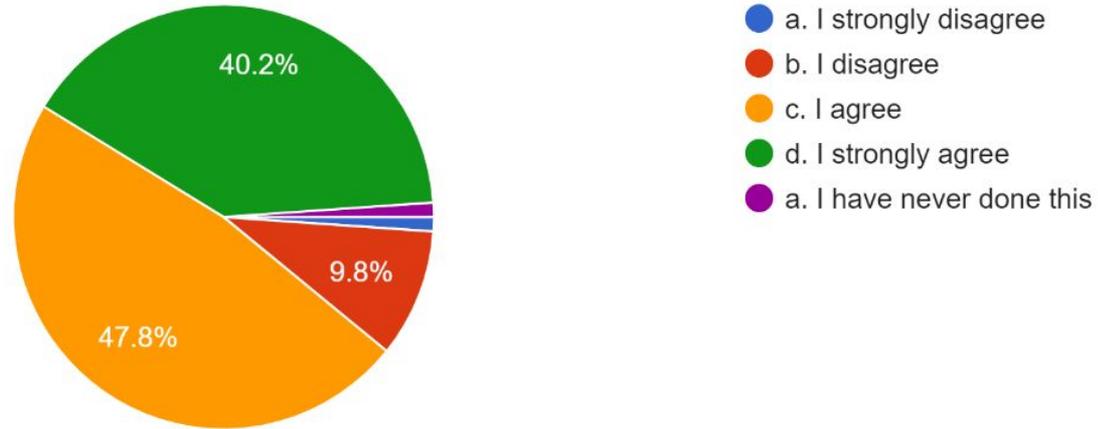
1. Before 2020, what percentage of your classes were taught online?

90 responses



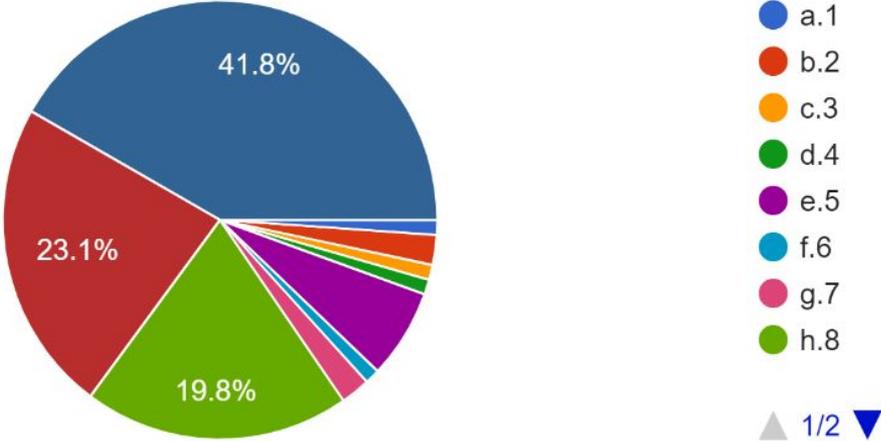
3. The learning process held online during pandemic was more challenging to understand.

