

INNOVATIVE TEACHING-LEARNING PRACTICES IN CONTEXT OF TEACHER EDUCATION

Ms.C.Geetha

Assistant Professor, Dr.M.G.R.Educational & Research Institute, Maduravoyal, Chennai –
600 095.

Dr.A.Thangam

Assistant Professor, Dr.M.G.R.Educational & Research Institute, Maduravoyal, Chennai –
600 095.

Dr.T. Senthil Kumar

Professor, S.A.Engineering College (Autonomous), Chennai-77.

Ms.K.Vasanthi

Assistant Professor, Department of HRM, Deputy Dean,Academic Staff College,
Dr.M.G.R.Educational & Research Institute, Maduravoyal, Chennai – 600 095.

Abstract: Education is a means of transforming people's personalities by instilling in them the values of reflection, enlightenment, and critical thinking. We can identify our potentials through education, which aids us in our overall development. In this modern age of technological and scientific advancement in every aspect of our lives, innovative approaches and practices play an important role in gaining a better understanding of the teaching-learning process. It is crucial in the context of teacher education, which focuses on providing future educators with a skill-based education in all facets of their preparation, whether they be theoretical or practical. The purpose of this essay is to examine the value of new practices in teacher education and to pinpoint any difficulties or barriers that may have arisen.

Key Words: Education, Reflection, Enlightenment, Innovative practices.

Introduction

Teacher education institutions are the most powerful places in which the nation's future is built. Only when the nation's education system is strong will it be beneficial to the country's development. According to the National Education Policy 2020, teacher education is a crucial setting where school teachers will mould the next generation. It will help in achieving that level by raising the integrity and credibility levels. To increase the quality of teacher education, however, our educational system needs to be improved; therefore we must now look for alternative, cutting-edge approaches in addition to more conventional ones. Innovative techniques must be used in every circumstance.

Features of Innovative practices under National Education Policy 2020

In addition, the National Education Policy 2020 emphasizes innovative practices in teacher education. The goal of the policy is to increase both participation and learning results in education by developing and promoting technological tools. The policy also places a strong

emphasis on integrated teacher education programmes and multidisciplinary viewpoints, both of which are crucial for creative teaching and learning. Innovative educational pedagogy was discussed in NEP 2020. The policy emphasizes the importance of developing life skills including resilience and working as a team. It encourages thoughtful decision-making as well as creative and all-encompassing education. The strategy mandates the creation of entertaining and uplifting literature in all regional and Indian languages for pupils of all grade levels in schools and neighbourhood public libraries. The policy also places a high priority on skill development and internships. The highlights listed above demonstrate that National Education Policy 2020 supports creative approaches to teaching and learning. The adoption of this policy might lead to improvements in our educational system.

Innovative Techniques

The word "innovation," which meaning "something new," "the practice of producing and introducing new things," or "the introduction of anything new," is derived from the Latin word "innovate." It is the capacity to go beyond the apparent and produce something original that is different from previously known facts or knowledge. To encourage innovation, teacher education and training must incorporate fresh concepts and alternative teaching and learning methods. It will be easier to make interactive and interesting classroom transactions and other curricular and co-curricular activities in teacher education if the teacher uses innovative practices in their teaching. As we all know, teaching, learning, and evaluation are critical components of any educational process; therefore, some innovative practices are as follows.

