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Modern Teaching Techniques in Education

M. Vijayalakshmi¹

Abstract

Modern Teaching Techniques have been spread all over the world, which is useful and easy for teachers. Modern Teaching Techniques educate children well and make them understand clearly. In this era, there is an increased usage of the internet in educational applications; this could mean that students and teachers will increasingly make use of technology within open and flexible learning systems. Technology plays an important role in enhancing and developing our learning system. Intended outcomes as well as unintended results of using Modern Teaching Techniques for teacher professional development need to be explored. Certain skills and capabilities of using different Modern Teaching Technologies are necessary for students as well as teachers. Therefore it is necessary to prepare them for the age of Modern Teaching Technology.

Key Words: Modern Teaching Techniques, Objectives, Classification of Teaching Techniques, Teaching Techniques, Medias, Benefits, Preparation for Modern Age

Introduction

Education is a process by which the personality of a child is developed. Thus the education of tomorrow should be able to play its role more effectively by making the individual creative, innovative and effective. One teacher would be unable to cater to the various individual differences of all the students. So **Kothari Commission Report (1964-66)** recommended “The supply of teaching aids to every school is essential for the improvement of quality of teaching. It should indeed bring about an educational revolution in the country.” The innovative teaching methods with the latest teaching technologies helps the students to achieve their excellence in education.

“Technology & knowledge would play an important role in value – addition to our core competence of natural and human resources, a must for achieving our vision of 2020 that is of sustained development.” - **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, 2003, (Former President of India).**

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Modern Teaching Technique is important and most preferred in the technological age. Nowadays, as classes are modified and equipped with Modern teaching aids such as Speakers, Online Streaming Videos, Interactive Whiteboards, Visualizer, Response System, CD's, Projectors, Educational Software etc, it acts as a tool for the teachers to explain the concepts in a more effective and lucid manner. Teachers can teach the students with more depth and efficiency and also clear all their doubts with Modern Teaching Techniques. Teachers must use various types of Modern Teaching Techniques to connect with the students.

This paper deals with the Modern Teaching Techniques that are used in Education. These techniques help to attain the following objectives.

Objectives

- Present the material in more interesting and attractive way
- Guide and help the students in enriching the qualitative material
- Make best use of time and coach the students
- Provide individualized instruction
- Direct the students toward cooperative as well as collaborative learning activities
- Prepare the learning material for students, rather teaching in conventional situations
- Diagnose the learning of students and help them to overcome their study problems

Classification of Modern Teaching Techniques

1. Techniques associated with Teaching Method

- ✓ Brain Storming
- ✓ Micro Teaching Technique
- ✓ Programmed Learning
- ✓ Inquiry-Based Learning
- ✓ Mind Map
- ✓ Cooperative Learning
- ✓ Dramatization

2. Media involved in Modern Teaching Techniques

- ✓ Audio Aids
- ✓ Visual Aids
- ✓ Audio-Visual Aids
- ✓ Interactive Electronic White Board
- ✓ M-Learning
- ✓ E-Learning

Modern Teaching Techniques

Among these classifications, some of the Modern Teaching Techniques with the help of advanced technology are frequently adopted in classrooms. We can see them in a detailed manner.

Brain Storming:

It is a group creativity technique that was designed to generate a large number of ideas for the solution of a problem. Problem solving is a process to choose and use the effective and beneficial tool and behaviours among the different potentialities to reach the target. It contains scientific method, critical thinking, taking decision, examining and reflective thinking. This method is used in the process of solving a problem to generalize or to make synthesis. It provides students to face the problems boldly and to deal with it in a scientific approach. It helps students to adopt the view of benefit from others ideas and to help each other.

Micro Teaching Technique:

It is essential to practise the teaching skills in order to become better teachers. A teaching skill is a set of teaching behaviours of the teacher which is especially effective in bringing about desired changes in pupils' behaviour. Allen and Ryan in 1966 identified 20 teaching skills at Stanford University. This list has now increased to 37 teaching skills. These skills can be assessed by means of an observation scales. It is not possible to train all the pupil teachers in all these skills in any training programme because of the constraints of time and funds. Therefore a set of teaching skills which cuts across the subject areas has been identified. They have been found to be very useful for every teacher. The set of these skills are Skill of Probing Questions, Skill of Explaining, Skill of Illustrating with Examples, Skill of Reinforcement, Skill of Stimulus Variation, Skill of Classroom Management and Skill of using Blackboard.

Programmed Learning:

Programmed learning (or programmed instruction) is a research-based system which helps learners work successfully. The learning material may be a textbook or teaching machine or computer. The medium presents the material in a logical and tested sequence. The text is in small steps or larger chunks. After each step, learners are given a question to test their comprehension. Then immediately the correct answer is shown. This means the learner at all stages makes responses, and is given immediate knowledge of results.

Inquiry-Based Learning:

Inquiry-based learning starts by posing questions, problems or scenarios—rather than simply presenting established facts or portraying a smooth path to knowledge. The process is

often assisted by a facilitator. Inquirers will identify and research issues and questions to develop their knowledge or solutions. The inquiry-based instruction is principally very closely related to the development and practice of thinking skills.