92 responses

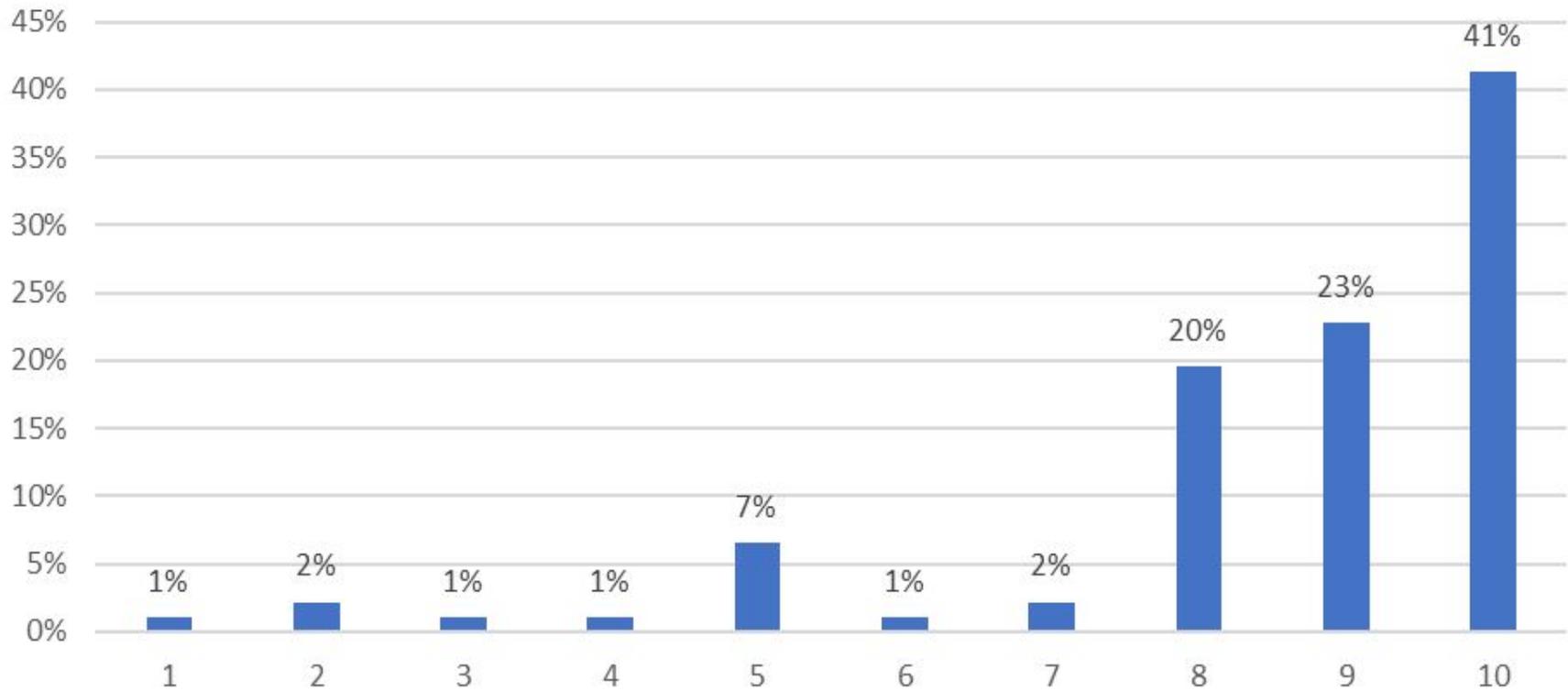


8. How confident do you feel about using technology now? 1-10

91 responses

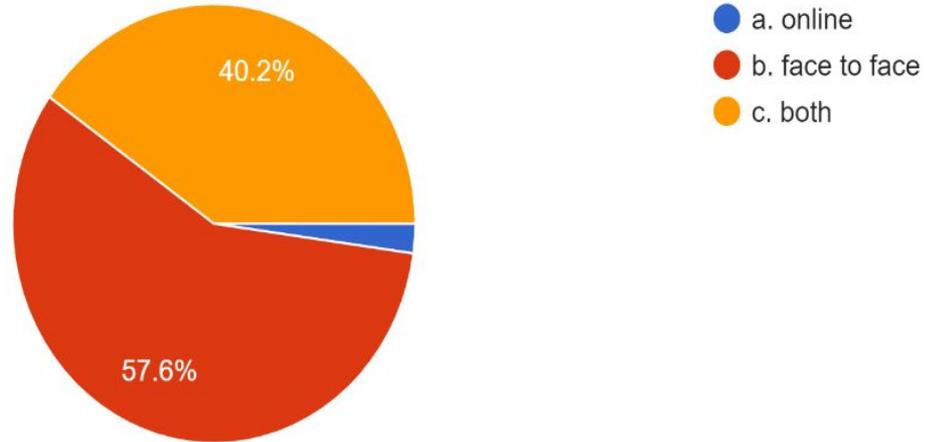


How confident do you feel about using technology now?
1-not at all confident to 10- extremely confident



