



08

APPLICATION OF TEACHING AIDS

Dhumale Pramod

Assistant Professor of English

Dept. of English,

RNC Arts, JDB Commerce & NSC Science College,

Nashik Road, Maharashtra, India

Abstract:

When learners are using technology as a tool or a support for communicating with others, they are in an active role rather than the passive role of recipient of information transmitted by a teacher or textbook. This paper is an attempt to focus on the modern usage of various teaching aids in the field of teaching, specifically in the classroom teaching – learning process and the role of a teacher for the betterment of fruitful results.

Keywords:*Projector, Slide Shows, Optical Discs, SNS, Electronic White Board, etc.*

Introduction:

In today's post - modern era of globalization we specifically see the impact of Technology in all the fields such as industries, business, marketing, commerce, engineering, science etc. and of course education is not far away from its impressions. Today's learners of both general and special education studying with modern equipments available in the market, rather than old traditional methods of teaching – learning in the restricted classrooms. As "Change is the law of life", recent education system need to be developed with the help of new updated technologies for the best results.

Some modern useful tools or aids for classroom teaching – learning process:

The following discussed tools or aids are useful for teachers to make classroom teaching interactive as well as creative, with the spontaneous participation of the group of students. But before using them in the classroom, a teacher should have knowledge of various teaching methodologies and techniques.

Projector:

Today, in most of the classrooms (almost 7/10) the place of blackboard is taken by the projector. Projectors release teachers from being bound to chalk and dry-erase boards to present information to their students. Of course without any doubt the place or importance of blackboard cannot be ignored but still one has to put a step forward for excellent results. Here instead of writing notes across a board, teachers can make use of Power - Point presentations, images and even film as teaching tools through the use of it. Projectors require a simple click of a button or mouse, thus, freeing valuable class time.

By using projectors, teachers can more easily prepare all notes prior to class for easy presentation. Teachers may also use it for repeating or rewriting information that is now accessible with a simple click as well as it is visible to all easily, for example while teaching Wordsworth's

poem *Daffodils* teacher may show the picture of it on the projector as Indian students are unaware of it. It will give them understanding of the subject matter and real feeling.

Use of Slide Shows:

Slide show (more commonly written as one word slideshow) is an on-screen presentation of information/ideas presented on slides. A slide show enforces the ideas, comments, solution or suggestions presented in the slide. It helps to organize teaching points as well as gives audio visual effect for the better understanding of a particular topic. The notable thing is that – it is easy to handle and grabs the attention of learners. It makes topic easy to understand and also saves one's time.

In today's education system it is a common tool. To make classroom teaching-learning process active teachers may allow a group of students to prepare slide shows and also to present it in front of the class. In this way pupils will learn it practically, build stage confidence and of course a successful team work.

Optical Discs / Pen Drive / Floppy Discs:

Optical discs can hold over 50 gigabytes of data that is the equivalent of millions of typewritten pages or - a medium size library, all on a single disc. These optical discs are better known as CDs and DVDs. It plays a vital importance in the audio-visual learning. Another important thing is that - it is available very easily and its cost is very low. Even today in the market one may find variety of it based on various subjects such as Math, Science, Languages and even Literature, for example after teaching Jane Austen's *Emma* the teacher may show the film of it.

Even the device Pen Drive is not something new as it is generally known to all. It is easy to handle and portable. One can use it to save slide shows or teaching materials. It works same as optical discs but because of its flexibility it is commonly used. Floppy discs are secondary storage media that were once commonly used to transport reflectively small word processing, spreadsheets, and files. However they require special disk drives. In the recent use Floppy discs are not used because it is costly as compare to other devices but it also works as optical discs and pen drive.

Use of Internet or Wi-Fi:

Internet or Wi-Fi is a source of unlimited knowledge and information. It is easy to handle and one may get any information only in a few seconds. Here, the contribution of it in the field of education is remarkable. As there are so many uses of it, teachers' encouragement and guidance to use it properly is expected. Internet or wi-fi may be used as follows:

- i. **E-books** - an e-book (short for electronic book and also known as a digital book, e-book) is "a portable electronic device used to download and read books or magazines that are in digital form." E-books are making today's classroom more inclusive than ever. Using those tools, student with disabilities can access books and electronic media right from their desk. In an international survey of teachers by NCES, more than half of those surveyed said that encyclopedias and reference books on CD-ROM were essential for their classrooms to function.
- ii. **Group Chatting**- with the use of group chatting particular or all age group of students or even teachers may share their views. It will provide them a platform to present their views worldwide as well as opportunity to gain new information.
- iii. **Educational Websites** – it helps both teacher as well as students to understand topics in a better way. Notes, guidelines, critical analysis, problem solving, commentary, references etc are

common uses of it. Here are some commonly known educational websites are:
www.meritnation.com, www.wikipedia.org/, www.answer.com, www.gradesaver.com,
www.sparknotes.com etc.

- iv. **Online Videos** – Teachers, who use instructional video report that their students retain more information, understand concepts more rapidly and are more enthusiastic about what they are learning. With video as one component in a thoughtful lesson plan, students often make new connections between curriculum topics, and discover links between these topics and the world outside the classroom. For example on YouTube so many educational videos are available. One can choose them by typing key words in the search box.

Role of Social Networking Sites (SNS):

The 'social networking site' is the 21st century term for 'virtual community', a group of people who use the Internet to communicate by voice, chat, message, blogs about everything and anything. The widespread examples of social networking are Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, Tagged, MySpace, etc. The idea of using social networking in language classrooms seems to me rather challenging. It can be both advantageous and disadvantageous. But by looking at its positive side, students get an opportunity to:

1. Learn a language collaboratively.
2. Be more enthusiastic about learning.
3. Become autonomous learners.
4. Work together constantly and collaboratively.
5. Communicate with the native speakers.
6. Learn more about the culture from native speakers themselves.
7. Become more accustomed to native speakers' pronunciation.
8. Learn a language in more authentic situations.

