**ABSTRACT**

*Students must develop social skills to negotiate interpersonal interactions, communicate effectively, and work with others. These skills not only assist in academic success but also contribute to the growth of a well-rounded person capable of thriving in a variety of social circumstances. This study explored the experiences of high school students concerning their social skills during online classes. The study aimed to identify the challenges and determine the coping strategies employed by students to overcome them. A descriptive qualitative research design was utilized to emphasize the participants’ experiences. The data collection process involved conducting semi-structured interviews with the seven participants selected through purposive sampling. Thematic analysis was employed to analyze and transcribe the gathered data. Based on the results, this study identified two major themes: "SOC-CHA" (Social Challenges) and "CO-STRA" (Coping Strategies). Under "SOC-CHA," the research highlights issues such as difficulties in peer communication, challenges in online collaboration, and the impact of limited socialization on confidence. In the "CO-STRA" theme, the study explores coping mechanisms like the use of social media and games, messaging apps, and the delicate balance between academics and socialization. The study findings indicate a significant impact on participants' social skills in the online class environment. Furthermore, there is a suggested emphasis on improving students' communication skills, particularly after their exposure to complete online learning during the pandemic.*

**Keywords:** *social skills, interpersonal, challenges, coping strategies, online class*