Open Educational Resources Opinions and Academic Confidence

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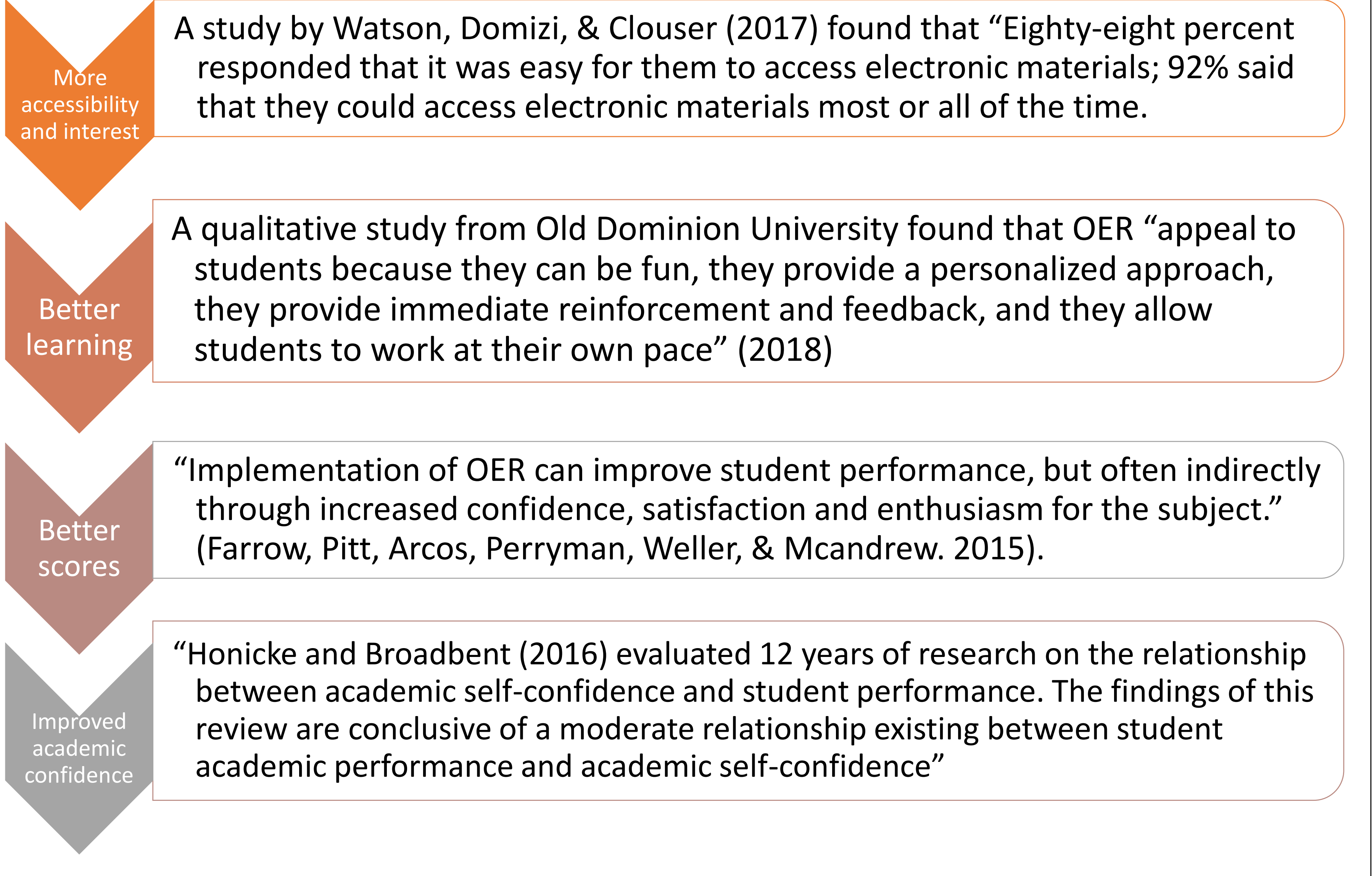UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

