

Learner Centered Educational Technology : Need of Knowledge Era

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Abstract

Today, we are living in knowledge era where knowledge is the primary production resource. It is rightly said "knowledge incubates in the human mind and where applied innovatively become a factor of growth and development." Educational Technology has proved this. It is a boon in the field of education. With the scientific and technological advancement taking place in leaps and bounds, change is inevitable in all walks of life. No doubt, Education is no exception to this. Rather a changing world requires a changing style of education. One of the most important aspects of change in this regard is the competency of the learner. The advent of Educational Technology has put form new procedures and patterns of learning like educomp smart classes. It offers the opportunity to change the roles that learners has traditionality played. . As we have accepted learner Centered Approach the educational technology should also be learner centered instead of teacher centered. Hence the responsibility is on the shoulders of teachers. Instead of becoming profit making industries, they should become the centers of empowerment by providing the latest knowledge resources to the learners, as they are going to be a responsible citizens of knowledge era. Definitely due to the help of Educational Technology universalization of education is no far.

Key words: - Educational Technology, Educomp smart classes, Lerner centered approach, Knowledge Era.

Introduction

We are facing a time of "Knowledge Explosion." In the ever changing world filled with new technology, our learners require the right information, from the right sources. Today Technology offers the opportunity to change the roles that learners have traditionally played. Previously education was facing a significant challenge in preparing learners for knowledge based society. But now with the help of Educational Technology by making it learner centered which is the need of knowledge era, they (learners) are ready for the challenges and choice of the future.

The National Policy on Education (1980) reported that "Educational Technology offers the means to reach large numbers in remote and inaccessible areas"

For becoming a part of knowledge era the learner should know about Educational Technology how to handle it, how to acquire knowledge through it, and how to utilize that knowledge. Only then the aims and objective

behind it will be fulfilled. Only then the learner will become independent in the process of knowledge acquisition. For this all qualitative and latest resources should be provided to the learner

Hence Educational Technology should become learner centered.

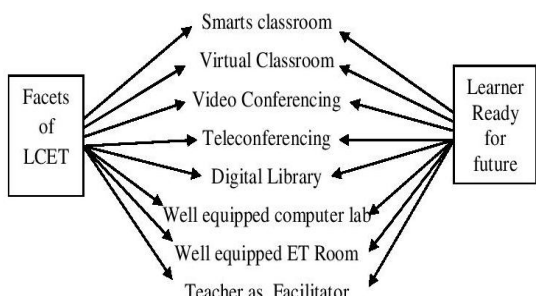
Need of Learner Centered Educational Technology

The following points highlight the need of learner centered Educational Technology.



Facets of Learner Centered Educational Technology.

The following facets of Educational Technology should be provided to learner for better learning and acquiring knowledge.



Let's see the above facets one by one

Smart Class :-

Educomp smart class brings about a complete transformation in classroom.

The Smart class -

- brings abstract and difficult curriculum concepts to life inside classroom.
- makes learning an enjoyable experience.
- improves academic performance of students.
- enables instant formative assessment of learning outcome in class.

Virtual classroom :-

Virtual classroom is a teaching and learning environment located within a computer mediated communication system. All activities and interactions take place through the computer instead of face-to-face.

- classroom learning is familiar and proven.
- provides learning is familiar and proven
- economical
- efficient learning
- more active learning

Video conferencing:-

Video conferencing provides-

- An opportunity to learn by participating in two way communication forum.
- Teacher and lectures worldwide can be brought to remote facilities.
- Students can visit others parts of world, can speak with their peers and visit museums and educational facilities.

Teleconferencing:-

Teleconferencing provides enriched learning opportunities. It is the live exchange and mass articulation of information among several persons and machines remote from one another but linked by telecommunication system.

Digital Library:-

Digital Library is the main source of acquiring knowledge. Libraries not only digitized but networked also leading to the creation of virtual libraries should be made available as they are systematic collection, organization, preservation and dissemination of knowledge and information.

Well equipped computer Lab:-

Fully air conditioned computer lab with sufficient large number of desktop computers with internet connectivity with latest software and technology for the exploration of knowledge should be provided.

E.T. Room:-

Efficiency, productivity and achievement in learning process can be achieved through E.T. Room equipped with Audio- Visual aids like LCD, OHP, T.V., Radio, Tape, DVD Player Educational CD Bank, Computer, Printers.etc.

It should Provide Video conferencing and virtual learning facilities.

Teacher as a Facilitator :-

Teacher as a facilitator requires a change in standard teaching approaches. Facilitation makes the learners responsible for their own learning . If we are to move students towards independence, we must take the position of coach and facilitator, helping students what they know to learn what they need to know.

Conclusion

Preparing one for future is an arduous task. As education is at the heart of both personal and community development, it has to shoulder the responsibility. This herculean task is possible with the help of Educational Technology .In present scenario, the advent of new trends in Educational Technology ,in the field of education are knocking at the door of learners. By making the Educational Technology learner centered and by providing all qualities and advanced facilities, they (Learners) will

be ready to play their active role in knowledge Era and i.e. the need of hour.

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