For example, teachers may use it as follows:

- **Facebook** – teachers can create a group for their students and post assignments and study guides.
- **Twitter** – can be used to make announcements, take polls, and have class discussions in the target language.

Audio- visual Conferences:

Audio- visual Conferences hold at remote locations by *means* of transmitted *audio* and *video* signals. It really appreciable as it gives feeling of face to face talking with a person who is far away from us. This technology is useful in Distance Learning Education, where students and teachers are located in two different places. It can provide education to people who are limited by time, money or physical disability. Its place in the higher education is notable as it connects students, instructor or guest speaker to class and enable both sides to see and hear. It also provides opportunity to participate in synchronous learning experience from any location worldwide, for example international schools, colleges, universities, seminar, conferences etc are using this technology while dealing with the obstacle of distance. Modern classroom teachers may use it to share students' knowledge, new ideas or the thoughts with other students as well as teachers from any location globally to involve them actively with a new experience.

Audio players:

Each language has four skills and one of them is listening. In old classroom teaching a teacher used to read a passage for students and ask them various questions based on it to improve

their listening skill. But in today's modern classroom teachers' position is taken by these audio players. With the use of it teachers may perform as an instructor. It is more authentic as well as useful in large classrooms where teachers find certain limitation of loud reading. This device is also useful for giving learners enough practice of Received Pronunciation (R.P.) in Language Classes.

Electronic White Board:

It is a presentation device that interfaces with a computer. The computer images are displayed on the board by a digital projector, where they can be seen and manipulated. Users can control software both from the computer and from the board. Participants can add notations, and emphasize by using a pen and or highlighter tool. By using his finger as a mouse, the teacher or student can run applications directly from the board. Another user at the computer can also have input. Any notes or drawings can then be saved or printed out and distributed to group members.

Benefits of Electronic White Board:

1. The interactive electronic whiteboard is great for demonstrations.
2. The interactive electronic whiteboard is a colorful tool. Research indicates that students respond to displays where color is employed.
3. The board can accommodate different learning styles.
4. One-computer classrooms can maximize the use of limited computer access.
5. The interactive whiteboard is an excellent tool for the constructivist educator.
6. The boards are clean and attractive tools.
7. It is interactive. It enables tutors to use multimedia resources and the internet with a whole class.
8. It makes the subject come alive.
9. Pages can automatically be saved and can be printed, emailed or even pasted into a website.

Use of DTH:

DTH (Direct to Home) service is basically a digital satellite service that provides satellite television broadcasts directly to subscribers home. It usually connected with TV but in the classroom teachers may connect it with the projector for the large display. As it is a world of completion most of the DTH service providers are providing new packages and one of them is Learning or Educational Pack. It is particularly made for the learners of particular age group, for example such services available on Tata Sky. The recent set of commercials talks about the new age classrooms of India, where anybody can learn at his/her convenience with special focus on educational services through applications such as Active Wizkids, Active Stories, Active Learning and Active English.

While talking about Active English one can notify that it is particularly designed for English Language Learners. It gives emphasis on vocabulary, story narration, quiz, listening practice, grammar, pronunciation and problem solving exercises. In the same way it may be useful to a show animal world, sea creatures, and new discoveries by using some good channels such as Animal Planet, Discovery Science, History TV18 etc.

Suggestions:

1. Need to take care while handling teaching tools or equipments.
2. Teachers' role is a guide or an instructor rather than a spoon feeder.
3. Develop the thinking power of learners.
4. While using or accessing internet teacher should perform the role of observer.

5. Turn on safe search mode while using internet.
6. Interaction in the classroom should generate ideas.
7. Encourage students to participate in activities.
8. Make group of the learners so it will provide more exposures as well as all students will get opportunity to participate.
9. Time management or lesson plan is expected.
10. Teachers' behavior should be friendly and co- operative but discipline in the class need to be maintained.
11. After the activities feedback from learners is required.

To conclude, on the basis of above discussions it is observed that the use of technology and modern education cannot be separated as they are intermingled with each other. They are just like two sides of the same coin. Secondly, it is not justice to look at one side only; as there are advantages there may be some disadvantages also but by taking some precautions we certainly will overcome such obstacles. Without doubt the use of technology is going to be helpful to achieve the targeted goals in teaching – learning process. It will give new insights and exposures to both teachers as well as learners.

WORKS CITED

1. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computers_in_the_classroom
2. http://www.ehow.com/about_5410187_uses-modern-technology-classroom-teaching.html
3. <http://www.slideshare.net/bec28/interactive-whiteboards-presentation-1421880>
4. Mukulel, Joseph C. *Approaches to English Language Teaching*, Discovery Publishing House, New Delhi, 1998.
5. Nagraj, Geetha. *English Language Teaching-Approaches, Methods, Techniques*, Orient Longman, Bangalore, 2006.
6. Prochnow, Herbert V. *1001 Ways to Improve Conversation and Speeches*, Jaico Publishing House, Mumbai, 2003.
7. Salim, B. *A Companion to Teaching of English*, Atlantic Publishers and Distributors, Delhi, 2001.
8. Yardi, V.V. *Teaching English in India Today*, Parmal Prakashan, Aurangabad, 1994.



This is an Open Access e-Journal Published Under A Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License

To Cite the Article: Dhumal, Pramod, "Application of Teaching Aids". *Literary Cognizance*, 1-1 (2015): 43-47. Web.