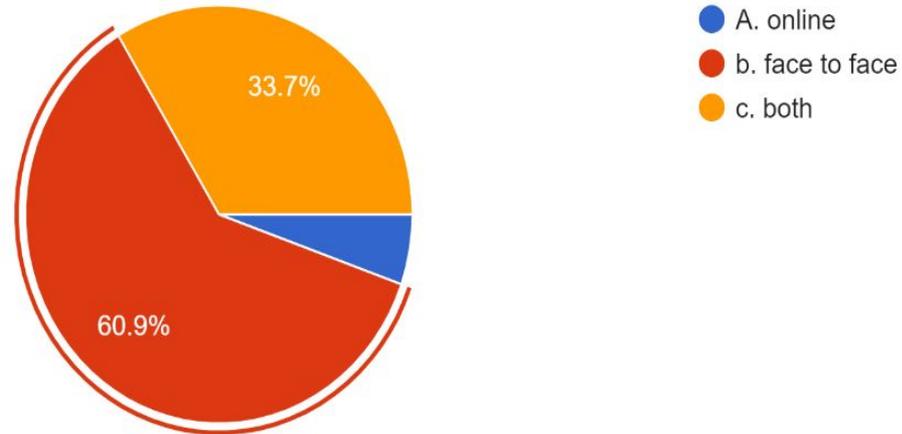
10. What is the most effective way of having new language presented?

