

**CREATIVE TEACHING AND INTERACTIVE LEARNING METHODS IN ELT
BY BLENDED LEARNING**

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ABSTRACT

This paper focuses on visual aids and interactive classroom learning methods to empower the joy of learning in the young minds. This paper highlights on innovation in teaching to the present learners and activity based learning methods by blended learning using web tools.

Engaging the learner with passion and inspiration to be the life- long learner. To Teach, To Reach is the motto of the teaching process which helps to transform the learner. Interactive tools helps to make online classes more engaging and more interactive. It is also more engaging than traditional tools than traditional methods. It gives us queen land's learning experience. Happy learning with joyful heart with Passion and compassion. A Shift of teaching styles to draw the attention of the learner.

KEYWORDS: Harmonious learning, learner centered teaching, teach to reach, web tools, traditional method

INTRODUCTION:

Let me start with the quote "I do, I understand". It is not mere stuffing knowledge into one's mind. Education empowers one's mind. According to Albert Schweitzer, Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful. It is harmonious development. Education is the birth right of every human being. We want that education by which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded, and by which one can stand on one's own feet. This has been clearly stated some 1500 years ago by Tamil Sage Thiruvalluvar in his Thirukkural in two couplets that one should learn thoroughly without faults and remain firmly according to the learning and The learned are said to have eyes, but the unlearned have (merely) two sores in their face.

English Couplet 391:

So learn that you may full and faultless learning gain,

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(Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli)

Then in obedience meet to lessons learnt remain.

Education must lead to invention, discovery and creativity of learning be transform an individual's life through empowering knowledge with positive attitude. Active learning inspires learners through the navigation of learning process. Active participation in learning help the learner not only to have fun but also learn with concentration and enthusiasm. In this article we would like to enumerate the need for innovative teaching practices and active learning methods in education by blended learning.

The purpose of conducting this study was to investigate contemporary pedagogical techniques used for teaching and learning and to introduce the concept of best Practices for effective teaching and learning. It is to develop critical thinking, effective communication, enhance creative ideas. Where there is willingness to change, there is hope for progress in any field. Innovation benefits both students and teachers in the learning progress.

HOW TO MOTIVATE, INVOLVE AND INSPIRE THE LEARNER?

A child comes to school with an intention of learning something beyond they learnt from their parents and environment in class room setting. Motivation is the key factor which encourages the learner to participate actively in the real class room. The learner travels from known to unknown with the help of the key words, Tree chart, flow chart, word web, Mind map. Learner acquires Creativity, Analysing and synthesizing information, problem solving, decision making. It also helps the thinking skill of the learner in a broader way. The full potential of the students can be reached only when there is innovative teaching which can transfer the creative ideas through means of better communication. However, the influence of innovative teaching performance is much dependent on the competence of the teacher.

As it is a known factor that children modulates themselves as teachers when they go home after class room learning only if the teachers are innovative in teaching. Nevertheless the biggest challenge a teacher faces is grabbing the attention of students in putting across his ideas in a way which can have a long lasting effect. For this to happen classroom experience should be redefined and innovative ideas that makes teaching methods more effective should be implemented. So innovative ideas that will help teachers reinvent their teaching methods and make their classes interesting.

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(Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli)

Innovative practice in learning is the only way to enhance the teaching techniques to handle the active classroom skilfully. Students must be empowered to be able to withstand the global challenges of the 21st century.

CREATIVE TEACHING:

Creative Teaching is an approach where limitations become possibilities; it is a means of empowerment. It is an interaction of many intellectual concepts such as: imagination, analytical inquiries, sound reasoning, participation and reflection, field study, object study, modelling etc., by which students prepare themselves for an emerging world. The following thumb rules may be useful for creative teaching.

1. Creative tools are used to stimulate creativity
2. Playful games or visual exercise will capture the young minds
3. Identify the young student's creative ability and encourage creative contribution.
4. Bring aspects of creativity in all your subjects
5. Think of ways to develop their creative ideas
6. Encourage different ideas, give them freedom to explore.
7. Unique ideas

We believe this creative way of teaching adopted by the 21st Century Teachers would benefit the citizen of 22nd Century in a much better way as the world belong to Technology Enabled Learning. According to renowned educator Yong Zhao calls the student in this era as world class learners in his latest book. Zhao believes there needs to be a paradigm shift in education that builds on students strengths and gives them a format where their talents flourish and takes shape instead of education shaping them.

