

Teaching should be such that what is offered is perceived as a valuable gift and not as a hard duty.

- Albert Einstein

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MODERN SKILLS FOR MODERN TEACHERS

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From the Editors' Desk

Modern teaching and learning make the most of new and immersive ways to explore the curriculum. It nurtures a growth mindset in students, emphasizing future-ready skills to help them thrive in jobs not yet invented. It's unafraid to use new technologies and new forms of assessment to gauge student progress. Inspiring and motivating experiences are the lifeblood of teaching and learning. They're also at the heart of systemic transformation in education. Proficient educators are the driving force in modern teaching and learning. By personalizing learning pathways, they empower every student to reach their potential. The most successful strategies for creating sustainable teaching practices are to knit together online professional development with local and global communities of practice. Modern skills are about new approaches and tools. Modern skills help educators to unlock a students' sense of purpose and inspire them to achieve more. At the same time, students develop essential 21st-century competencies. The key to a transformed learning system is understanding students' strengths and weaknesses. The implication of modern skills in the teaching-learning process helps the students vividly outside their own experience. The webinar focused on these thought-provoking thrust areas such as Digital Pedagogy in the Era of Industry 4.0, Emotional Intelligence in Teaching and Learning Process, Transforming Leadership Skills – A Challenge or A Change Required, and Communication Skills - An Essential Tool for Moulding Modern Teachers. The editorial board is glad to bring forth webinar proceedings to disseminate knowledge, values and skills to all ignited minds. We are grateful to **Gateway Software Solutions, Coimbatore**, for their collaboration. We are indebted to **Sr.Landrada Centre for Research, St.Ignatius College of Education(Autonomous), Palayamkottai**, for rendering the support to publish the proceedings of the National webinar on “Modern Skills for Modern Teachers”.

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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SKILLS FOR MODERN TEACHERS***Dr Maria Saroja M.****Principal i/c, Research Director & Associate Professor of Biological Science
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St. Ignatius College of Education (Autonomous), Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli-2***ABSTRACT**

The role of innovative technologies in providing modern knowledge to young people in the educational system cannot be overemphasized. In the course of the lesson, the uses of advanced pedagogical technologies, as well as modern methods improve the quality and effectiveness of Education; serve the training of competitive personnel. Each lesson has its own unique technology of training subject. Since the goal of the teacher and the student is to achieve a positive result, the lesson is at their disposal what kind of technology to use. Depending on the skill of the teacher, it is possible to apply computer-based work, film, distribution material, poster, information technology, various literature, carefully designed interactive methods. Innovative pedagogy is perceived as a proactive approach to integrating teaching strategies and methods into classroom learning in more creative ways. The essence is to ensure that learners take full responsibility for their learning and actively pursuing their learning objectives.

Keywords: Innovative technology, Competencies, Interactive methods

Introduction

Education is one of the most important and critical aspects of any nation but with the outspread of COVID-19 pandemic, this sector has seen a tremendous disruption and has changed our lives. Educators around the world have quickly adapted and switched teaching from physical to the virtual classroom. In the changing world the teaching process continue to witness the paradigm shift from the traditional mode of learning to a student centered approach of learning (Schleicher.2012). For the successful teaching and learning process it is important to increase students motivation, create positive climate and involve the students actively in the process of learning (Fiksl,M.,Flogie,A.,Abersek,B.2017). The shift in the teaching- learning process increases the huge expectations on educators' innovative teaching skills (Hoffmann and Koifman. 2013). Innovative pedagogy is a creative use of the right teaching methods and learning materials for students' benefit (Mandula et al.2012). The learning goals of 21st century skills can be taught within the context of scientific inquiry or project based learning, which requires "ambiguous" teaching (Windschintl.2009). The most important task of every educator is to educate a healthy generation, independent-minded, thorough master of modern science and professions, self-sacrificing his country, his people, able to continue the work started by our compatriots, in all respects the most important duty, but also duty, in the interpretation of our compatriots. The fulfilment of these duties and tasks requires every educator

to have high knowledge, great skills, to be aware of the achievements of modern science, to have a thorough knowledge of foreign languages, to have skills of computer technology, targeted use of the internet, as well as high qualifications. In this plays an important role in achieving the goal for which innovative educational technology is used in the educational process (Bunatovich,U.H., Khidayevich,D.B., & Abdurakhmonovich,O.M. 2020). Teachers' competencies affect their values, behaviors, communication, aims and practices in school and also they support professional development and curricular studies. Thus, the discussion on teachers' competencies to improve the teaching-learning process in school is of great importance (Mandal,S.2018).Education is the need of the hour as it creates a literate society and in the process of educating the society, motivation and instructions are very crucial and teachers, guides and administrators are responsible to motivate learners.