92 responses

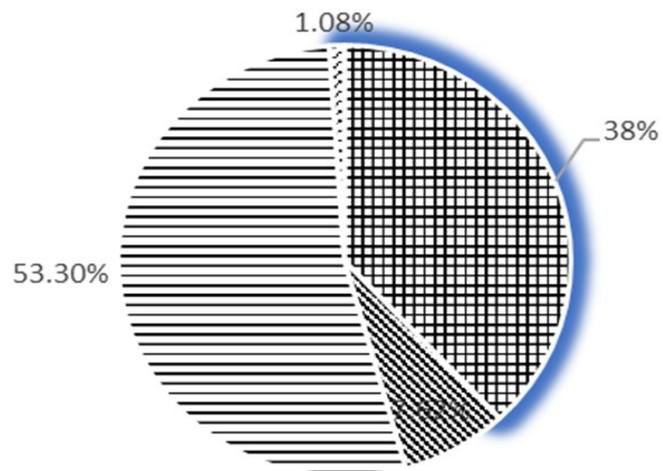


13. What is the most effective way of keeping yourselves engaged with learning ?

92 responses

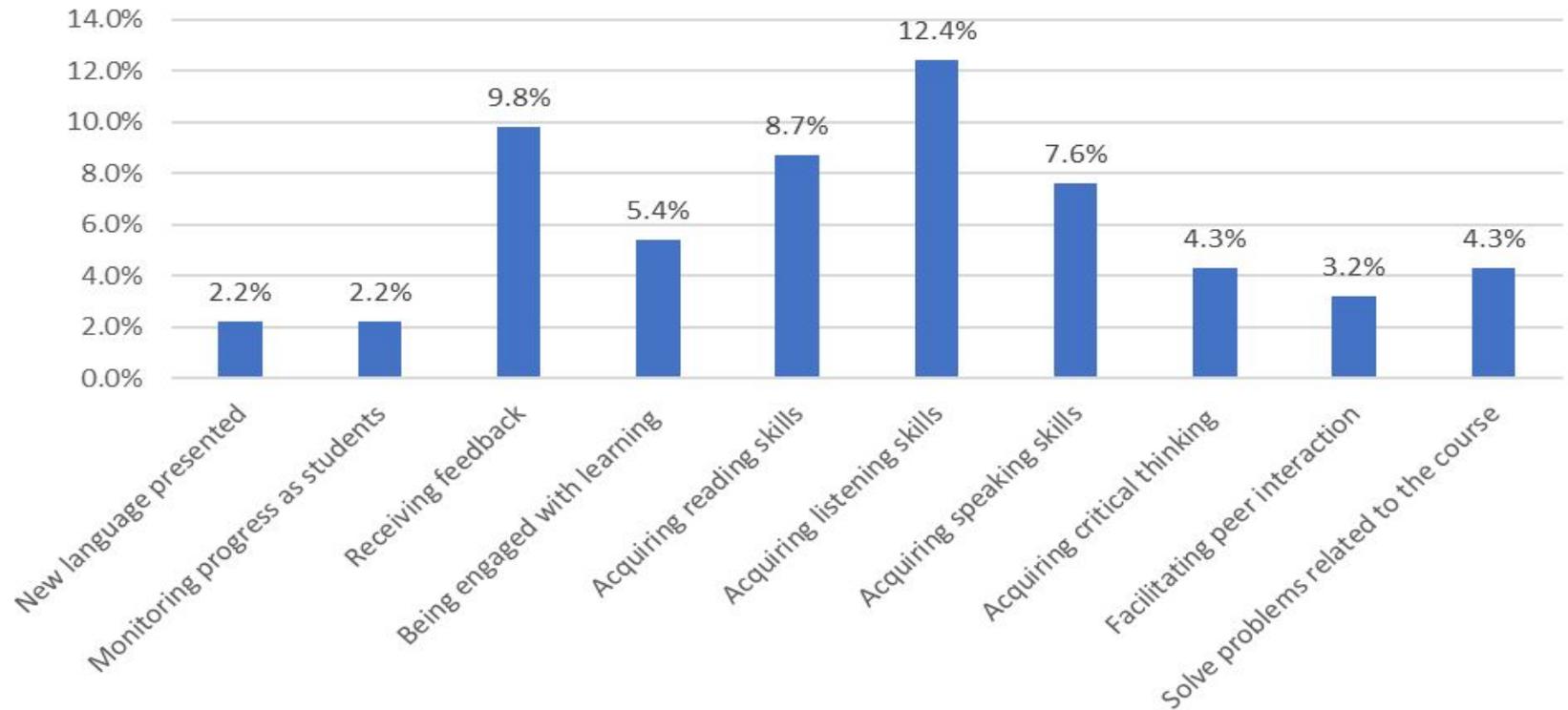


I have had difficulty in accessing and processing lectures because of technology devices.