Education sprouts in many forms in life, depend on value and experience of an individual. Students learn what they like to learn and reach success with constant practice and confidence. Blended learning makes difference in learning process.

3 (Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli)

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Blending traditional education with Modern communication, many educators believe to engage students in learning all the basic skills they need.

INTERACTIVE TOOLS

Tutors teach concepts using videos to review lessons in the classroom. Use of technologies as the key to students to improve their learning process.

SCHOOL BEYOND

Students need tools to learn in a broader way of understanding the topics. Web tools help them to be independent and unique in the learning process. Its is interactive and colourful tools which is the smarter way of learning.

REAL LIFE SITUATION LEARNING.

As stated earlier one should learn thoroughly without faults and remain firmly according to the learning. The learning that has happened in the school be reflected upon by the students in dealing with the real-life situation. They students must learn how to integrate the class room learning with the real world by demonstrating the learning skills through clear understanding and become a lifelong learner.

According to John Taylor Gatto, Teacher should choose real world class room. Students learn to survive in the real world. Educators give tools to the students to live and breathe in the world around them.

BRAINSTROMING: Brainstorming is a way to generate ideas within a group setting. It is usually used in the beginning stages of a project, where the possibilities for the project are not clearly understood or defined. It provides a quick means for tapping the creativity of a limited number of people for a large number of ideas. It is great way to squeeze of creative ideas through flowing juices.

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Ideas much more than expected be realized when multiple brains focussing on a particular theme. In all possible manner it will lay a great platform for students to opine their thoughts and critical logics. There are multiple ways of conducting brain storm session in the class, we would like to give importance to the following as we feel it has a tremendous effect on the learning of the children. They are 1. Simple brain-storming 2. Grouped brain-storming and 3.Paired brain-storming.

CLASSES OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM.

Providing students with high quality learning activities in relevant situations beyond the walls of the classroom is vital for helping students appreciate their first hand experiences from a variety of different perspectives. Experiences outside the classroom also enhances learning by providing students with opportunities to practice skills of enquiry, values analysis and clarification and problem solving in everyday situations. The resultant outcome of this method of learning would be as follows: 1. Some lesson are best learnt, where they are taught outside of the classroom. 2. Organic field trips that is relevant to the lesson. 3. Just simply take students for a walk outside of the classroom AND 4. The children will find this fresh and exciting and will learn and remember the things taught.

ROLE PLAY:

When children do role plays, they naturally become someone or something else. Role play stimulates their imagination and “enhance(s) their social development, encourage(s) friendship through cooperation, listening and turn taking”. Therefore, **role play** is a really vital activity for our children. From our experience, we feel that the method of role play learning can have a long lasting effect on the children with the following benefits.

Teaching through role play is a great way to make children step out of their comfort zone and develop their interpersonal skills.

This method comes in handy, especially when you are teaching literature, history or current events.

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The role playing approach will help the student understand how the academic material will be relevant to his everyday tasks

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING:

Collaborative learning is an umbrella term for a variety of **approaches in education** that involve joint intellectual effort by students or students and **teachers**. ... **Collaborative** learning activities can include **collaborative** writing, group projects, and other activities.

As everyone knows, the end result of collaborative efforts is always immense.

Think about spending some quality time with your colleagues.

Ask them to share their views on improving teaching methods; you can see many of them come up with interesting strategies.

Collaborate and introduce innovative teaching methods.

Google classroom

It is an online breathing space with the huge range of digital tools where the facilitator can create teaching material for their learners. It is free for the Google account holder. The teacher can also share a link to a journal article, websites and YouTube videos directly for the learners' convenience. It is a virtual classroom and the learners can access the information from wherever they are.

Interactive Whiteboard

It is a fantastic facility which facilitates the learners to take part in the classroom physically by moving the objects, tapping and dragging the options and also helps the learners to remember the learnt knowledge. The support of audio and video materials in the classroom is mandatory and the interactive whiteboard paves a way for it. The teacher can share a YouTube video for the benefit of the learners. 3D animations can also be customised and used in the classroom.

