An Introduction to Modern Models of Teaching

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Abstract:

"Model of teaching can be defined as instructional design which describes the process of specifying and producing particular environmental situations which cause the students to interact in such a way that a specific change occurs in their behavior"

Teaching is not just to sit on an armchair with a cup of tea in hand to sip. It is an art and skill to be learnt. It requires the knowledge of subject content, method, techniques and teaching aids to be used for making teaching interesting and effective. This is the main objective of education. For this purpose, the teachers need a variety of approaches. Several models of teaching have been developed out of which Bruce Joyce and Marsha Weil's (1980) have been to be very effective. They described model of teaching as a plan or pattern that can be used to shape curricula (long-term courses of studies), to design instructional materials and to guide instruction in the classroom and other settings. Here the author highlights the key points of Model of teaching through this article.

1. Introduction
Development of models of teaching is the recent innovation in teaching. An important purpose of discussing models of teaching is to assist the teacher to have a wide range of approaches for creating a proper interactive environment for learning. An intelligent use of these approaches enables the teacher to adopt him to the learning needs of the students.

A number of educationist and psychologists have proposed model approach to teaching. N. Flender (1970) put his interaction analysis as a model of teaching and for this approaches he categorized the statements of the students and teachers into ten categories. In India, the first National project on models of teaching was planned, designed and executed during 1985-86.

2. Definition of Models of Teaching
Allen and Ryan (1969); Modeling is an individual demonstrating particular pattern which the trainee through imitation.

B. K. Passi L. C. Singh and D. N. Sansanwal (1991); A model of teaching consist of guidelines for designing educational activities and environments. Model of teaching is a plan that can also be utilized to shape courses of studies, to design instructional material and to guide instruction.

Joyce and Weil (1972); Teaching of model is a pattern or plan, which can be a curriculum or courses to select instructional materials and to guide a teachers actions.

Educators and psychologist have design several types of teaching models which provides suitable guidelines to the teachers for modifying the behaviour of the learners.

As a matter of facts some sorts of models of teaching have been existence since times immemorial. In simple language a models of teaching may be defined as a blueprint designed in advance for providing necessary structure and direction to the teacher for realizing the stipulated objectives.

3. Main Characteristics of Teaching Model

1. Specification of learning outcomes; A models of teaching specify what the students should perform after completing an instructional sequence.
2. Specification on environment; A models of teaching specifies in definite terms the environmental condition under which a student's response should be observed.
3. Specification of criterion of performance; A models of teaching specifies the criterion for performance which is expected from the students.
4. Specification of operation; A models of teaching specifies the mechanism that provides for the reaction of students and interaction with the environment.
5. Scientific procedure; A models of teaching is based on a systematic procedure to modify the behavior of the learner. It is not a haphazard combination of facts.

4. Functions of Teaching Models

1. They help in guiding the teacher to select appropriate teaching techniques, strategies and methods for the effective utilization of the teaching situation and material for realizing the objectives.
2. They help in bringing about desirable changes in the behaviour of the learners.
3. They help in finding out ways and means of creating favorable environmental situation for carrying out teaching process.
4. They help in achieving desirable teacher-pupil interaction during teaching.
5. They help in the construction of a curriculum or contents of a course.
6. They help in the proper selection of instruction material for teaching the prepared course or the curriculum.
7. They help in designing appropriate educational activities.
8. They assist procedure of material to create interesting and effective materials and learning sources.
9. They stimulate the development of new educational innovations.
10. They help in the formation of theory of teaching.
11. They help to establish teaching and learning relationship empirically.

5. Effects of Teaching by Modelling

Bandura and Walters mention three kinds of effects in teaching by modeling.

1. A Modeling Effect
2. A Inhibitory and Dishibitory Effects
3. An Eliciting Effects

5.1 A Modeling Effect
A modeling effect can be seen when a teacher demonstrates to students to hold a pencil or write capital etc. and thus shows a new behaviour. Here student learner new kinds of responses pattern.

5.2 A Inhibitory and Dishibitory Effects
An inhibitory or Dishibitory effects takes place when through modeling we let the students know that it is not possible to look at picture of nudes, in an art book.

5.3 An Eliciting Effects
The eliciting effect takes place when a teacher through modeling tries to teach students to rise when a lady enters the room and thus provides a cue eliciting a response neither new nor inhibited.

6. Fundamental Elements of a Teaching Model
A teaching model has six fundamental models.
1. Focus
2. Syntax
3. Principles of reactions
4. The social system
5. The supportive system
6. Application context

6.1 Focus
Focus is the central aspects of a teaching model. Objectives of teaching and aspects of environment generally constitute the focus of the model.

6.2 Syntax
Syntax includes the sequences of steps involved in the organization of the complete programmed of teaching.

6.3 Principles of Teaching
This element is concerned with the way a teacher should regard and aspects respond to the activities of the students. These responses should be appropriate and selective.

6.4 The Social System
It is related to the description of the following.
1. Interactive roles and relationship between the teacher and the students.
2. The kinds of norms that are observed and student behavior which is rewarded.

7. The Supportive System
The supportive system relates to the additional requirements other than the usual human skills or capacities of the teacher and the facilities usually available in the ordinary classroom. Teacher requirements refer to special skills, special knowledge of the teacher and special audio-visual material like films, elf-instructional material, visit to special place etc…

7.1 Application Context

Several types of teaching modes are available. Each model attempts to desirable the feasibility of its use in varying contexts-goal achievements-cognitive, cognitive-effective.

8. Sources of Models of Teaching

8.1 The Social Interaction Sources

The models of teaching of these categories emphasize the importance of social relationship of the person and are based on the assumption that social relation is the vehicles of education.

8.2 The Information Processing Sources

The other sources of a models of teaching is the information processing capability of the learner which means the way in which people handle stimuli, organize data, sense problem and solve them.

8.3 The Personal Sources

Personal and emotional life of the individual and their internal organization as it affects relationship with this environment are the sources of this category of models.

8.4 Behaviour Modification as a Source

The operant conditioning theory built B. F. Skinner is the origin of this type of model which if purely a psychological model and is used in most of the teaching strategies developed in the last two decades.

9. Types of Modern Teaching Models

1. Information processing models
2. Social interaction models
3. Personal models
4. Behaviour modification models

9.1 Information Processing Models

Information processing models refer to the way people handle stimuli from the environment, organize data, sense problem, generate concepts and solution to problems and use verbal and nonverbal symbols.

9.2 Social Interaction Models

Social interaction models stress the relationship of the individual to other person and to society.
Personal models
Personal development models assist the individual in the development of selfhood; they focus on the emotional life an individual.

9.3 Behaviour Modification Models

Behaviour modification models stress changing the external behaviour of the learners and describe them in them of visible behaviour rather than underlying behaviour.

10. Merits of Models in Teaching
1. It is a natural way of teaching and learning.
2. It is helpful in developing the power of imagination of the students.
3. It helps in the developments of reasoning power of the students.
4. It helps the students to analyse things systematically.
5. It keeps students actively engaged in the classroom activity.
6. It helps in making the students good observers.
7. It keeps the students busy in the classroom work.

11. Limitations
1. It makes high demands on the students as well as teachers.
2. All the students of the class may not be able to participate in the teaching-learning process.
3. Some students, on account of their shyness, fail to derive the requisite advantage of this model.

12. Conclusion
Development of models of teaching is the recent innovation in teaching. An important purpose of discussing models of teaching is to assist the teacher to have a wide range of approaches for creating a proper interactive environment for learning. An intelligent use of these approaches enables the teacher to adopt him to the learning needs of the students.

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