

MODERN TEACHING METHODS IS THE NEED.

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Abstract

Like other fields, the face of education has also evolved drastically over the period. Earlier, teachers were the only means to create a bridge between education and learners. They were using conventional pedagogical methods to explain the topic or to provide notes. However, modern education sees a vast scenario which encourages learners to study profoundly and study to satisfy their curiosity. In recent years, we are getting introduced with different modern teaching techniques, and the introduction of technology along with innovative ways to teach has brought a revolution in the education sector. So, let's discuss which new teaching methods are.

Introduction

The manner of instruction has changed noticeably throughout time. With the introduction of current teaching techniques, interactive methods of teaching have been substituted for memorization and the standard recitation practise to educate the pupils, and the results are evident. Because current teaching methods, unlike the traditional way of teaching, do not treat all pupils at the same level of their understanding abilities, this educational reform offers a completely different perspective on teaching and learning.



Modern Teaching Methods – The need

Rather than the only teacher based, modern teaching methods focus more on questioning, demonstration, explaining, practical, collaboration methods, and are more activity-based.

Reasons to Introduce Modern Teaching Method

The breadth of knowledge in science and technology has grown significantly over the past several years, as has people's capacity to absorb new information in these fields. Therefore, there is a huge demand for inventive and creative brains to explore uncharted territory in a variety of industries. Adopting current techniques is the only way to thrive in the modern world and the knowledge-driven era of technology.

The 21st century should thus be taught to the students in a way that prepares them for it, since it is a period that is driven by technology and calls for the development of individuals, societies, and nations. The students should be introduced with modern teaching techniques and are provided sufficient knowledge so that they can create opportunities for themselves and others.

Teachers continue to instruct children who only have rudimentary knowledge of science and other disciplines using the traditional chalk-talk approach in the classroom. Their strategy is no longer valid since it is old, has a narrow scope, and has failed on both a national and individual level.

Many issues, including unemployment, can be solved if teachers instruct using contemporary methods rather than outdated, ineffective ones and offer science teachings in a more properly scientific manner. All of this may be accomplished by giving the senior high school system and the Basic Education system solid pillars. Modern teaching techniques are adopted since it calls for an immediate evaluation of the BST curriculum.

Relevance of modern teaching

Modern teaching unquestionably is the need of the hour because of its relevance in the modern era. The revolution in the field of science and technology demands great ideas and extensive effort to deal with any kind of circumstances coming in the way of development. All the load is on the little shoulders of learners. So, it is vital to give students not only knowledge but to improve their skills from the very beginning.

We have been seeing the concept of teaching in schools where teachers explain the topic and ask students to recite and memorize the topic to the main motive of passing the examination and to acquire the certificate.

Memorizing and reciting was the way of teaching which definitely helps to clear the exam but it does not help further. Only experiencing and gaining practical knowledge will be helpful for further studies and life. In modern teaching, the focus is more on experimental study and it is the need of the hour as well.

Concept of innovation

Modern teaching encourages us to bring new ideas and introduce new concepts. Different methods of modern teaching aim towards creativity and innovative thoughts. It motivates learners to not follow conventional things but come up with innovations. That's the reason why modern teaching is laced with technical gadgets which can help learners to share their innovation and creativity. To strengthen the concept of Innovation, modern teaching methods are best suited. Also, innovation in teaching methods plays an important role to improve the quality of education which is an endeavor this time.

Characteristics of Modern Teaching Methods

The modern teaching methods help to build or develop a productive understanding of basic science and technology (BST). Hence, the elements of contemporary teaching methods include:

1. Learner-centered

One of the essential characteristics of the modern teaching methods in basic science and technology (BST) is it is learner-centred. It focuses on learners while using or applying during classroom and laboratory lectures. The teacher acts only as a guide, and all the learning process involves learners. Learners significantly appear as a dominator in classroom interactions.

2. Task-Based or Activity-based

The teacher or guide of BST organizes activity or task and engages students to learn through this way. Hence it is an activity-based or commission-based. Students are offered or asked to take part in classroom interaction through these interactive activities.