Mind Map:

It is one of the Innovative teaching techniques. It was developed by Tony Buzan in 1960. Mind Maps are used as learning and teaching technique. Mind Map visually illustrates the relationship between concepts and ideas. Often represented in circles or boxes, concepts are linked by words and phrases that explain the connection between the ideas, helping the students, organize and structure their thoughts to further understand information and discover new relationships. Recollect information for long time. Mind map help for better learning and effective achievement.

Cooperative Learning:

It is a successful teaching technique in which small teams, each with students of different levels of ability, use variety of learning activities to improve their understanding of a subject. Each member of a team is responsible not only for learning what is taught but also for helping team mates learning, thus creating the atmosphere of achievement. Students work through the assignment until all the members successfully understand and complete it. Cooperative efforts result in participants striving for mutual benefit for all the group members.

Dramatization:

One of the Modern teaching techniques teaches students how to behave in a situation by living it. Physical environment/costumes/accessories are important and they effect the concentration of the students. Students use their own imagination thus improving their creativeness. It provides direct involvement in learning on the part of all students, improves their language usage, communicating/speaking and listening skills and allows for the exploration of solutions. The various types of Dramatization are Informal drama, Role playing, Formal drama, Puppets, Pantomime and Finger game.

Media involved in Modern Teaching Techniques

Audio Aids:

In the recent past these hearing aids like cassettes and recorders were in used in the process of learning of English language. Such teaching aids were effective in improving the phonetics, pronunciation and spoken English of the students.

Visual Aids:

Apart from the traditional visual aids like charts, pictures and models that are still in use in the classrooms, there are other modern visual aids which were in use in the recent years. These aids include the picture slides, motion pictures and the like. The modern times, the development in technology e-book readers which are portable electronic devices are mainly used for reading digital books.

Audio-Visual Aids:

These are being widely adopted and used in many of the educational institutions, which have a separate audio-visual room or lab. By the growth of technology children are showing much interest in computer-based learning like the Power point presentations. It develops team work among the students as they are required to work in teams for such project based learning. In such a Project based learning teacher acts as a facilitator to the taught and this involves the active participation of the student.

Interactive Electronic White Board:

This is a very recent development wherein the whole board acts like a touch screen with students being able to do various manipulations directly on the board itself. Basically the white electronic board is connected to a digital projector which projects the material on the computer onto the board. Then without the need of touching the computer, the students can do mathematical calculations, scrabble solving etc by the use of a stylus provided.

M-Learning:

M-Learning is the technique where learning occurs in multiple contexts, through social and content interactions. M-Learning Technologies are available by using personal electronic devices such as handheld computers, MP3 players, notebooks, mobile phones and tablets. M-learning is more convenient and access at anytime and anywhere.

E-Learning:

Instructional Content or Learning Experiences delivered or enabled by Electronic Technologies (Ong & Wang, 2004). E-Learning Teaching Strategies are E-lecturing, E-discussion, E-monitoring, E-tutorial, E-access to network resources, E-structured group activity, E-informal peer interaction, E-connected education, E-quality learning and simulation.

Benefits:**Students use Modern Teaching Techniques to:**

- ❖ Participation in a media revolution, profoundly affecting the way they think about and use information technologies

- ❖ Improve the ways of learning in view of learning fashions
- ❖ Extend the ability and skills applying their learning environment real situation
- ❖ Working in groups for cooperative and collaborative learning
- ❖ Developing self-learning habits at their own pace and time
- ❖ Learn with the teacher rather than by the teacher
- ❖ Develop inquiry – learning habits
- ❖ Use right information at right time/place to achieve right objective
- ❖ Review and explore qualitative data
- ❖ Exchange learning experiences and information with others students and teachers living anywhere in the world

Thus, information technologies facilitate students in their learning process through their active participation on one hand and help teachers on the other hand.

Preparation for the age of Modern Teaching Technology

Certain skills and capabilities of using different Modern Teaching Technologies are necessary for students as well as teachers. Therefore it is necessary to prepare them for the age of Modern Teaching Technology and they are as follows:

- Requiring students to use electronic databases in their searches.
- Encouraging students to use electronic mail to ask questions, and for submitting assignments.
- Becoming familiar with the advantages and disadvantages of the technologies and exploring the capabilities of compact-disk read-only memory (CD-ROM), tele/video conferencing, etc.
- Surveying students about their familiarity with the Modern Teaching Technologies and asking if they will share their knowledge and skills with the class.
- Using a word processor to develop class notes and editing a version to use as students' handouts and a version for overhead transparencies.
- Using computer programs for keeping records in large class enrolment lists, test items and so on and having students review and update their own record from time to time.
- Using different packages for data analysis.
- Encouraging students to include visual elements as part of their projects.
- Spending students' time as a multimedia workstation, planning a presentation; assembling projection graphics, video clips, animation and sound and other materials; trying to much particulars materials with specific learning objectives; and integration the materials into a unified presentation.

- Eliminating and/or minimizing physical problems arising from the use of Modern Teaching Technologies.

Conclusion

Using Modern Teaching Technologies, learners are now able to participate in the activities of the learning communities throughout the world. They may learn collaboratively, share information, exchange their learning experiences and work through cooperative activities in virtual learning communities. Modern Teaching Technologies facilitate teaching and learning process in more productive fashion. In a nutshell, Modern Teaching Technologies are restructuring the teaching learning process to meet the International standards.

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