

FUN LEARNING THROUGH HISTORICAL TEACHING: A RESEARCH STUDY

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Abstract:

The modern education system is student-centric. Modern methods of teaching history are not just about memorization, but about connecting students to the past based on the concept of fun and education. In this, history is made more interesting and alive through the use of technology and communication, thus attracting students to the subject of history. Digital and virtual methods, activity-based methods, project-based learning methods, etc. make learning easier and more engaging for students.

Key words: Digital, Visual, Methods, Fun, Technology.

It was once remarked by Napoleon-"History is a fable agreed upon." Going by this remark one considers History as goofed up things and not a dependable thing. Sadly, it is not quite dependable. Everything is based on assumptions and records made in the past. With every new day some surprising revelations do come up. And each time we are at our wits end trying to restart or restructure the present assumptions. Thus, it is nothing but a precious storage of human experiences recorded by the same human race. It is thus the Historical development that one needs to look at while studying or understanding this phenomenal subject.

Values of Teaching History:

History is a subject which has fascinated the researcher from time immemorial. The every new revelation has kept the Historians, Archeologists, Researchers and students of History on their toes. Thus, the values that one inculcates while teaching this subject is always appreciated worldwide. It teaches us about our ancestors and their past life. It mirrors the past follies and greatness to such an extent that we tend to learn from it. This makes this subject even more worth learning. 'Effective teachers use a variety of strategies to cater for the range of student abilities and learning studies' ¹.

Various techniques of Teaching History:

1. Technique Analysis: In this technique, the teacher narrates the topic and the students on the other hand, try to acquire knowledge through the narration. The whole crux lies on how interesting the teacher has teacher's technique. It is so because while doing so, the teacher has to take care of the age group he/she will be dealing with.

2. Technique of Exercise (Drilling Method): It is widely assumed that if a particular learning is revised several times, it becomes stable and permanent. Thus, one should know that Drill is not a mere repetition of an act for the purpose of attaining perfection, but it is a serious work activity for obtaining perfection, formation of habit or fixing for specific facts for easy and effortless recall.

3. Method of Examination: Here the teacher examines his students about the knowledge of the topics learnt by them. This gives a better picture to the teacher about how far the students have assimilated the subject taught to them.

4. Methods of Question and Answer: It is an important method because through this technique the teacher makes an attempt to find out and evaluate the knowledge of his students about the subject.

5. Illustration Techniques: It is a process whereby various types of illustration like maps, sketches, models, charts, graphs etc. are used to make the subject more interesting and intelligent.

6. Drama Technique: The teacher here makes an attempt to present different historical events in the form of a drama. 'He asks students to enact scenes on the History by dialogs and by wearing the dress.' ²

7. Memories: 'Memoir, autobiographies, life histories & letters at times provide useful information on many social subjects. Diaries maintained by important people are sources of revealing information on many problems. Such documents have both social & psychological importance' ³

8. Digital and virtual methods:

- Projects and multimedia Presentation: Simplifying the subjects by showing PPTs or video clips on historical events.
- Virtual Tours: Touring historical forts and museums in the classroom using Google Earth or Google Arts and Culture app.

9. Review: It comprises a recall of facts for the purpose of renewing those facts with a view to attain mastery over them. Thus, it is the reorganization of material from a different point of view.

10. Supervised study: The teacher here supervises his students whenever they find any difficulties. The student's silent study may comprise reading, interpreting or writing activities and laboratory work. It may involve the collection or selection of reference material, preparation of illustrative aids, debates, discussion etc. Thus, both the teacher and students work together to accomplish desirable goals.

History's various teaching Aids:

The most difficult problem before a History teacher is to invest students to acquire an experience of human behavior in past societies. Thus, teaching aids must be utilized to supplement the process of teaching. It makes teaching concrete, effective and interesting. The following aids can be used to make History a more interesting subject-

Text Book, Maps, Pictures, Charts, Magazines & Newspapers, use of chalk Board, Making of Models, Making of Graphs, Diagrams, Posters, Flash cards, Bulletin Board, Flannel Board, Radio, Epidiascope, Cinema Projectors, Films & Cinema, Television, Excursions & Trips, Museum, Etc.

Teacher of History:

History is a subject of interest & that interest is generated amongst the students by the teacher. The teacher of History must have the power of relishing the date passed in a living present and have the touch of imagination as well as vastly large amount of positive knowledge, then he

will attempt to pile upon the memory of his class.⁴ What special features a history teachers than possess?

- There should be Originality in his teaching and nor being myths.
- He should have proper & systematic knowledge of current events.
- He should know various methods of teaching History.
- He should know his regional & provincial history.
- He should cultivate faith in his subject.
- He should have clarity about the aims & objectives of Teaching of History.
- He should have known the child's psychology.
- He should have impressive and interesting personality.
- He should involve himself in social works.
- He should not be Religious or Social Bias.
- He should not believe in "My country, right or wrong."
- At cost his teaching should be real.

History teaching & Text books Role:

Some believe Text Books empowers a teacher while teaching history while others feel it other way. But both the views are extremes. We can say that text books should be used but sparingly and economically. They should be used for strengthening the experiences of the students. And it should not be read in the classrooms. While preparing answers they can be used to create a concrete answer. They in short can stimulate the student's understanding of the subject.

History and other Subjects:

According to Dr. Trevelyan- "History is not a Subject at all but house in which all subjects dwell" thus, it can easily be co-related to other subjects-

1. It can be co-related with languages.
2. History is again intimately correlated with Geography.
3. Civic & History were the inseparable part till recently.
4. Economics is the study of wealth while History talks of Civilization. Both have been connected since ancient period.
5. History & Art share intimate bondage.

6. Even though Physical Science is not directly connected with History but still the knowledge of principles of Science and its evolution can be studied through History.
7. Relationship of History & Mathematics is reciprocal. History helps mathematics to know about various mathematicians while Maths helps the former regarding calculation of dates, day, time & era.
8. Religion has influenced the course of History to very great extent. It guided people to make conquests and fight some battles that have now become a part of the History. Thus, History & Technology goes hand in hand.
9. Sociology studies development of the human society at large. Thus, including History in its framework.
10. History and Handwork are also related to each other. While teaching history, we make use of teaching aids which is supported through Handwork.

How to Plan Lesson:

Like planning of other activities, planning of lesson is also needed. Without proper planning of the lesson it not possible for teacher to carry out the teaching successfully. Thus, "Without planning the teacher is just like a ship moving in the vast ocean without any aim and destination." It should include in it the General Aims, particular aims, various aids for teaching purpose, earlier knowledge and introduction to the chapter and how to conclude the proceedings in the end.

Process of Evaluation:

Evaluation is a regular process which is an integral part of teaching. Thus, the main aim here is not to conduct end tests but to bring about certain desirable change in the student. These changes should be marked by the teacher as the learning continues. To evaluate means to characterize the work or value of something Thus, the end result would be final realization of the target set and goals achieved.

Conclusion:

To conclude with, History is a wonderful subject but what makes it even more desirable is the fact that it should lay in the hands of proper TEACHER, to make it even more resounding

subject. Thus, History teaching is an art and only the Master of it can make the students relive their ancient, medieval and modern part.

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