

## INNOVATIVE APPLICATIONS FOR TEACHING

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### Abstract

*This paper explores the need for the application of innovative methods in the teaching- learning process . In this digital era technology has become a very vital factor in the field of education. As media and technologies have become tools in the hands of educationists and students, they must be applied innovatively for effective teaching and learning. It should be beneficial for both students as well as teachers. Technology integration into teaching and learning has the potential to increase learning outcomes. Thus we can conclude that digital technology is now an increasingly prominent feature of education and practice in most of the countries across the globe.*

**Keywords:** *Educationists, Effective, Integration, Beneficial, Potential*

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## INNOVATIVE APPLICATIONS FOR TEACHING

- Alifiya Alamdar

### Introduction

**N**ow-a-days learners seem to suffer from the heavy burden of study. Learning is either subject oriented or time restricted. The everyday teaching-learning in the school may not always go as expected from learner's point of view. In such cases, the teacher switches to new ways of teaching to motivate the learners, thus leading to the innovation in teaching learning process.

“The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.”

-Mark Van Doren

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 “chalk and talk method”. In other words, the teacher delivers the lecture content and the students listen to the lectures. Thus, the learning mode tends to be passive and the learner plays little part in their learning process. It has been found in most universities by many teachers and students that the conventional lecture approach in the classroom is of limited effectiveness in both teaching and learning.

Some limitations which may prevail in the traditional teaching method are

1. Teaching in classroom using chalk and talk is “one way flow” of information.



2. Teachers often continuously talk for an hour without knowing students response and feedback.
3. The material presented is only based on lecturer notes and textbooks.
4. Teaching and learning are concentrated on “plug and play” method rather than practical aspects.
5. There is insufficient interaction with students in classroom.
6. More emphasis has been given on theory without any practical and real life time situations.
7. Learning from memorization but not understanding.

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Basically teaching must include two major components sending and receiving information. Ultimately, a teacher tries his best to impart knowledge as the way he understood it. 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 galvanize the effort to achieve the human development goal for the country. Thus, innovation is ‘something new’, ‘a new method or device’ which can become a useful tool in the process of teaching and learning.

### **Innovative Teaching Methods**

#### **1. Use of Educational Videos and Improved Classroom Technology**

Well quoted by- Confucius

**“I hear and I forget. I see and I believe. I do and I understand.”**

In language teaching and learning, we have a lot to choose from the world of technology. Technology plays a vital role in English in this new era of education. The development of technology has offered new opportunities to explore new teaching models. Technology may be used for better impact as it satisfies both visual and auditory senses of the students. 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. Use of relevant educational videos keep students more alert, motivated and focused on the specific topic in hand. This definitely creates excitement in the classroom and lessons or topics imparted through this can keep them engaged and updated. Multimedia helps students understand things better and gives a better meaning to education.

During my research I have observed that teaching through multimedia helps children to understand the concepts in a better way. When I was teaching transitive and intransitive verbs the animated videos made the concept very clear to the children. Earlier I found it was little difficult for them to understand what is direct and indirect objects but through the animation the things were sorted out and the concept was really understood to the children. This I have found in many of the cases while teaching grammar. If we are to help them understand the correct use of grammar then it will surely be easy for them to communicate well, as well as it will develop confidence in writing in a correct way.

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.

There can be some other methods too that can very well be applied by the modern teachers. As basically the core objective of teaching should never be deviated by the use of an innovative method.

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**“Technology can become the ‘WINGS’ that will allow the educational world to fly farther and faster than ever before if we will allow it.”**

## **2. Interactive Learning**

The greater the student interaction is encouraged, the faster the boundaries of authority will be broken. Interactive learning is a hands-on approach to help students become more engaged and retain more material. It reinvigorates the classroom for both students and faculty. Interactive learning helps students strengthen problem solving and critical thinking skills using a much more holistic approach to learning. Interactive learning can take place across curriculum with or without technology. L.S. Vygotsky, one of the influential scholars in the field of educational psychology has discussed the significance of personal interaction in learning. Your goal as a teacher will be to foster a classroom climate in which students feel free to contribute and debate ideas.

Interactive learning includes various strategies like brain storming, think pair share which invokes the discussion between students and help them to put forth their ideas to others. These techniques have multiple benefits: the instructor can easily and quickly assess if students have really mastered the material, and the process of measuring student understanding in many cases. Students are revived from their passivity of merely listening to a lecture and instead become attentive and engaged, two prerequisites for effective learning.

## **3. Spaced Learning Works**

It turns out that forgetting is an essential part of learning because it helps brain sort important from trivial information; in this age of information overload, a filtering process is essential. ‘Learning’ is measured by the learners’ ability to recall information on a test or other assessment given in the same context generally given in a short time frame, such as a semester. Spaced learning is ideally suited to teaching factual material or processes where you can check understanding by using projects or solving problems. It is intended to use in situations where learners need to acquire a large amount of information quickly. Spaced learning can reshape the forgetting curve and help learners control which information is retained and which is discarded.

In an article published in Change, “Applying the Science of Learning to the University and Beyond,” Diane Halpern and Milton Hakel state that “the single most important variable in promoting long-term retention and transfer is ‘practice at retrieval.’ Simply stated, information that is frequently retrieved becomes more retrievable.

## **Conclusion**

The aim of this paper is to motivate passive learners in the classroom to make teaching learning process interesting and active. Some students are afraid to open up in the classroom even if the teacher asks simple questions. Before beginning to teach it is essential to develop positive attitude about the learning process by adopting innovative learning strategies. It is the performance of students that decides the success of teaching- learning process. Therefore teachers are always in search of different teaching methods and techniques to improve the performance of their students. It is said that “Learning never ends, To teach is to learn twice, anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays

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young.” Teachers are the greatest innovators who guides without dictating and participates without dominating.

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