

Advancement in Teaching Methodology

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Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to evaluate the traditional methods of teaching as well as multimedia teaching and to suggest other useful teaching methods that can be attempted in imparting knowledge among the students. Basically teaching must include two major components sending and receiving information. A teacher tries his level best to impart knowledge as the way he understood it. So, the way a teacher understands is also very important so that he imparts true and exact knowledge among students. So, any communication methods that serve this purpose without destroying the objective could be considered as innovative methods of teaching. The use of innovative methods in educational institutions has the potential not only to improve education, but also to empower people, strengthen governance and excite the effort to achieve the human development goal for the nation & the world.

I. INTRODUCTION

Education is a light that shows the mankind the right direction to move forward. The purpose of education is not just making a student literate but also to make him knowledgeable and self sufficient. When there is a willingness to change, there will surely be progress in any field.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

If education fails to inculcate self-discipline and commitment to achieve in the minds of student, it is not their fault. We have to convert education into a sport and learning process has to generate interest in the students and motivate them to stay back in the institution than to run away from it. Education should become a fun and interesting to them rather than burden and boredom. It is an integral part of their growth and helps them become good citizens. A teacher can also inculcate the interest in the students by motivating them. Various motivational techniques are beneficial to generate and maintain interest of students in studies. Rather than looking at education simply as a means of achieving social upliftment, the society must view education also as an engine of advancement in an information era propelled by its wheels of knowledge and research leading to development.

II. METHODOLOGY

The traditional or innovative methods of teaching are critically examined, evaluated and some modifications in the delivery of knowledge is suggested. As such, the strengths and weaknesses of each teaching methodology are identified and probable modifications that can be included in traditional methods are suggested.

III. TRADITIONAL TEACHING METHODS

In the pre-technology education context, the teacher is the sender or the source, the educational material is the information or message, and the student is the receiver of the information. In terms of the delivery medium, the educator can deliver the message via the "chalk-and- talk" method and overhead projector (OHP) transparencies. This directed instruction model has its foundations embedded in the behavioral learning perspective and it is a popular technique, which has been used for decades as an educational strategy in all institutions of learning. Basically, the teacher controls the instructional process, the content is delivered to the entire class and the teacher tends to emphasize factual knowledge. In other words, the teacher delivers the lecture content and the students listen to the lecture. Thus, the learning mode tends to be passive and the learners play little part in their learning process. It has been found in most universities by many teachers and students that the conventional lecture approach in classroom is of limited effectiveness in both teaching and learning. In such a lecture students assume a purely passive role and their concentration fades off after 15-20 minutes. Some limitations which may prevail in traditional teaching method are :-

- Teaching in classroom using chalk and talk is "one way flow" of information.
- Teachers often continuously talk for an hour without knowing students response and feedback.
- The material presented is only based on lecturer notes and textbooks.
- Teaching and learning are concentrated on "plug and play" method rather than practical aspects.
- The handwriting of the lecturer decides the fate of the subject.
- There is insufficient interaction with students in classroom.

- More emphasis has been given on theory without any practical and real life time situations.
- Learning from memorization but not understanding.
- Marks rather than result oriented.

IV .INNOVATIVE TOOLS

MULTIMEDIA LEARNING PROCESS

Multimedia, is the combination of various digital media types such as text, images, audio and video, into an integrated multi-sensory interactive application or presentation to convey information to an audience. Traditional educational approaches have resulted in a mismatch between what is taught to the students and what the industry needs. As such, many institutions are moving towards problem-based learning as a solution to producing graduates who are creative; think critically and analytically, to solve problems. In this paper, we focus on using multimedia technology as an innovative teaching and learning strategy in a problem-based learning environment by giving the students a multimedia project to train them in this skill set.

The teacher uses multimedia to modify the contents of the material. It will help the teacher to represent in a more meaningful way, using different media elements. These media elements can be converted into digital form, modified and customized for the final presentation. By incorporating digital media elements into the project, the students are able to learn better since they use multiple sensory modalities, which would make them more motivated to pay more attention to the information presented and retain the information better.

V. VARIOUS MULTIMEDIA TOOLS

Ms PowerPoint, Astound Graphics and Flash Slide Show Software Easy to prepare and it can be prepared with many of the popular multimedia elements like graphs, sound and video.

SLIDE BASED

Macromedia, Flash Author ware, BPP I Learn and I Pass Presentation is created using icons to represent different media elements and placed in a flow line.

ICON BASED

Windows Movie Maker, Winampp, Macromedia Director Presentation is created using movie-making concepts of casts, sounds, pictures and scores MOVIE BASED Adobe Acrobat Reader Easy to prepare and with word documents if u have Acrobat Reader 5 with many popular multimedia elements like graphs sound and charts

VI. OTHER INNOVATIVE TOOLS SUGGESTED

The researchers suggest some of the methods can very well be applied by the modern teachers. As the researchers feel that basically the core objective of teaching should never be deviated by the use of an innovative method. The following methods which are suggested are an extension to the traditional methods of teaching.