3. Resource-Based

BST teachers should be resourceful. They should collect and distribute all the required study material to the learners for their learning or to understand the topic clearly. The resources can be collected from the school environment or any other place where it is available. Also, a learner can be the source to bring study material or resources from their end.

4. Interactive in Nature

One characteristic defines the modern teaching method as very interactive. The teacher asks the students to form small groups or work as individuals to perform the learning tasks and come up

with the desired results. It helps them to gather knowledge from one another. Students learn to work together and a sense of cooperation. It also works in their favour when they step out in the outer world.

5. Integrative in Nature

One of the vital characteristics of modern teaching methods is it is integrative. Teachers link topics of one subject, e.g., social science topics like drug use, domestic violence, safety, pollution, food distribution, crime etc. to other issues and make it integrative. By this, a learner can gain knowledge of more topics studying one.

6. Peer Collaboration

Modern teaching methods not only encourage students by allowing them to present their ideas or initiative by noticing their responses, studying their research, and allowing them to answer during interaction in BST classes but also selects students based on interest, needs, and feelings. Through Instructional activities, students learn to work cooperatively, and they appreciate their competitors' work as well. In the BST curriculum, learner's interests are considered most important, and they are guided towards their goals and careers.

Following are the modern teaching methods:

Collaborative Learning

Earlier, when students were asked to revise the topic or syllabus during an examination or regular days, they used to revise the syllabus in isolation or at home. This practise was widespread in traditional teaching methods. To deal with this issue or provide a more useful platform for students, schools are coming up with collaborative learning. In this modern teaching method, teachers form a group of students where they can solve their problem, debates on topics, and clear their queries. This helps in developing social skills and allows students to understand the subject faster.

In this modern teaching method, every student is a part of the success of a group as they help each other to reach the desired result, and they also learn to communicate with each other. Learners learn to tolerate others, develop skills to listen to others and how to work in a team. They will be able to meet different personalities and can get a genuine review of their work.

Students present their ideas and expect a response when they are in group learning. It allows them to exchange their creativity and gain more knowledge. In return, it helps them to learn to face healthy criticism and cross-questions. So, school management should choose to take up a collaborative method of teaching to teach their students. They just need to make a few changes in the layout of the Classroom. Replace desks to whiteboard surfaces. So, the groups can work together with ease.

Spaced Learning

Spaced learning is one of the modern teaching methods, which is being followed by teachers. In this method, teachers repeat a lesson multiple times, basically until the students understand

entirely. However, the teacher repeats the course with two 10-minute spaces (break) in-between the lessons.

The gap is meant to refresh the mind by playing physical activities or mindfulness techniques which prepares them for the next session of the same lesson. This method gives the students intervals to inherit the knowledge and create connections between learnings. Before moving forward to another chapter, this method prepares the students with basics.

It truly defines a proverb that a healthy mind is in a healthy body. So, the physical state of students should be sufficient to the growth of mental state which is crucial to gain knowledge. Spaced learning also has a scope to reduce obesity in school-going children which can be seen more nowadays. It improves both mental and physical health of a student.

Flipped Classroom

Flipped Classroom is a well-known term in the pedagogical method. You have known about this undoubtedly. Its name 'Flipped Classroom' makes it unique. It is one of the very vital modern teaching methods that has been in use these days. In this method of teaching, the teaching procedure takes place in a flipped manner.

As unlike traditional ways, students study new material or content at home by themselves and practice the same at school. The method is the reverse of providing content at school and asks students to rework on it or practice it at home. The students practice this method at home by watching a video tutorial, search online, or work on the content usually shared by the teacher. They do not need to complete the homework at home. Instead, they end it at school.

Through the practice of flipped Classroom modern teaching methods, students get enough time to grasp the topic, unlike school where they get only a few minutes to understand the content. If necessary, they can work more on one issue.

