

4. Innovative Methods of Effective Teaching and Learning

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We often think of the effective teachers we have had over the years with a sense of recognition, but those who have touched our humanity, we remember them with a deep sense of gratitude.

Teaching generally includes two major components viz., sending and receiving knowledge or information. With reference to 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. The basic purpose of teaching is to make understand the listeners the fundamental concepts and further motivate them for logical, critical and design thinking aspects. This necessitates to devise new methods of teaching and learning processes.

Analysis of Traditional Methods of Teaching and its Limitations

The most common method chalk-and- talk, presentations using PPTs, overhead projectors etc., that are commonly used for teaching assume a passive role of the listeners and their concentration fades off after 15-20 minutes. This is “one-way flow” of information. There is insufficient interaction with students/listeners. More emphasis has been given on theory without any practical knowledge and real-life time situations. Students of present generation don’t like to sit down and listen. Things have changed now and they want to explore new ideas using advanced tools and techniques.

Most of the time, effective teaching aspects are only focussed.

But, effective methods of teaching and learning, both are extremely essential since effective teaching helps in effective learning and helps the listeners to understand the information. There is a saying by Confucius that, “I hear and I forget, I see and I believe, I do and I understand. Thus, by using effective, innovative and interactive methods of teaching, we can enable the listeners to understand the content and store them in long term memory.

Innovative methods of Teaching include various methods such as: Multimedia teaching methods – An Interactive teaching and learning Process

Use of Text, Images, Audio, Video and Animations, e-materials, apps etc can be used for interactive learning.

Mind Map- Innovative way of teaching and Learning process

Making notes with keywords and images including visual and sensory tools, drawings and sketches.

Role Playing and Scenario Analysis Based Teaching

Use of Role plays and activity-based learning such Quiz, Brainstorming sessions, Demonstrations, Quiz, Debates, Group discussions, Gaming sessions, rapid fire sessions, etc.

Theory supplemented by Practical's

Practical approach depending on student's needs, Industry Requirements and specialization has to be carried out. The concepts that are taught in class rooms have to be supplemented by doing practical sessions for experiential learning.

Teaching with Sense of Humour

Teaching with a good sense of humour plays a vital role in conveying information. It keeps the audience live with full energy and interest to listen. It also helps the listeners to remember the content for quite a long time.

Experiential Teaching and Learning

By submission of assignments, writing articles, problem solving, execution of group projects, illustrating real life problems and team work helps the listeners to gain practical knowledge and thus increases one's thinking ability to a broader dimension.

Learning Never Ends. It is a continues process and helps one to stay young and energetic. Teacher is the Greatest Innovator. To teach is to learn twice. Thus, by hard work, team work and smart work, teaching and learning becomes more enjoyable.