

Essentials for effective classroom teaching

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Abstract

Stating that effective classroom teaching is essential for imparting education, the author states that essentials effective classroom teaching are good planning, good personality and good communication.

In recent years, there has been an increased concern among practitioners and educational researchers about the practical side and effectiveness of teaching. The “how” of teaching is now being given as much significance as the “what” and the “why” in academic circles?

Keywords: Education, Imparting education, Academic circles, Effectiveness of teaching, Communication.

1. Introduction

To teach successfully, one must plan successfully. And, successful planning means knowing how to facilitate a positive learning experience for all students. The teacher uses his/her best professional judgment to decide which method strategy and techniques will work best for a particular situation. To a considerable degree teachers control their instructional effectiveness in the classroom. The passive teacher simply relies on the same old teaching techniques day after day. However the active teacher who varies his/her day, planning different teaching strategies and techniques tends to achieve more success in teaching. Not only does this practice of different teaching techniques provide change for the teacher, but it also serves as a motivation for students.

The way to improve what is said in classroom lectures is to read widely conduct research, exchange view with colleagues at staff seminars and professional meeting reflect, and write. The content of lectures should improve as the teacher's knowledge becomes broader and deeper. Any group of teachers could sit down list the many ways in which classroom lecturing can be improved. The list will include such arts of language as vocabulary, imagery, syntax, parallelism, and repetition; such matters of organization as preview, subordination, transition, climax, summary; such principles of delivery as voice quality rate of utterance, general physical energy and animation. As the list grows, the possibility of improving lectures would seem more and more likely.

How do we ensure effective teaching? To answer the question, the following discussion will be able to answer the question.

(A) Three Essential Things for Effective Classroom Teaching

1. Know-how

Know-how refers to the knowledge of the teacher. A teacher should have good knowledge of his subject as well as the peripheral subject. A teacher must have command over his subject and answer the question raised by the students. A good teacher welcomes questions from the floor and answer them with competence. A teacher is supposed to be a source of knowledge; so he must be a learned man.

2. Do-how

Another important thing for effective classroom teaching is Do-how. Do-how is nothing but a skill of teaching. Basically there are three methods of teaching.

- a) Transmission
- b) Inquiry
- c) Combination of the two (or Electric Method): A method is an overall procedure or process to achieve certain goals. Techniques of teaching are the day-to-day activities, which the teacher may design for a particular lesson.

The rationale for choosing one methodology over another depends upon objectives, content, learner needs, learning principles instructional resources, teacher competencies, climate in the school and expectations of the community in which the school is located.

3. Transfer-how

Communication is lifeblood of effective teaching. According Roger and Agarwal, communication is the lifeblood of an organization: if we could somehow remove communication flows from an organization we would not have an organization: Most communication takes place in one or two ways:

Oral: Involving the spoken word, which usually shows spontaneous adjustment to the receiver's responses.

Written: Involving more permanent, carefully prepared statements.

B. Components of Communication

- a) Listener
- b) Medium (channel)
- c) Communicator
- d) Feedback by the Learner

There are three components involved in any communication. If the listener (Learner) is not ready to learn, learning will not take place. When the learner is ready to learn, you have to select the medium (Channel) for communication. If the learner does not know English, the Learner knows, when we select the medium of instruction. The communicator should know the size and strength of the class. If the message does

not reach as intended, it will reach in a distorted form. When there is a distortion, it means there is a communication gap. Feedback is an instruction to check the effectiveness of the classroom teaching. If the learner gives the right answer to the question, it means the communication was good and the learner learns the thing. There is no distortion and the listener or learner receives the message correctly.

C. Ho to get Effective Communication

The following points are important for effective communication in the classroom.

1. Posture

Posture play an important role in the teaching learning process. How does a teacher stand in a classroom? Is he standing with normal posture? These are the important questions, because posture impresses the students. Students note the difference between an animated dynamic lecturer and a non-dynamic teacher. A teacher should stand in a classroom with a normal posture. There should be 9 to 10 inch distance between the legs. A teacher should not fix himself to one point. First he should move on one side, reach to the center point, stay here for a few minute, and than move to the other side; but the movement should be purposeful. While moving don't come too near to the listener. Maintain a distance of three feet.