Students prepare themselves with the content before arriving in school, and if they face any doubt, they can discuss it in the Classroom or ask the concerned teacher. They can also suggest their ideas related to the content and share it with other classmates. Moreover, there is another advantage of this modern teaching method that students would not have to suffer due to their sickness. Sick days won't interrupt their learning.

Self-learning

Curiosity pushes the learner to learn new and more always. It drives the learners to learn and memorize large spaces of the text that they will either miss gratefully or forget immediately. Through their curiosity, students get motivated to explore the subjects they are interested in. Teaching students to operate the internet and find results themselves helps them to be self-dependent and gives them a deep understanding of the content.

A teacher should allow the students to bring new ideas and work on it for the development of their brain and ability to work alone. This modern teaching method plays a significant role in learners' period of education.

Gamification

It is a well-known fact that children love games either it is online games or playing games at the field. Teaching through games is one of the essential modern teaching methods that has been in use under modern teaching ways. The significance of Gamification in teaching has mostly been seen in the elementary and preschool system. Learning through playing games won't be even realized by students. It motivated students as well and proved effective not only to the students of preschool but of any age.

The responsibility of teaching through Gamification is of teachers as they should plan or design projects that will be suitable for the students of their respective age. They should incorporate attractive measures to connect the students for a longer time and keep their interest alive. Teachers can also take help of the online platform under Gamification. Teachers can organize online quiz, puzzles or brain games. This modern teaching method is a fun learning method to teach.

Crossover Learning

The not-so-common modern teaching method is Crossover learning which uses both formal and informal teaching and learning environments. It is one of the perfect ways to give the best education to learners. Crossover learning effectively engages learners and provides authentic yet innovative results.

A formal setting is a traditional setting, i.e., Classroom to provide education. While, the informal environment of teaching is museums, seminars, and after-school places. Schools and colleges teach with content, study material and use everyday experiences to add knowledge. On the other hand, informal learning generates curiosity and interest and increases understanding by asking questions to their teachers.

Teachers should introduce new queries or questions in the formal setting and answers for which students should try to find in informal settings such as by exploring that question on their museum visit. The learners can take notes or collect pictures as their data and produce them as the information once they backed in the Classroom. They can share collected information with other classmates and can discuss it for better results.

Advantages of Modern Teaching

Along with the upgrades made to the student educational system, the face of teaching too is witnessing a transformation in this 21st century. Before you implement the modern teaching techniques, it is essential to know more about the advantages and benefits they bring to your system. Therefore it makes the maximum utilization of the services possible at a minimal cost. We can take a look at some of these significant advantages of Modern Teaching.

Cognitive thinking skills

The modern teaching system doesn't entirely rely on spoon-feeding techniques, which used to be a part of the ordinary teaching system. The current methods are wired to develop the cognitive thinking skills of the children, which in terms of the standard teaching system, out of the question.

The cognitive skills can be explained as the primary skills associated with the functioning of the brain. From the ability to read, the ability to learn and memorize are a part of the cognitive skills which lay connected to the brain. Strong cognitive skills of the students reflect in their decision making and problem analytical skills, contribute to their IQ growth and also plays a useful role in improving memory power.

Bringing prefrontal cortex into life

The prefrontal cortex of the brain is usually most affected by uncontrollable stress and depression. This part plays a significant role in the speech outcome, behavioural outcome, expressive outcome, etc. which are essential functions of the brain. It is also useful with the memory boost and thinking abilities of an individual.

The modern teaching techniques, like said, focuses more on the core thinking abilities and hence activates the perfect mechanism of the prefrontal cortex. The functions of the prefrontal cortex are considered superior, and triggering them would be the best-explored advantage of these modern teaching techniques. Therefore it is an obvious and one of the most significant merits that come along with the implementation of modern teaching methods.

Exploring things

Exploration of things where the interest lies in is an essential part of personal development. The process also provokes self-learning and makes sure it is directed in the right amount. The practice of the modern teaching methods provokes this same set of interests which are to be explored by the students with proper and enough assistance from the teachers.

