E-CONTENT AS AN ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNING METHOD

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ABSTRACT

It is proven scientifically that brain remembers what you see. That is why books of alphabets having picture according to alphabets. Impacts of e-content over teaching learning process useful to make teaching learning process innovative as well as effective. It would be a handy tool for a teacher to teach effectively and for students to learn easily. Being a teacher there should be our goal to make teaching process interesting and easily accessible for the students to improve their learning capacity. Otherwise dropout ratio may increase marginally.

Keyword: - *e-Content, Blended Learning, asynchronies learning, E – Learning, ICT, LMS, Class room, Technology*

1 INTRODUCTION

> ***"Tell me and I Will Forget;***
> ***Show Me and I May Remember;***
> ***Involve Me and I Will Understand."***
> ***- Confucius 450BC***

The above cited quote was said by Confucius before 2467 years ago. We have accepted and put into practice due to availabilities of supporting tools since last 2 decades. It is proven scientifically that brain remembers what you see. That is why books of alphabets having picture according to alphabets. Right side picture is the simplest example of showing importance of visualisation. Whenever children will see apple, the associated alphabet 'A' will be memorized.

In this digital world, entire world is reforming speedily towards digitization. Being a teacher, we have to use multimedia, audio, visuals to reform the teaching learning process to make it innovative and effective by using Information and Communication Technologies. In this paper I would like to discuss about impacts of e-Content over teaching learning process and how and what way it is useful to make teaching learning process innovative as well as effective. It would be a handy tool for a teacher to teach effectively and for students to learn easily.

Have a glance in our past, we people used to visit and spent our time in the library for searching newer information from reference books, journals and magazines. And nowadays?! We tend to search websites for the same. The quality of teaching and students' learning determine by the teachers who teach them. The teacher with innovative technologies, require knowledge, skills and information can develop scientific and critical thinking. ICT is inevitable for the teacher, it offers tremendous opportunities to capture and store variety of information for disseminating among students.

2 E-CONTENT

E-Content is any type of content that exists in the form of digital data. These can be digital textbooks, workbooks, articles, images, audios and videos.

3 IMPORTANCE OF USING E-CONTENT

It is a scientific fact that our brain catches and learns from visuals and videos. Its presentation to a greater extent is more effective than a regulator chalk and talk method. Almost everything is going online, so why should not we use them? Even NCERT has started an app E-pathshala which provides students all NCERT books and tutorial, they even not need to buy books. In nutshell, e-Content can be new emerging change in education and learning process.

Nowadays there are synchronous and asynchronous types of e-learning environment we have. Both learning environments have their own pros and cons, but, the learning process for a student is highly depends upon their grasping power and method of absorbing the information that is being provided.

Synchronous means real time learning tools, such as instant messaging, online chat and video conferencing that allows students and teachers to ask and answer questions immediately is synchronous e-learning environment. Students participate in the synchronous learning program are able to interact with other students and their teachers during the lesson. The main advantage of the synchronous learning is enables students to avoid feelings of isolation since they are in communication with others throughout the session. However synchronous learning is not as flexible in terms of time to attend a live teaching session or online course in real-time. So it may not be ideal for those who already have busy schedules.

On the other hand asynchronous learning is to be carried out even when the student or teacher is offline. Lesson, assignments, homework, important instructions and important notice communicate via web, email and messages posted on community forums are perfect examples of asynchronous e-learning. Students can complete their assigned work on their own and merely use the internet as a support tool rather than venturing online solely for interactive classes. The students are able to follow the curriculum at their own pace.

Bishop Grosseteste College were established in 1862 as Diocesan Training College and renamed in the centenary year 1962 as Bishop Grosseteste is having the 119th rank has 25:1 students-teacher ratio, where other universities have kept under it. Being a teacher, we have to address large amount of students in the classroom. Almost 150:1 is the students and teacher ratio in the Gujarat state at college level. This is relatively higher than the other developed countries.

Think over this fact where a teacher has to address a class of almost 150 students in their classroom without microphone. Is it possible for a teacher to serve his/her best to every student of the class? It is really hard to identify weaker students. Is it possible for a teacher to justify the needs of their students in this situation? The teacher must have limited number of students, whom he/she know by name and aware about their potential, abilities, skills, area of interest and weakness. In India and particularly in Gujarat state students-teacher ratio is too big to take care of all those students who need some extra effort. How can a teacher justify the needs of every student of the classroom? How can a teacher identify weaker students? In this situation e-content will become very useful for a teacher to help their students who are not performing well through the asynchronous learning.

Any teacher can develop e-Content and disseminate through using available different technologies. There are few free platforms where a teacher can upload e-Content and students can easily get it. The free platforms are Facebook, Blog, WhatsApp, Twitter, Google Drive and Google Classroom etc. If you have enough knowledge of computer, you can have your website too for the same.

3.1 Facebook: You can post contents in form of information, picture and/or video. Inform your student visit Facebook page for the content.

3.2 Blog: You can post your materials, information, questionnaire, question bank, picture, video, audio etc.
3.3 WhatsApp: You can simply use WhatsApp to share the materials in the PDF, pictures, audio, and video. You can post some important information, you can interact.

