



Teaching Aids- An Effective Tool to Quality Education

S.Harshini, Lecturer Dept of English (P.G), Sir C.R.Reddy College, Eluru
V.Venkata Rao, 1ST M.A English, Sir C.R.Reddy College, Eluru

Abstract:

Technology plays an important role in today's educational system. Teaching aids are large enough to be seen by the students for whom they are used. Teaching aids are meaningful and they always stand to serve a useful purpose. Teaching aids are up to the mark and up to date in every respect. Teaching aids are simple, cheap and may be improvised. Teaching aids are accurate and realistic. Teaching aids are according to the mental level of the learners. The ability to listen can be developed best through the use of audio-visual materials. It is also the responsibility of the school, to provide training for our pupils to be good listeners. Training in the art of listening is one of the aims of audio-visual education.

Key words: educational system, teaching aids, Technology

Introduction

Modern age brings developments which are very useful for people helping them with their jobs and everyday activities. The use of modern teaching aids is one of those changes that came with the modern age. Technology plays an important role in today's educational system. In comparison to old times, when technology was not as well presented as it is today, it was difficult to conduct a lesson. In old days, children were taught by a teacher on a blackboard with a white chalk in his hand. There were no computers, so children had to write everything on their own. There was not free literature available online so, if they wanted to do a research about something, they would have gone to their teacher's home and took notes. Also, there was no electricity in villages so students would learn in front of lamps. Since there was not any modern device to do job for them, student used more mind capacity than current students do. Nowadays,

classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards, response system, projectors and computers etc.

Teaching aids can be described as constructed objects which represent reality. As we all know that today's age is the age of science and technology. The teaching learning programmes have also been affected by it. The process of teaching - learning depends upon the different type of equipment available in the classroom. To make learning very effective it is not only necessary to utilize the factors and techniques that facilitate learning, the teacher are to create certain conditions in the classroom that may improve learning. These conditions are providing teaching aids, creating rivalry and co-operation, giving the knowledge of progress and success, praising or reprimanding and guiding learning. There are many aids available these days. Teaching aids can act as effective motivating agent as motivation is a central factor in any scheme of teaching and learning. The aids in



teaching have a great power and appeal for seeking effective motivation of the students by making them interested and capturing their attention towards the topic. Hence this paper has discussed the importance teaching aids in the field of education. We may classify these aids as follows-

1) Visual Aids

The aids which use sense of vision are called Visual aids. For example :-

actual objects, models, pictures, charts, maps, flash cards, flannel board,

bulletin board, chalkboard, overhead projector, slides etc. Out of these black

board and chalk are the commonest ones.

2) Audio Aids

The aids that involve the sense of hearing are called Audio aids. For example :- radio, tape recorder, gramophone etc.

3) Audio - Visual Aids

The aids which involve the sense of vision as well as hearing are called

Audio- Visual aids. For example: - television, film projector, film strips etc.

Visual Aids

Animation: Movement may be given to different types of visual aids. The materials necessary to do so fall in this section, but since they are usually improvised they cannot be specifically defined. Examples are given later in this report.

Blackboard: Black, green or other colored slate or composition board, or a specially painted surface which will "take" erasable white or colored chalk.

Bulletin Board Flat board of cork, composition or other wood or material to which visual aids may be attached with pins, tacks or staples.

Flash Cards: A series of stiff cards, usually small enough to be held in the hands, each of which is imprinted with one or more key words.

Flip Charts: A series of visual aids on flexible paper, fastened together at the top and mounted on a frame in such a manner that they can be flipped or folded back. The frame usually resembles a football goal post, with the charts fastened to the crosspiece.

Pegboard. Composition or plywood board, or other similar material, which has holes drilled through it at regular intervals, usually 3/4". Different types of metal clips, fitting the holes, will hold visual aids such as small posters, books and models.

Audio aids

The types of sound reproduction equipment are fewer in number than those for visual projection. They are:

Phonograph: Equipment which will reproduce sounds recorded or transcribed in grooves in the surface of a hard, round, flat record.

Sound Motion Picture Projector. A film projector which also has equipment for reproducing sounds recorded along the edge of the film itself.

Tape Recorder. Equipment which will reproduce sounds recorded on a rolled tape. Most tape recorders can be used to place the sound on the tape, as well as reproduce it.