Exploring the things on one's own is one of the most productive initiatives by an individual and the maximum possible support from an efficient teaching system makes sure that the process is fruitful and dynamic. The modern teaching methods believe in providing them with enough freedom, flexibility and facilities to explore their interests.

Developing unique pattern of learning

Learning is the primary objective of teaching, and the methods used for education initiate its own purposes for making the learning process much more productive and beneficial. Therefore one of the primary objectives of the strategies implemented according to modern teaching focuses more on developing unique patterns of learning.

The process or the most efficient methods of learning differs a lot between different individuals, and most importantly, this is where the methods of modern teaching apply to its full potential. By developing unique and tailor-made patterns of learning, the techniques of modern teaching make sure that the individual minds are adequately catered with the right way and methods of knowledge which will eventually make their learning process productive to its core.

Application based skills

The application refers to the practicability of the skills, and these are directly based on the actual practice of the skills learned and acquired from the teaching process. The modern teaching methods employ a completely different approach, a variant one from the old school theoretical practises. These mostly focus on the applicability of the skills and the individuals learning and acquiring practical experience of the same.

Application-based education is one of the most influential and productive types of education systems compared to theoretical studies. Since the old teaching methods had limitations with practical knowledge, they relied mostly on the theoretical part. The implementation of the modern teaching techniques automatically drives out the unnecessary need for the theoretical part, substituting it with the application based skills.

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

Mind Map: the Coopeartive 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.

Modern Teaching Methods

Over the period, the importance of modern teaching methods and education equipped with high technology is felt and hence started incorporating the new techniques into education. New methods and new technology-based gadgets have been introduced in classrooms.

New gadgets such as:

Computer and laptop with Wi-Fi connection



Computers with the internet are a revolution in the education system. Higher educational institutions use computers as the medium to explain the content to the students whose computers are connected with teachers' computers.

LCD projector



Arranging LCD screens in the classrooms is very common nowadays. With the help of LCD screens, teachers display the PowerPoint slides prepared on a particular topic.

Interactive white boards



Whiteboards allow both teachers and students to write or draw on it by providing touch control of the computer. It is an interactive and exciting medium to use. Not only teachers but also students can explain anything on whiteboards.

Advantages of Modern Teaching Methods

Modern teaching methods have many advantages. However, these advantages are the disadvantages of traditional teaching methods.

- Unlike traditional teaching methods, modern teaching methods are more interactive and keep students intact. It maintains the interest of students by animations and videos.
- The visual medium is way better than any other medium to give instructions. It helps to memorize the concept fast and for a more extended period than reading.
- Modern teaching methods are less time-consuming. Teachers take less time to cover the syllabus. Writing on the blackboard is not required.
- Blackboard explanation of content is less explanatory than a representation of videos and animations used in the modern teaching techniques.

Conclusion

After a detailed study of different teaching methods, we can't say which pedagogical way of teaching is better! Both traditional teaching methods and modern teaching techniques have their pros and cons. They are similar but also different from each other. Modern teaching methods should consider conventional methods of teaching as its base and learners should not neglect it completely while incorporating the new ones. However, modern teaching methods are suitable for the current century to cope up with surroundings and environments.

Teachers are introducing different innovative ideas to explain the content to learners. Also, it is the responsibility of teachers to teach students with suitable and modern methods. It is a teacher who plays a vital part in students' success. So, it becomes the duty of a teacher to take a step towards accepting modern methods of teaching. To provide a sound education, there should be an amalgamation of a skilled teacher and innovative ways of teaching. So that students will be ready with not only theoretical knowledge but also with practical experience of subjects to face the world and compete against their competitors.

In short, the inclusion of modern teaching methods in this time is necessary as it opposes the idea of traditional forms of repetition and memorization of the syllabus to educate students. To develop decision-making skills, problem-solving skills, and critical thinking ability, modern teaching techniques are best suited. The new ways of teaching make students more productive and encourage them to collaborate. Both methods are effective but which will be done during this time is the question, and clearly, the importance of modern teaching techniques can be felt clearly.

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