2. Better Eye Contact

For effective classroom teaching, a teacher should maintain better eye contact. A teacher should make eye contact with the students. If a teacher sees here and there and not face the students, communication will not be effective.

3. Gesture

Gesture is an important ingredient of effective classroom teaching because action is louder than words. It is found in a study conducted by psychologists that listeners will understand 7% through lecture and 93% by gesture. Effective gesture is important for effective teaching. Gesture plays a very important role in learning. In one-hand gesture keep away the hand from belly. In two-hand gesture, start from the chest. There must be good correlation between hands, eye and voice.

4. Voice

Clear and audible voice is essential for effective classroom teaching. The voice should be according to the size and strength of the classes. A teacher should make sure that the backbenchers easily follow the lecture.

D. Size up the Class

A good teacher sizes up the class for effective teaching. 'Size up the class' refers to knowing each and every student in the class. It is the duty of the teacher to recognize the students: Who are the problem creators? Who are the slow learners? Who are the backbenchers? Who are the talented students? In the above normal probability curve the whole class is divided into three parts, i.e., above average, below average, and average students. A good teacher always pays attention to average students because average students are more than the other two groups. A good teacher does not suppress these two groups. He promotes the talented students and gives them

extra work. He also tries his best to promote the slow learner. Thus we can say that for effective teaching, a teacher should pay attention to all the three groups. Another work of a good teacher is to identify the different groups in the class. Effective teaching will not take place until and unless these groups are identified. G.A. Kaleem (Asst. Director, SVP National Police Academy, Hyderabad) classified students into the following groups.

Horse	Donkey	Monkey
Accepts everything	Shy	Knows everything
Bull Dog	Frog	Hippo
Fights for everything	Talks & Talks	Always Resisting
Fox	Giraffe	Hippo
Asks wild question	Superman	No reaction

According to Kaleem, monkey refers to those students who know everything. Whether a teacher asks questions they suddenly raise their hand and give a wild answer. Horse refers to those students who shake their head in response. They accept everything. Donkeys are of a shy nature. They never ask questions and never give answers. A teacher should ask some simple questions and encourage them. Porcupine is always resisting. Those students who have the character of bulldog always fight for everything. Those students who come under the category of frog always talk and talk; whenever they find time they start talking. Hippos have very thick skin, and poor IQ. They are helpless. If they do not understand anything don't disturb them. Superman are the victims of inferiority complex; so be kind to them, sit with them and help them. A fox will ask many questions; so don't allow the fox to dominate the classroom. Effective teaching will be possible only if a teacher overcomes all these problems.

To overcome these classroom problems, a teacher needs to do some good planning.

E. Planning

Effective classroom teaching needs good planning. Planning is a blueprint of a lecture. In other words we can say it is pre-active stage of teaching. The planning has the following important components.

Components of the Planning

1. Aims:- Good planning has good aims. Good aims are always specific, well defined, and measurable in terms of change in knowledge. It must be achievable.

2. Educational Level:- a good teacher always asks some questions from previous knowledge to know about the previous knowledge of the students. It is good to start from simple to complex.

3. Content:- Content should proceed from general to specific. For effective teaching it is important to break the content into pieces to enable the students to grasp the matter easily.

4. Duration

Division of time and material is important for effective teaching. We divide the time according to three basic

principles EDP (Essential, Desirable Possible) and divide the whole content into three parts essential, desirable, possible. Never miss the essential part of the content.

5. Technique

Talk may be divided into four parts and times is devoted to each part accordingly.

F. Invite student comments

Although the real test of teaching effectiveness is measured by the lasting quality of instruction the impressions, recollections, and habits of thinking that persist years after graduation the opinions of students are valuable. Some teachers hand out questionnaires at the time of the final examination, and invite frank comments.

4. Conclusion

Effective classroom teaching is essential for imparting education. It needs good planning, good personality of a teacher i.e. voice, gesture, posture, interaction with the students, and good communication. A teacher should fix aims and objectives. A good teacher knows about his students. He should communicate accordingly. A teacher respects the individual and encourages the learner to ask question. To make the teaching more effective, a teacher should promote interaction. Thus effective teaching is possible when it is a two way process.

5. References

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