

THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION

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Abstract

Without a doubt, technology has altered our way of life. It has changed many aspects of life and given a new meaning to live. Without a doubt, technology is vital to all aspects of existence. Technology has made it possible to automate many manual jobs. Additionally, a lot of difficult and important tasks can be completed more quickly and easily with the aid of contemporary technology. Living has changed, and for the better, because of the application of technology. Education has undergone a transformation thanks to technology. One cannot downplay the significance of technology in the classroom. In actuality, the introduction of computers into the classroom has made it simpler for both teachers and students to learn new material. Technology utilization has simplified the teaching and learning process.

Keywords: Education, modern technology, teaching

INTRODUCTION

Many people consider the twenty-first century to be the age of technology. These days, technology is a big part of our lives. It is regarded as the cornerstone of economic expansion. In the current environment, an economy lacking in technology can never expand. This is a result of how much easier and faster technology has made our work. Every potential subject is affected by technology, and education is one of them. Modern technology in education according to the latest insights as to how exactly modern students of today prefer to use technology and how does their learning get an impact if they use technology, it was revealed that the use of modern equipment technology and tools, the learning and interactivity of students increases.¹ They also find it much more interactive, as well as full of interesting areas, when aided by technology. The transfer of knowledge becomes very easy and convenient, as well as effective. What this means is, that our minds now tend to work faster when assisted with the use of modern technology, be it any part of life, here we talk

¹ Beringer, V. (2009, October 20) For kids, pen's mightier than keyboard. futurity.org. Retrieved February 25th 2013 from <http://www.futurity.org/society-culture/for-kids-pens-mightier-than-keyboard/#more-4909>.

about education.² The reliance and dependence of such an innovation, that simply makes life an easy, smooth journey is completely unavoidable these days even in schools, universities and colleges. Students today can make use of technology in the following ways:

Internet connection and round the clock connectivity

Within the last ten years, the internet has become ten times more significant. Its significance in the field of education can never again be understated. For students, having access to the internet is a blessing despite the possibility of fraud and negative aspects. Nowadays, practically everything we use has access to the internet. The internet is essentially present on everything, including our phones, game consoles, and televisions. Students can discover a great deal of convenience while using the internet. They can access tutorials, support materials, and other types of help that can help them study more and get better grades.

Using projectors and visuals

A visual image is usually more appealing than a written word. Another excellent application of technology is in the teaching process, where projectors and visual aids are used. Prominent academic institutions around today depend on the utilization of captivating Power Point presentations and projections to maintain an engaging and dynamic learning environment. Utilizing technology in educational institutions, such projectors, may boost motivation and increase engagement and interest levels. As opposed to only reading words, students like to view visually appealing content that stimulates their minds. With technology, the learning process also becomes rather efficient.

Digital footprint in the education sector

If we talk about digital and education, then the penetration of digital media within the education sector has now grown. This penetration has resulted in round the clock connectivity with students and different forums that are available for different kinds of assignments or help. As the power of digital increases, there are and there will be more applications that will assist students in development and learning. Online degrees with the use of technology Online degrees now have become a very common phenomenon. People wish to take up online courses for their learning and certifications. Top institutions offer amazing online programs with the use of various applications and the internet. This is a concept that will continue to rise as it gets more support and awareness. The online degree scenario around the world is more famous among students who work and look for flexible studying programs.³

Importance of technology in education

² Mobile learning and integration of mobile technologies in education *Education and Information Technologies*, 19 (4) (2014), pp. 737-746

³ Bransford, J., Brown, A., & Cocking, R. (2000). *How people learn: Brain, mind, experience, and school*. Washington, DC: National Academic Press.