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LECTURING METHOD

Lecturing is a communication between two or more persons who influence each other by their ideas and learn something in the process of their interaction with one another. Lecturing is thus a complex, exciting, challenging and interactive skill whose main aim is to create a learning situation in which knowledge is imparted and in which understanding and skills are developed. Students are motivated to explore the discipline they have selected. Unfortunately many students fail to complete their studies at university but may still benefit from skills that are developed

PROBLEM-BASED LEARNING

Problem-Based Learning (PBL) for students is a critical thinking approach to learn that is extremely useful in promoting critical and analytical thinking, and in addressing the rapid technological changes and dynamic workplace of the 21st Century. This approach to education suggests a strong role for factors such as authenticity, as well as student independence, and is principally associated with the encouragement of deep learning (Sutherland, 2009). In this approach, a range of selected constructive and real life problems are designed by the lecturer to address the desired learning outcomes.

The problem-solving approach described students seek out solutions to problems and are able to develop a sense of ownership for their work. This also promotes self-esteem as students acquire important discipline knowledge by their own initiatives and the students take ownership of their education. The following are the probable outcomes of PBL. Describe the impact of teaching and learning process

Discover different types classroom management plans, the strength and weakness of them and identify which plans are being used in the school and what is the discipline plan.

Describe the character of creative and effective teaching practices and make the recommendations for future successful teaching

Demonstrate the implementation of innovation in teaching and learning, active learning student engagement, learning outcome, student success, student retention

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- Information infusion technique is used to give the essence in the capsule for the students. Information infusion is the method by which a child will learn by rote (by heart) without getting the understanding of ‘why’ and ‘how’ of the concept.

- **Activate** the spirit of compassion in the mind of students with the **password** action (passion)!!!!
- Heart to heart learning lacks on Information infusion whereas child longs for affection, Teachers enters with the motive of completing the lessons, So zero learning takes place.

Here we can see the conflict emerges between student and the teacher.

TEACHER ----- STUDENT

INFORMATION

INFUSION ----- CHILD LONGING for AFFECTION

Syllabus completion (infusing lesson) ----- Zero learning(conflict)

RESULT : CONFLICT KILLS PASSION

PASSION – ABILITY TO CONNECT PEOPLE IN ONE BORDER

- **PROCESS OF LEARNING – MIND OF HARMONY**
- **HALLMARK OF EDUCATION- Passion**
- The Child has an inherent passion to learn from birth and the teachers responsibility is to create compassion in learning with the help of making syllabus relevant to the child.
- Teacher should engage the child such that the child listens. Learning happens through the senses. They are the channels of learning.
- The fuel for Teaching and learning is like a two sides of the same coin, comes from the human heart
- Effective education is one in which the student learns about the value of self development, to value oneself, should be considered by the teachers who handle the students.

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- Making sense by being relevant with regard to the syllabus is the hallmark of a teaching process that is directed towards man making education

STRENGTH OF US-EDUCATION IS THE SPINE OF INDIANS

How to create lively classroom learning?

- **MOTIVATION**
- **ACTIVATE THE COMPASSION IN THE HEART OF THE STUDENT**
- **SENSE –BASED TEACHING (5 SENSES) RATHER THAN SKILL – BASED**
- **INFORMATION INFUSION**
- **DIALOGUE**
- **POSITIVE APPROACH**
- **RELEVANT TEACHING**
- **VOICE-MODULATION + PHYSICAL ENERGY**
- Connecting learning to real life
- Digital Word cards, Picture cards, Flash cards are used
- Learning by doing methods
- Scientific Activities are introduced.

CONCLUSION:

The results of the study indicated that teachers were upskilled with some outdated techniques and activities; secondly, they also faced problems applying new techniques while teaching in a large multilevel classrooms; thirdly, teachers' had willingness to adopt and employ innovative techniques in classrooms; and lastly, the best practices was uncommon among them. Most of the teaching strategies do not create better learning environment, and learners do not interestingly participate due to Interactive activities. Therefore, they suggested solution was utilizing best practices that are based on modern techniques, approaches considerable for multiple levels depending upon the needs and developmental state of the individual learners.

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