3.4 Twitter: Twitter is a kind of micro blogging service where you can share something with students.

3.5 Google drive: this is cloud base storage facility. You can upload nay type of content and share the link among students to have access of it.

3.6 Google Classroom: Google Classroom says that Google Classroom is mission control, designed with teachers and students to connect the class, track their progress and achieve more together. It was introduced as a feature of Google Apps for Education following its public release on August 12, 2014. Google Classroom is a free web-based platform that integrates your Google Suite for Education account with all your Google Suite services, including Google Docs, Gmail, and Google Calendar. Classroom saves time and paper, and makes it easy to create classes, distribute assignments, communicate, and stay organized.

4 THE TOP OPEN SOURCE LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

A Learning Management System is an essential tool for eLearning. These type of LMS that can accommodate your eLearning development needs. There are various open source Learning Management Systems that can offer you the dynamic and flexible eLearning platform you need.

4.1 Moodle: Moodle is leading and highly popular Open Source LMS. It supports multimedia and also gives you the ability to create mobile-friendly online courses and integrate third party add-ons. One of the standouts of this tool is the user community. Moodle may be a little bit more complicated for new users, but mastering the tool is well worth it if you want total design freedom.

4.**2 NPTEL:** NPTEL is an acronym for National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning which is an initiative by seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras And Roorkee) and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for creating course contents in engineering and science.

4.**3 ATutor:** This is an open source LMS gives you a variety of useful features, like email notifications and file storage. It is user-friendly and easily accessible, which makes it an ideal match for those who may be new to the e-Content design and development.

4.4 Eliademy: This is completely free open source LMS. But a small fee per user is charged for the premium version. It has features like eLearning course catalogues, eLearning assessment tools, and also mobile Android applications for mobile user. ELearning facilitators can simply upload and share the e-Content with their students. User has to provide their email addresses to access it.

4.5 ILIAS: This open source Learning Management System holds the distinction of being the first open source LMS. It's flexible, versatile, and scalable. In fact, ILIAS is one of the few LMS tools that also doubles as a full-fledged collaborative eLearning platform, as you can communicate with your team and share documents all in one place. It's absolutely free of charge for all eLearning developers and organizations, as well as educational institutions, regardless of the number of users.

4.7 Opigno: Opigno does not disappoint when it comes to features. Certificates, class calendars, online forums, eLearning authoring tools, eLearning assessments, and video galleries are just some of the highlights. This open source Learning Management System is based on Drupal. Thus, you have the ability to manage your virtual training program, track learner skill development, and integrate e-commerce using just one tool. Opigno also offers online surveys, instant messaging, and chat, which makes it a great feedback and collaborative tool.

4.8 OLAT: eLearning assessment tools, social learning integration, and learner home pages are just some of the things that set OLAT apart from many of the other open source LMS solutions. You will also find a class calendar, email notifications, eLearning course bookmarks, file storage, and certificates in this open source Learning Management System. OLAT makes it simple and straightforward to add users and groups to your eLearning courses, as well as develop comprehensive eLearning course catalogs. This is ideal for multi-platform eLearning courses that need to run on a variety of different devices.

5.   EASY WAY TO DEVELOP E-CONTENT

Most of the teacher would be thinking that how to create e-Content? Once you decide to go for e-Content, it is not that hard to develop it. If you have deep knowledge of your subject, it would be quite easy for you to create something for your students. You can write and scan those written papers in PDF format and whatsApp it to

your students, you can share it through Facebook too. If you have a video camera, you can use it while delivering lecture in the classroom to record it or otherwise you can use your mobile camera to capture your lecture and make a series of particular topic and then share it through WhatsApp, Facebook, LMS or you can upload it to YouTube website. All these platforms are very easy and free to access.

Today, almost everybody carries a mobile phone. Most of them would be smart phone. Those who have smart phone can easily access e-Content on the go through WhatsApp, Facebook, Youtube or through Blog. Average Indian spends almost 218 minutes for using mobile. Those who possess computer, laptop or tablet and an Internet connection can access e-Content at their home and who don't have such facility can use their mobile for the same purpose.

As I have discussed in the beginning about the importance of visualisation and involvement of the beneficiaries in the teaching learning process. Use audio and visuals to make e-Contents effective in developing e-content. Only text based e-Content will not serve the goal. At the time of developing e-content, always try to make it simplest to understand and accessible. Use visuals to make it more effective. The thing you understand better way would be hard to understand by students. Try to involve your students in creating e-Content by assigning some special work. Involvement of students is important. i.e. involve your students to write something about particular topic. Ask their feedback. Upload or post questionnaire for exercise. This way students would be involved. Use e-Content as a kind of supplementary food prescribed by doctor to decrease the gap between the brilliant students and weaker students.

6. CONCLUSION

You can use e-content as asynchronous learning method and make it available through ICT.E-Content is useful for the students to understand better at their ease. I'm sure that e-Content will enhance the learning capacity of the students. Teacher should have use e-Content as a tool for blended learning through asynchronous learning. Your little effort of adopting and creating e-Content today will encourage students and will reflects its result tomorrow.

7. REFERNCE

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