Audio-Visual aids



All visual projection equipment, with the exception of mirrors, the earliest "magic lanterns" and viewing screens, requires electricity to power its lighting elements. There are five basic types of modern equipment.

Filmstrip Projector. Equipment which will advance and project a 35 mm. film-strip, one frame at a time.

Motion Picture Projector. Equipment which will project a series of pictures on a strip of film in such rapid succession as to give the appearance of movement to objects.

Opaque Projector. Equipment which will project the image of any opaque material, either flat or three-dimensional, placed beneath its lens.

Overhead Projector. Equipment which will project the image contained on transparent slides up to 10" X 10". Each transparency must be positioned on the projector by hand. The word "overhead" is taken from the design of the equipment, which actually projects the image to a mirror held above the transparency, which in turn reflects it over the head of the speaker to the viewing surface.

Slide Projector. Equipment which will project the image contained on a small transparent slide, usually 35 mm. (2" x 2" when framed). Many of these projectors are equipped with magazines to hold a large number of slides, and operation can be either manual or automatic.

The use of audio-visual in teaching:

1. To challenge the attention of the pupils:

The teacher who uses devices can usually maintain the full attention of

the class. This is generally true in the lower grades. Devices should never be used by the teacher as mere attractions. Exposure to visual or audio-visual material and nothing more is not educative.

2. To stimulate the imagination and develop the mental imagery of the pupils:

Devices stimulate the imagination, of the pupils. Mental imagery can be used as a vehicle of thought and as a means of clarifying ideas.

3. To facilitate the understanding of the pupils:

The most widely accepted use of devices, whether visual or audio-visual, is its use in aiding understanding. Learning can be sped up by using models, movies, filmstrips, and pictorial material to supplement textbooks.

4. To provide incentive for action:

The use of devices, such as pictures and objects, arouses emotion and incites the individual to action. The teacher must select the right kind of & vice to excite the pupils to worthwhile intellectual activity.

5. To develop the ability to listen:

The ability to listen can be developed best through the use of audio-visual materials. It is also the responsibility of the school, to provide training for our pupils to be good listeners. Training in the art of listening is one of the aims of audio-visual education.

Characteristics of Good Teaching Aids

A few characteristics of good teaching aids are as follows:-



- 1) Teaching aids are large enough to be seen by the students for whom they are used.
- 2) Teaching aids are meaningful and they always stand to serve a useful purpose.
- 3) Teaching aids are up to the mark and up to date in every respect.
- 4) Teaching aids are simple, cheap and may be improvised.
- 5) Teaching aids are accurate and realistic.
- 6) Teaching aids are according to the mental level of the learners.
- 7) Their purpose may be informative but it is not just entertainment.
- 8) Teaching aids helps in realization of stipulated learning objects.
- 9) Teaching aids are really very useful and can be used in many lessons and at different class levels.
- 10) Teaching aids are useful for supplementing the teaching process but they cannot replace the teacher.
- 8) Teaching aids are helpful in creating positive environment for discipline.
- 9) Teaching aids are helpful in meeting individual differences.
- 10) Teaching aids helps in providing speech training to the pupils.
- 11) Teaching aids enable the children to retain language items for a longer time.
- 12) Teaching aids gives vividness to the learning situation.
- 13) Teaching aids makes the abstract ideas concrete and thus help in making learning more effective.
- 14) Teaching aids provide good substitutes for the real objects as they make learning equally meaningful.
- 15) Teaching aids help in the development of various skills such as, how to draw a diagram of the topic among the students.

Advantages of Teaching Aids

- 1) Supplement in verbal instructions.
- 2) Teaching aids makes learning permanent.
- 3) Teaching aids provide variety.
- 4) Teaching aids are helpful in attracting attention of the students.
- 5) Teaching aids saves time and energy.
- 6) Teaching aids encourages the healthy classroom interaction.
- 7) Teaching aids helps the teacher to create situations for teaching the beginners.

Conclusion:

Students can become bored sitting in a classroom for hours. Teaching aids can provide a welcome break for students who have been sitting for a while and listening to an instructor lecture in front of the room. Educators can use various teaching aids besides textbooks to pique students' interest and demonstrate how things work. This teaching, with the use of those modern aids, is much interesting for students. Many subject topics can be better explained and taught in this way. That's one of the reasons why modern teaching aids are necessary in today's teaching.

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