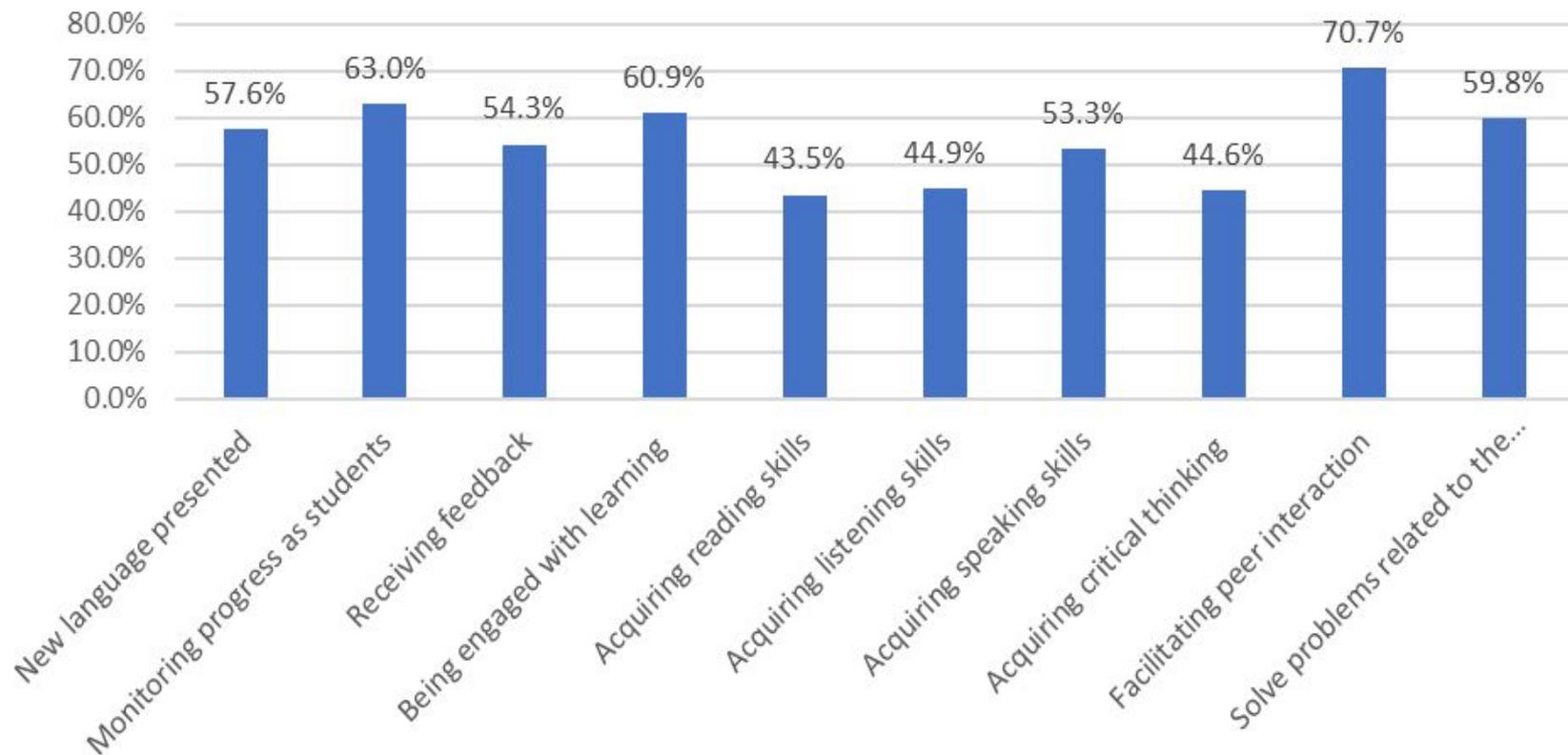


▣ I have never had this ▣ I have always had this ▣ I sometimes have had this ▣ They are already doing this

