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Research Paper

TECHNOLOGY AS A CATALYST IN TEACHING AND LEARNING

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ABSTRACT **Technology in the recent years has become a wonderful aid for teaching and learning process. Due to pandemic we are totally encompassed by technology. This has become ompassed by technology. This has become the need of an hour. Information and communication technology is easily accessible at any time in just second's .The scientific pursuit and logic has conveniently branched out English for communication as functional English or communication English.** ***Globalization and the growth of commerce due to business simplified language for communication skills. English language has been designed based on the purpose of the language requirements like, functional language for regular communication it is termed as soft skills for the business industry. Writing skills like content writing for technical purpose, creative writing. This provides insight into the objective and curriculum for teaching based on the specifications required for the stake holders. Logic and technology further simplified learning of the language. English language teaching is diversified due to the range of technological tools even the class rooms are modified as smart class rooms and language labs have become a common phenomenon. Multimedia, artificial intelligence and virtual labs have created an artificial environment, which could reach the learner almost immediately within a few minutes of time. Eye catching visuals, interesting anecdotes grab the attention of the learner. Short courses with specific requirements online academic courses from the reputed universities with a flexibility of time in learning are the advanced features which cater to the needs of the people made it instantly popular.***

KEYWORDS :Digitalization of education, short courses and changing jobs,

INTRODUCTION

Integration of information and technology with education is the norm of present day learning and teaching. Students need to compulsorily take up one or two courses from massive online open courses (MOOCS), without which their graduation remains incomplete. Online courses offer specialization in one specified skill which could benefit the learner to be financially independent. Smart phones have promoted the digitalization since education on some websites is free that is students gain knowledge and the skill required for the job just at the cost of instrument. Internet not only utilized for education even learning any small skill to big one you tube has many videos to learn as well as teach. Past one year we are all on virtual platform due to the pandemic. The new learning mechanism (LMS) Learning management system has totally turned us to online platform. Teachers have to shift to total online due to pandemic and this has brought everyone to virtual class room. This is like education has been suddenly changed the platform. The current situation has forced us to have improved virtual classroom .Total teaching now turned towards digitalization.

Digitalization

Digitalization could be defined as the process of conversion of information into digital language.

The information is converted into videos, audio or text or animation forms. Education through information and technology could reach many students who are at remote places also. Due to internet connectivity, teachers and students from any corner have an access to each other. Information and communication technology in education has provided a plethora of information for almost who needed it. Online courses were offered almost free by companies and Universities on non profit basis as an experiment. Most of it offered freely, without any cost for the students all around the world.

Online education has given birth to new business models for the universities whereas flipped classrooms ,virtual reality sessions , labs, digital simulations and models , electronic documents, E-books , digital libraries, wide open sessions gave an amazing experience to education. Multimedia, animation and three dimensional models helped the students learn the subjects with better clarity. Virtual Language labs, audio files helped the students learn the language better especially English language learning has become easier. Language learners have an advantage of learning language with the virtual labs by recording and repeated learning. Introvert and shy learners could learn better due to individualized learning. Other benefits include low marginal cost coupled with flexibility driven platform adaptability and personalization irrespective of online or traditional classroom learners.

Artificial intelligence, animation and multimedia have a lot more to offer students and captivate their attention. By offering a visual representation of the topics, learner could grasp the concept and understand it better.

The toughest of the topics could easily be explained easily with these tools. Universities too began (MOOCS) Massive online open courses to specialize the specific topic which they would like to master.

Short courses and changing jobs

Booming of commerce and business industry, continuous changing technology has branched out the English language into communicational language, content writing, creative- writing based on the business industry needs. Changing technology demands continuous learning to have the updated knowledge. T o overcome these problems and to develop specialized skills short term courses have been developed.

Automation is rapidly replacing workers in factory, even in the countries like Vietnam, china and India where the wages are low. Most of the jobs involving cognitive and physical skills are replaced by skilled labor. Technologies like Machine learning and artificial intelligence are eliminating high skilled jobs even too.

Industries now prefer freelancers for work to be cost effective. Most of these jobs do not need higher education but could be managed with the short term courses. Changing job opportunities are pulling students towards online learning. This type of education created learners who are effective and able to communicate across cross cultures, time and geographies with the relevant soft skills have become the demand of business.