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:

- **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 (Namitha.2018).
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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

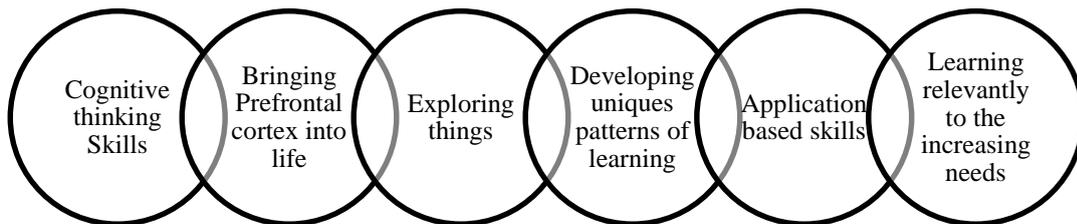
them to answer during interaction in classes but also selects students based on interest, needs, and feelings.

- **Collaborative Learning**-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. 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 (vijayalakshmi.2019).
- **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.
- **Flipped Classroom**-Flipped Classroom is a well-known term in the pedagogical method.. 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(Gaible & Burns, 2005).
- **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.
- **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 have been in use under modern teaching ways. The significance of Gamification in teaching has mostly been seen in the elementary and preschool system (Buelh, D. 2008). 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.
- **VAK teaching**-VAK is a modern teaching method whose effects can be seen clearly. We divide learner into three categories: Visual, Audio, and kinesthetic (movement). One needs to recognize to which category they belong to or the teacher must know to which category her students relate to. A teacher should keep the category of students in kind while teaching because some students catch the information by seeing, by hearing or by feeling. So, they should present the same material in different ways.
- **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. (Supovitz, J.A., & Turner, H.M. 2000)

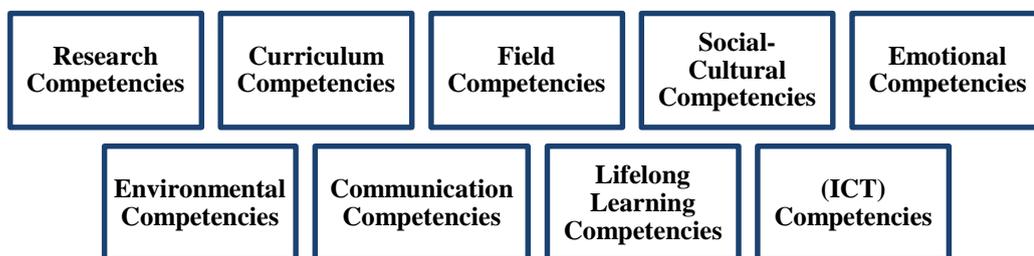
Advantages of Modern Teaching Methods

The modern teaching system doesn't entirely rely on spoon-feeding techniques, which used to be a part of the ordinary teaching system. The following figure show the advantages of modern teaching skills.



Competencies of the Modern Teacher

Teachers are responsible for operating educational system and they need strong and efficient professional competencies. The main feature of teachers' professional competencies are explained in Figure 2. (Mandal, S. 2018).



Characteristics of Competencies

Competencies also help teachers become effective teachers while monitoring the students' learning. Learning requires emotional supports that create positive feeling for learning teaching process. Teachers become a learning consultant and mentor about learning for their students (Cetin, & Bayrakcr. 2019).

Some characteristics of a competency are as follows:

1. A competency consists of one or more skills whose mastery would enable the attainment of the competency.

2. A competency is linked to all three of the domains under which performance can be assessed: knowledge, skills and attitude.
3. Possessing a performance dimension, competencies are observable and demonstrable.
4. Since competencies are observable, they are also measurable.

The competencies are variously categorized.

1. Cognitive — requiring knowledge, intellectual skills and abilities to be demonstrated.
2. Performance — requiring instructional strategies, technical and vocational skills to be used.
3. Consequence — requiring the performance of students taught by the trainee.
4. Affective — requiring attitudes and values to be demonstrated.
5. Exploratory - requiring an experience or activity in which the trainee is to participate. The fifth category, often omitted,

21st-century teaching competencies

1. Effective classroom management, maximizing efficiency, maintaining discipline and morale, promoting teamwork, planning, communicating, focusing on results, evaluating progress, and making constant adjustments. A range of strategies should be employed to promote positive relationships, cooperation, and purposeful learning. Organizing, assigning, and managing time, space and activities should ensure the active and equitable engagement of students in productive tasks (Yuvayapan, 2013).
- 2) Effective teaching practices, representing differing viewpoints, theories, “ways of knowing” and methods of inquiry in the teaching of subject matter concepts. Multiple teaching and learning strategies should help engage students in active learning opportunities that promote the development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance capabilities while helping them assume responsibility for identifying and using learning resources.
- 3) Effective assessment, incorporating formal tests; responses to quizzes; evaluation of classroom assignments, student performances and projects, and standardized achievement tests to understand what students have learned. Assessment strategies should be developed that involve learners in self-assessment activities to help them become aware of their strengths and needs and encourage them to set personal goals for learning.
- 4) Technology skills, knowing when and how to use current educational technology, as well as the most appropriate type and level of technology to maximize student learning.

Conclusion

Educational innovation has drawn increasing attention around the world, and many countries have already embarked on educational reforms that aim to change both the goals and practices of education. Expectations that such innovations can be leveraged or supported by incorporating ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) into the learning and teaching process are widespread. Such innovations are fundamentally changing students' learning experiences. So the present teachers should improve their competencies to fulfil the need of the students.

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