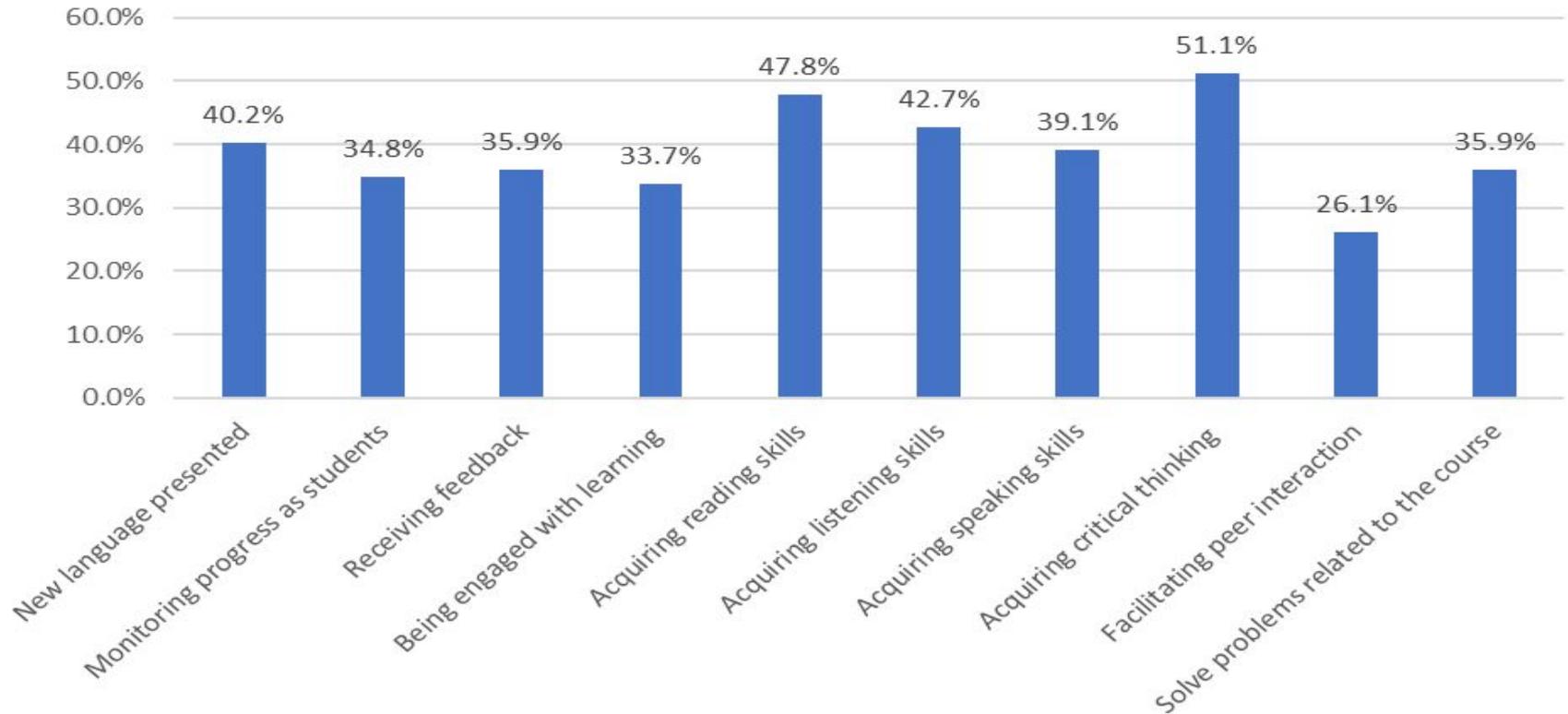
Effectiveness of Online lecturing



Effectiveness of Face to face teaching



Effectiveness of blended teaching/learning

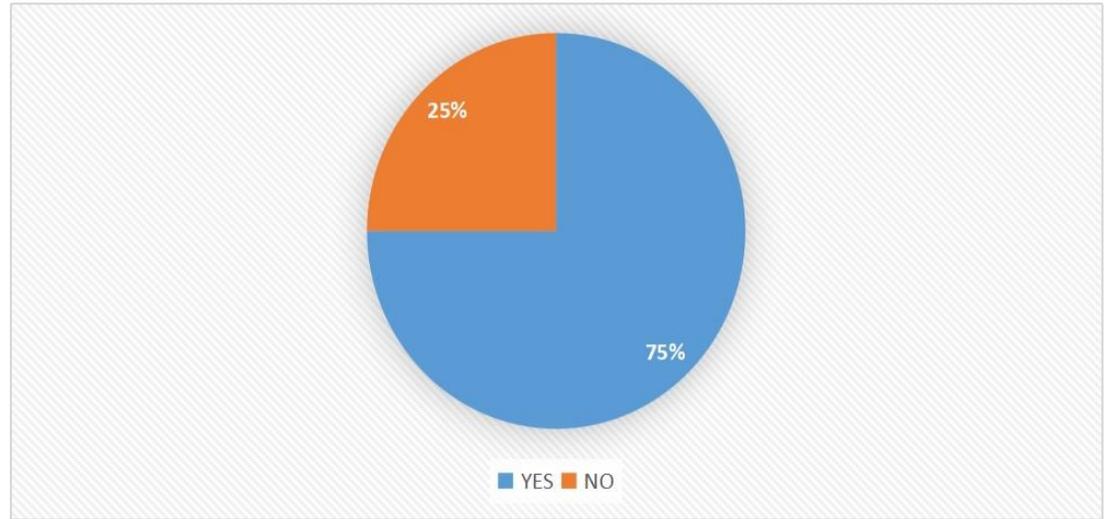


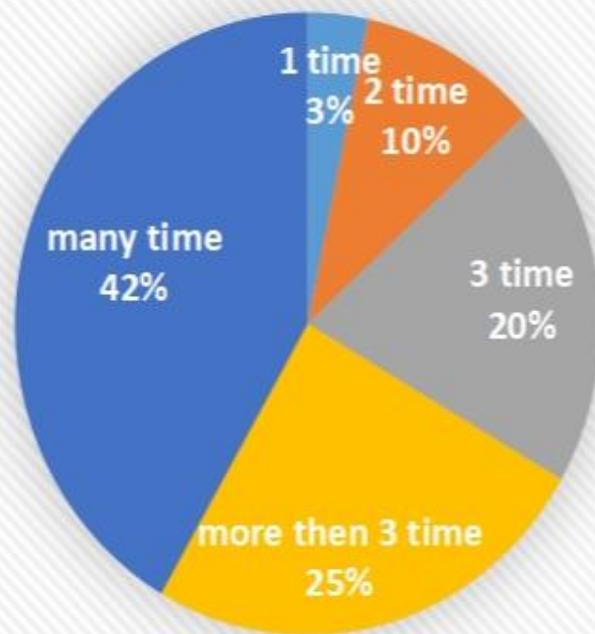
Survey 1 with graduate students

In sum, regarding students' digital skills to effectively administrate autonomous tech-merged education, there is still a strong preponderance of onsite learning, unlike other international academic scenarios where tech-merged education has been a well-functioning practice for decades.