The role of technology in the field of education is four-fold: it is included as a part of the curriculum, as an instructional delivery system, as a means of aiding instructions and also as a tool to enhance the entire learning process. Thanks to technology; education has gone from passive and reactive to interactive and aggressive. Education is essential in corporate and academic settings. In the former, education or training is used to help workers do things differently than they did before. In the latter; education is geared towards creating curiosity in the minds of students. In either case, the use of technology can help students understand and retain concepts better.⁴

Impact of ICT on education

In educational context, ICT has the potential to increase access to education and improve its relevance and quality. Tinio (2002) asserted that ICT has a tremendous impact on education in terms of acquisition and absorption of knowledge to both teachers and students through the promotion of:

- *Active learning*: ICT technologies facilitate the computation and analysis of data collected for exams, and student performance reports are digitized and readily accessible for research. Unlike rote or memorization-based learning, ICT encourages student participation by letting them work on real-world problems and select what they want to study at their own speed.

- *Collaborative and Cooperative learning*: ICT encourages interaction and cooperation among students, teachers regardless of distance which is between them. It also provides students the chance to work with people from different cultures and working together in groups, hence help students to enhance their communicative skills as well as their global awareness. Researchers have found that typically the use of ICT leads to more cooperation among learners within and beyond school and there exists a more interactive relationship between students and teachers (Grégoire et al., 1996). "Collaboration is a philosophy of interaction and personal lifestyle where individuals are responsible for their actions, including learning and respect the abilities and contributions of their peers."⁵

- *Creative Learning*: ICT promotes the manipulation of existing information and to create one's own knowledge to produce a tangible product or a given instructional purpose.

⁴ Brill, J. M., & Galloway, C. (2007). Perils and promises: University instructors' integration of technology in classroom-based practices. *British Journal of Educational Technology*. 38(1), 95-105.

⁵ Leising, J. (2013 January 30) The new script for teaching handwriting is no script at all. *wsj.com* Retrieved February 25th 2013 from <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887323644904578272151551627948.html?KEYWORDS=handwriting>

- *Integrative learning*: ICT promotes an integrative approach to teaching and learning, by eliminating the synthetic separation between theory and practice unlike in the traditional classroom where emphasis encloses just a particular aspect.

- *Evaluative learning*: Use of ICT for learning is student-centered and provides useful feedback through various interactive features. ICT allow students to discover and learn through new ways of teaching and learning which are sustained by constructivist theories of learning rather than students do memorization and rote learning.⁶

Advantages

- It makes students more excited to learn.
- Help students with busy schedules, freedom to work at home on their own time.
- Train students to learn new technology skills they can use later in the work place.
- Decrease paper and photocopying costs, promoting concept of “green revolution”.

Disadvantages

Numerous professionals and knowledgeable individuals claim that the use of technology in the classroom impairs kids' creativity and thinking skills.

- From the perspective of the instructor, it might occasionally take a lot of time.
- Installing this kind of equipment is expensive.
- When used excessively, there may also be health risks.

Some pupils are unable to purchase the latest computer technology.

CONCLUSION

While there are benefits to technology for education, there are also possible drawbacks. This should be seen positively by educators and students, and the obstacles that are preventing many kids and schools from reaching their full potential should be removed. Therefore, it is imperative that all nations implement a more technologically advanced education system going forward.

Modern technologies have been instrumental in complicated data analysis and management to make long-term decisions in areas such as climate change, air and water security, biodiversity protection, catastrophe resilience, etc. These technologies refer to innovation that considers natural resources while also promoting economic and social growth. These aim to dramatically decrease environmental and ecological concerns while producing a long-term product. These technologies reduce degradation, pollution, and other negative environmental effects.

Education at its heart is about human connections and relationships. While we can never replace the magic that happens between great teachers and students in an in-person environment, we should focus on the social aspects of technology to enhance

⁶ Roschelle, J., Pea, R., Hoadley, C., Gordin, D., & Means, B. (2000). Future of children, 10(2), 76-101.

connections from a distance. Much more attention must be directed on how technology will enhance teaching and learning in a blended learning environment reaching students, both in school and at home.

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