This pressing need for soft skills challenged English learners constituted for more jobs with greater financial benefits. The market for this short term courses for the language learning also grew.

Communication language

Communication in English language wants more employees, at a quicker pace this made language a simplified one to learn for speaking better, in other words functional language or communication language. Many online universities and websites have come up with short courses with loads of audio lessons, videos, virtual labs and language labs set up in colleges for learning with a good understanding.

Language learning has considerably improved due to these recording as they could be played multiple times at flexible timings. Socio linguistic element has really shown a remarkable progress due to interaction with native speakers virtually. This could be possible online and it does not cost much. To achieve this physically is difficult and internet made it possible .In a way learning online has accelerated education.

The learner has a wide range of choice in choosing learning material. We can define technology for the context of this study as accomplishing a learning task or instructional goal using technical processes, methods, or knowledge. Vocal practice could also be tested and tried using digital voice recording their speech. The use of technologies in the class room is proved to be effective. The language lab is the result of this fusion of technology with traditional language methods. Training for the pronunciation could be provided with the aid of audio files, movies and exposure to music.

Technology facilitated an improved learning performance on language learners in terms of output, interaction, feedback, affect, motivation.

Class room teaching has limits and does not support learning phonetic morphology, which takes care at the parts of speech, intonation and stress, and the ways context can change a word's pronunciation and meaning. The study material is bounded and curriculum based. Online study makes it possible to find exclusive study material almost instantly. Direct interface with native speakers could be made possible. Virtual platform visuals provide better scope to learn. Researches also established the fact that socio linguistic methods have proved to be better in second language acquisition. This is the gap in teaching conventionally and online teaching. Machines exactly transfer the knowledge without any deviations but human transference of knowledge may vary from person to person.

Gaps between teacher and learner.

Technology has changed the course of education. Teacher collaborates with the student in responsibility and self development. Teacher provides material environment and guidance to the student. Teacher interacts with the students but students need to be responsible for them .

The learner is quick at grasping the digital world because of the familiarity and the learner is already having exposure and awareness to the computers but the teachers lag behind as they have to learn newly and their exposure is comparatively less.With a high increase in the student population in recent times, pedagogy is being compromised. Because of that, online resources are being developed in a way that makes them always available to teachers to educate the masses which in turn, improves the quality of education and increases the number of literate students.

With digital systems being prevalent in education we are experiencing different levels of ease in online education, but the administrative part is not off the table. Keeping the records of students and maintaining their attendance and roll number is a big headache, that too when the students are outnumbering the administrative heads. So colleges and schools are adopting more hassle-free computerized methods and avoiding the old manual methods of maintaining the records. We have managed to solve the problems with Google sheets for attendance. We need to find appropriate means for testing with essay questions though there are certain alternatives but as of now not so popular yet. I think if we strike at exact methods of overcoming these problems online studies would be an excellent opportunity Digitization has changed our education system, but we cannot say that it has diminished the value of our traditional classroom learning. Digitization of education in the 21st century is a combination of the aspects of both; traditional learning and online learning methods. Amalgamation of both act as a support system to each other, which gives a stronghold to our modern students. Digitization in education has proved to be the right method for saving resources.

Online examination platforms have restricted the frivolous usage of paper, directly confining the cutting down of trees. This way the digitization of education industry in the 21st century proves to be a boon to our society.

CONCLUSION

Information and technology has revolutionized education and the recent education has changed the phase of education converting traditional classrooms to flipped classrooms. Education now totally digitalized. We could see the travel problems are solved, time is sav ed, but it requires students to be more self reliant, self motivated. Drifting from the class and deviating from the main stream are some of the reasons which need to be addressed. Online studies demand more self discipline and maturity. Students with sense of responsibility are able to perform better. These initial difficulties may be wiped after few years as the learner realize the time management and adapt themselves to the changing circumstances. Individual financial growth and freelancing jobs are far more lucrative. Short term courses and minimum fee and quick employment opportunities might soon turn the higher education towards digitalization.

Plan

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Short courses and changing jobs

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