Question

What are students' opinions on their use of Open Educational Resources (OER) and is there an impact on their academic confidence?
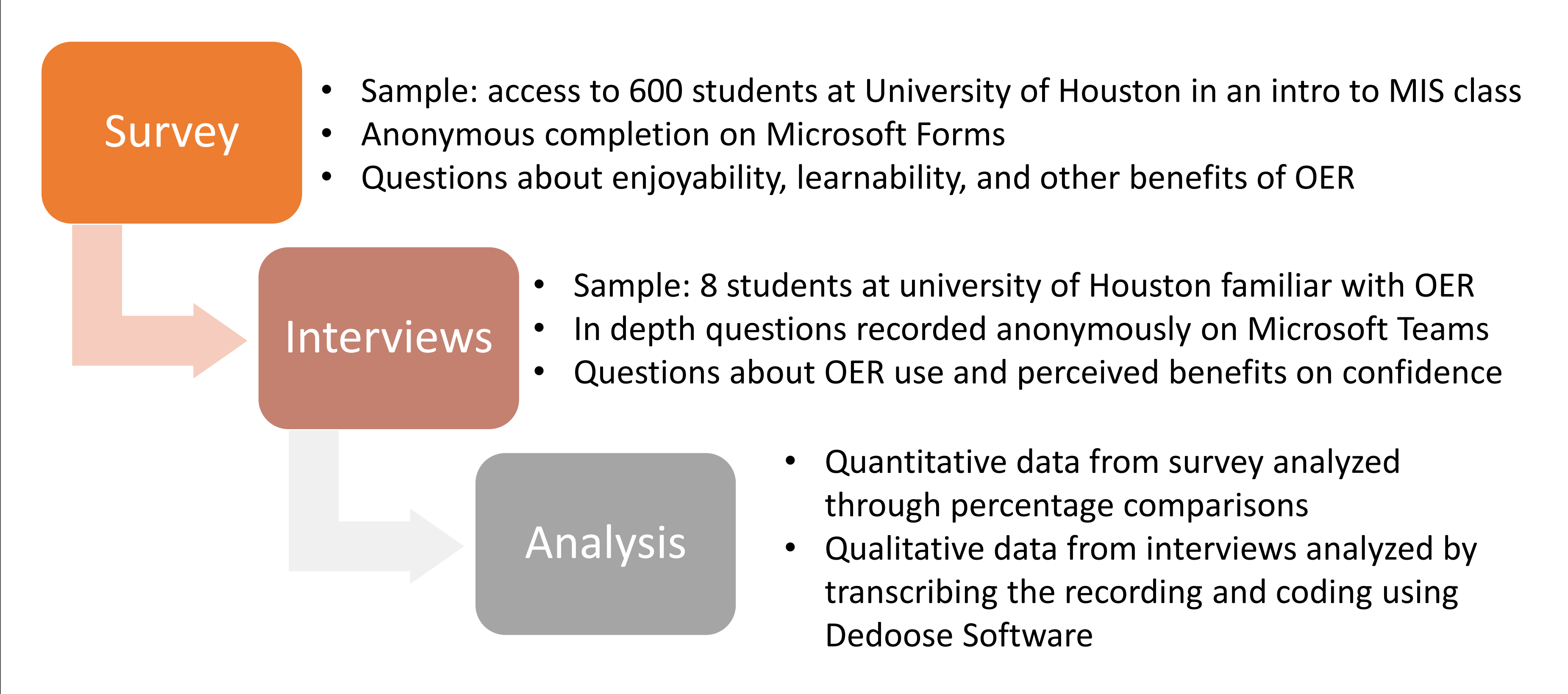
Objectives

- assess student opinions on the benefit of OER
- Determine the impact of OER on student academic confidence

Background

- Many studies have been completed over the economic benefit of Online Educational Resources (OER), but few studies have been completed on the student perspective of OER.
- Academic Self-Confidence: "Students' belief in their ability to be academically successful. This a precollege factor that is present at time of college enrollment" (Honicke & Broadbent, 2016).

More accessibility and interest
A study by Watson, Domizi, & Clouser (2017) found that "Eighty-eight percent responded that it was easy for them to access electronic materials; 92% said that they could access electronic materials most or all of the time.

Better learning
A qualitative study from Old Dominion University found that OER "appeal to students because they can be fun, they provide a personalized approach, they provide immediate reinforcement and feedback, and they allow students to work at their own pace" (2018)

Better scores
"Implementation of OER can improve student performance, but often indirectly through increased confidence, satisfaction and enthusiasm for the subject." (Farrow, Pitt, Arcos, Perryman, Weller, & Mcandrew. 2015).

Improved academic confidence
"Honicke and Broadbent (2016) evaluated 12 years of research on the relationship between academic self-confidence and student performance. The findings of this review are conclusive of a moderate relationship existing between student academic performance and academic self-confidence"

Methodology

Survey
- Sample: access to 600 students at University of Houston in an intro to MIS class
- Anonymous completion on Microsoft Forms
- Questions about enjoyability, learnability, and other benefits of OER

Interviews
- Sample: 8 students at university of Houston familiar with OER
- In depth questions recorded anonymously on Microsoft Teams
- Questions about OER use and perceived benefits on confidence

Analysis
- Quantitative data from survey analyzed through percentage comparisons
- Qualitative data from interviews analyzed by transcribing the recording and coding using Dedoose Software

Potential Results Example

Question	Percent yes	Percent no	Percent neutral
Using the open educational resources improved my knowledge of the respective subject.	70%	25%	5%
The open educational resources are more interesting than a traditional textbook.	40%	50%	10%
The open educational resources helped me with assignments for my classes.	50%	30%	20%

Acknowledgements

References

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- Farrow, R., Pitt, R., de los Arcos, B., Perryman, L., Weller, M., & McAndrew, P. (2015). Impact of OER use on teaching and learning: Data from OER Research Hub (2013-2014): Impact of OER on teaching and learning. British Journal of Educational Technology, 46(5), 972–976.