VII. TEACHING WITH SENSE OF HUMOUR – “HUMOUR AN EFFECTIVE

MEDIUM OF TEACHING

Everyone loves a teacher with an infectious sense of humor. Looking at the lighter side of life not only fosters cordial relations between professors and students, but also provides welcome relief while trying to follow a difficult lecture on a complicated subject. When there is a willingness to change, there is hope for progress in any field. Teaching is a challenge. Learning is a challenge. Combining both effectively is a challenge. Being humorous is a challenge. However, laughing is easy. We are convinced both by experience and research that using humour in teaching is a very effective tool for both the teacher and student. Humor strengthens the relationship between student and teacher, reduces stress, makes a course more interesting and if relevant to the subject, may even enhance recall of the material. Humor has the ability to relax people, reduce tension, and thereby create an atmosphere conducive for learning and communication. Numerous studies in the field of advertising have noted that humor is the most effective tool for enhancing recall of advertisements.

Z TO AN APPROACH

This approach attempts to explain the application part of a particular concept first. The teacher should explain the application of a particular concept first and explain the effects of such applications. For example in management subject - motivation is explained in a manner that the organization get extensive benefits out of using some techniques like promotions and awards. So here the use of promotion is explained first and later students would get interest in knowing what are promotions and awards. The teacher starts explaining what is promotion and explains what motivation theory in management is. Another example we can try is that in accounting the Income statement and Balance Sheet can be explained first and later drawing their attention to double entry system of book keeping.

STRENGTHS

- Makes a particular concept clear
- Students develop interest to know exactly the concept.
- Creates long lasting memory/correlation of a concept.

WEAKNESSES

- Take quite long time for a teacher to introduce a concept
- Initial difficulty in understanding a particular concept will be encountered.

USE OF DICTIONARY

Teacher also gets to know many words pertaining to a particular concept.

Dictionary must be widely used by teachers as well as students. A teacher should always practice finding meaning of words related to curriculum and write them in the book itself. When a teacher's knowledge is updated and adequate then only he will be able to explain it to the student. Word power increases. Continuous use of dictionary gradually increases the word power and helps in understanding of the concept.

VIII. SCENARIO ANALYSIS BASED TEACHING

Role playing and scenario analysis is mostly used in organizations that try to analyze a problem pertaining to the organization, and this is also used in management institutions. But the similar kind of practice can be tried in other specialization too like science and engineering. Science and engineering courses have practical but in support of those practical if students are given a scenario and other options to solve a particular issue, then the students are exposed to decision making in a given environment.

For example, in teaching accounting the role of accountant can be explained by role playing technique. Invoice and bills can be given to students and asked them to assume the role of accountant. Here the real entries pertaining to transactions are made by the student and this is more practical approach to teaching where theory is supplemented by proper practical knowledge. Similar kind of technique can be applied in management, engineering and science courses.

IX. VERSATILITY

A teacher should always be versatile in class. He should always try to change his behavior in class such that students can never be able to judge his nature. This will definitely keep the class in control. But he should always make efforts to teach efficiently and accurately.

X. UPDATION OF KNOWLEDGE

A teacher must always try to keep himself updated by getting information about the latest technological innovations and advancements. This will definitely help the students to gain updated knowledge and lead accordingly.

XI. CONCLUSION

Across the world, information technology is dramatically altering the way students; faculty and staff learn and work. Internet-ready phones, handheld computers, digital cameras, and MP3 players are revolutionizing the college life. As the demand for technology continues to rise, colleges and universities are moving all sorts of student

services, from laundry monitoring to snack delivery online. At Columbia University, a real-time Web-based service called Laundry View lets students log on to a Web-based system to see which washing machines are free before they head to the laundry room. They can monitor their wash and can even program the service to e-mail them when their load is done. Technology is also changing the classroom experience. In addition, tablet PCs, compact computers that allow you to write notes directly onto the screen with a special pen, replace the archaic projector. With the tablet technology allow professors to make notes on charts and spreadsheets and send them directly to their students' PCs and he will get a feed back from each student. The researchers recommend that the teaching would be highly effective if the teacher start to use the recent multimedia technologies like usage of computers extensively or some modifications in the conventional mode of teaching. The use of computers may be very well practiced in the environment where the use of such technology is highly possible, but there must be some sort of innovation which can also be practiced in an environment where such use of technology is on its way to growth. In those environments use of humor, role playing, words –words approach.

RESEARCH LIMITATIONS

As the weaknesses that are explained in this research work are purely the views and perceptions of the researchers and which could not be generalized. Even the modifications suggested might suffer from other limitations. The researchers try to suggest some useful modifications which could be tried by teachers as innovative to get maximum results.