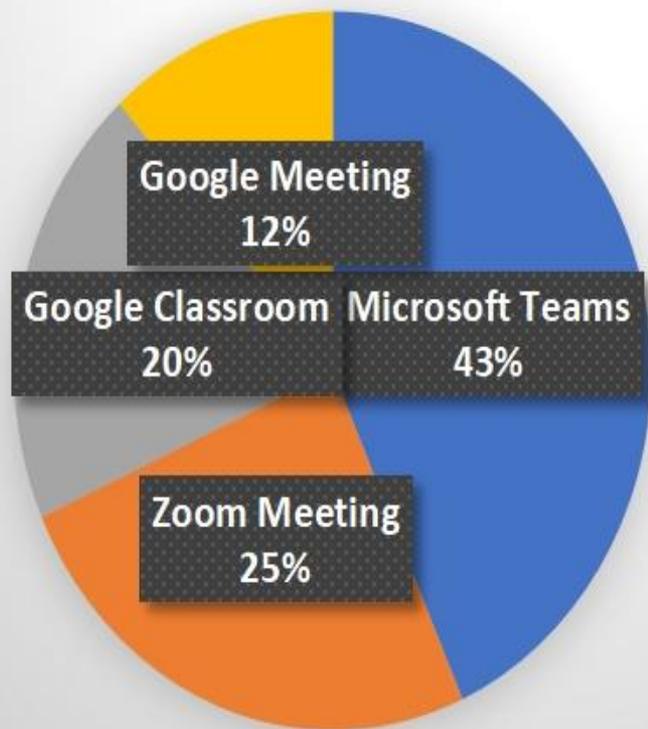
Survey 2 to high school teachers

1. Have you used technological platforms in the education process during your career?
 - Yes
 - No



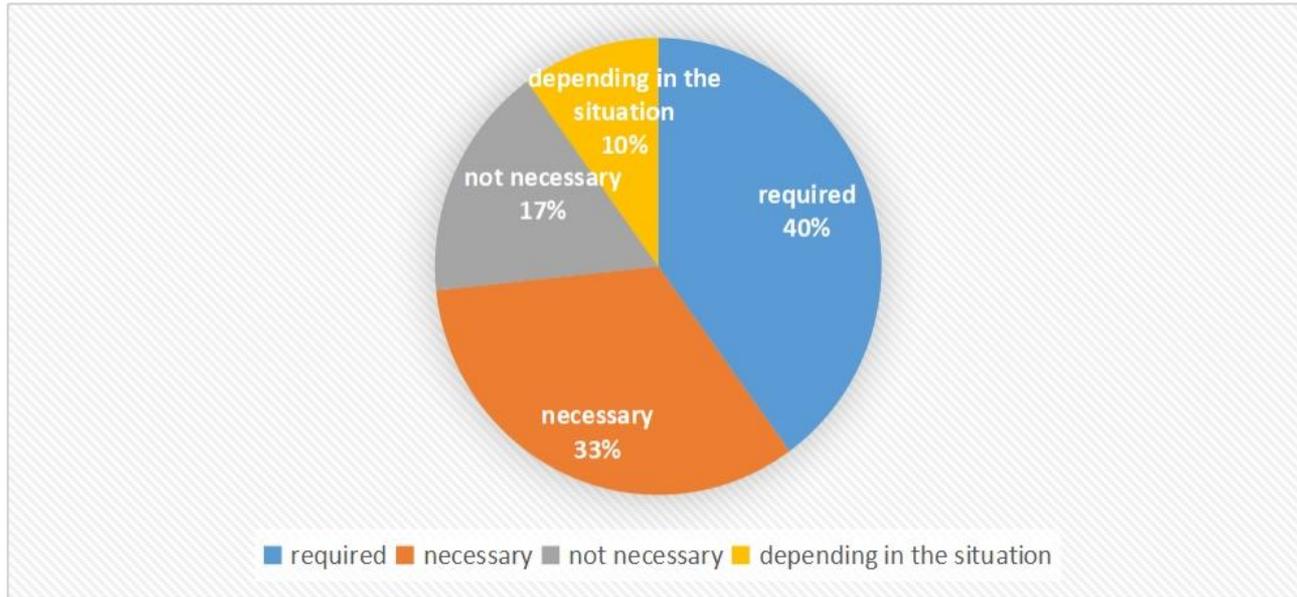


■ 1 time ■ 2 time ■ 3 time ■ more than 3 time ■ many time



- Microsoft Teams
- Zoom Meeting
- Google Classroom
- Google Meeting

Teachers' attitude to the necessity of technology





■ very effective ■ effective ■ slighty ■ nothing

Most of the participants, 45%, based on the feedback they had received from the classes where they operated with these methods, described the use of technology in the educational curricula as very effective

Final Wrap-up Reflections

- There is a need for country-level research to evaluate the access, use, and competence to utilize human language technology to benefit educational processes and objectives. The current sporadic research findings are confined to the macro level of mere exposure to tech platforms or devices the advent of artificial intelligence tools and ChatGPT in particular calls for urgent action.

Human language tech immersion in ALL CYCLES Albanian education needs to be prioritized to catch up with the accelerating speed of tech revolution.

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?