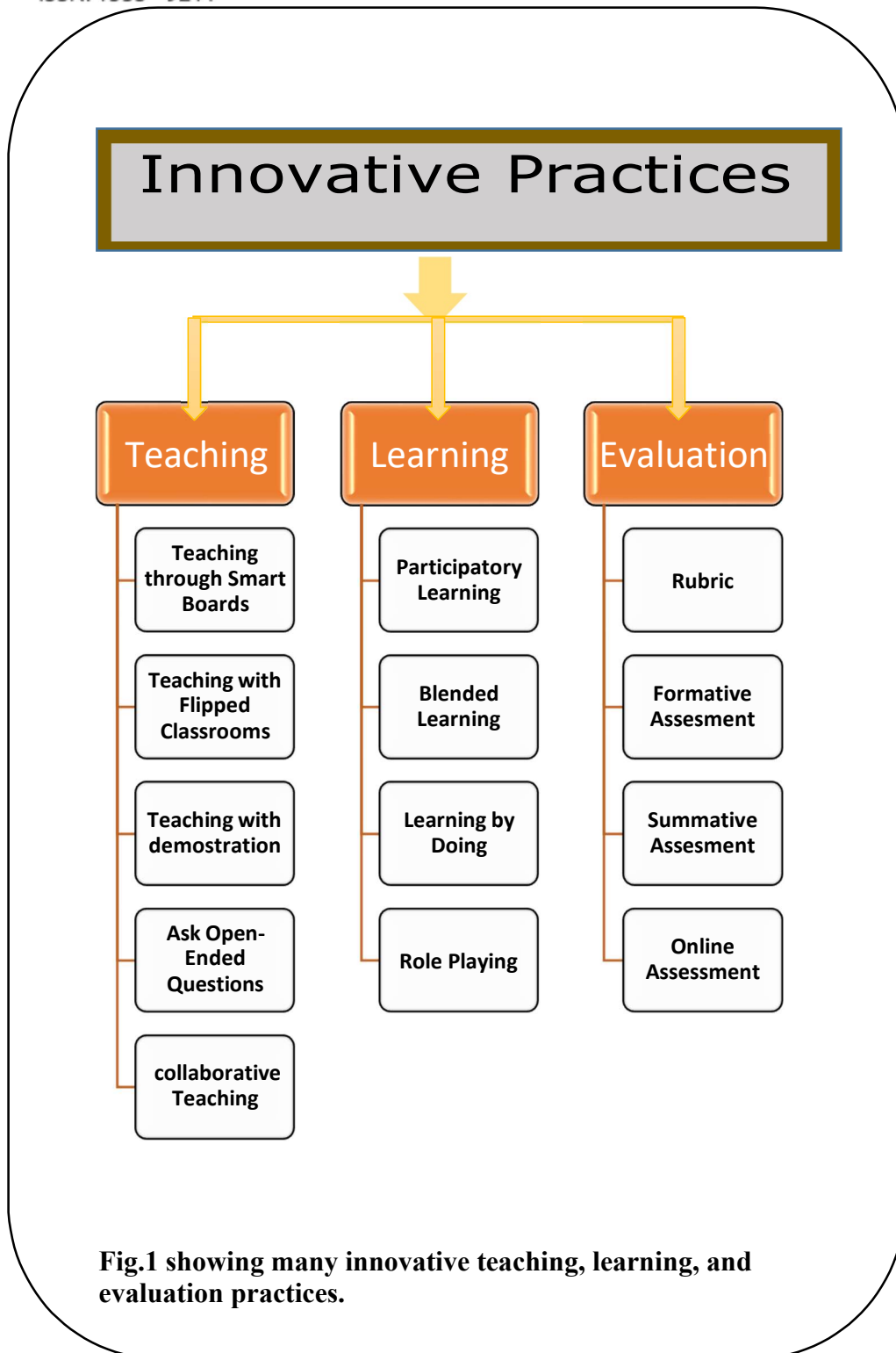


Fig.1 showing many innovative teaching, learning, and evaluation practices.

Innovative Practices in Teaching:

Smart Boards for Teaching: To make teaching more innovative, teachers can use smart boards based on the subject matter. It is a smart technology that includes a touch control screen, a projector, and a scanner.

Flipped Classroom Teaching: The role of the teacher in flipping classroom is to make teaching

more interesting by using video, online lectures, podcasts, e-books, and websites.

Teaching by demonstration: This is an important teaching method in which the teacher demonstrates a step-by-step process of something to make abstract ideas related to the topic concrete. It piques students' interest in learning and allows them to learn more easily.

Ask Open-Ended Questions: As a teaching method, the teacher can ask open-ended questions to allow students to express their knowledge and understanding of the topic.

Collaborative Teaching/Team Teaching: This approach groups teachers as learners with the common goal of improving learner outcomes. The emphasis is on collective problem solving.

Innovative Practices in Learning

Participatory Learning: Participatory learning is one of the best innovative learning practices because it allows learners to learn by directly participating in any task or learning activity.

Blended Learning: Blended Learning piques students' interest. This is also known as mixed or hybrid learning, in which students learn in both face-to-face and online settings. When these two modes are combined, the learning process becomes more innovative and productive.

Learning by Doing- The best way to learn something is to do it. This type of learning provides experiences and allows learners to learn quickly and easily.

Role Playing: In role-playing learning, the learner learns by doing. The learner participates, plays the role, and engages in the related learning context.

Innovative Practices in Evaluation

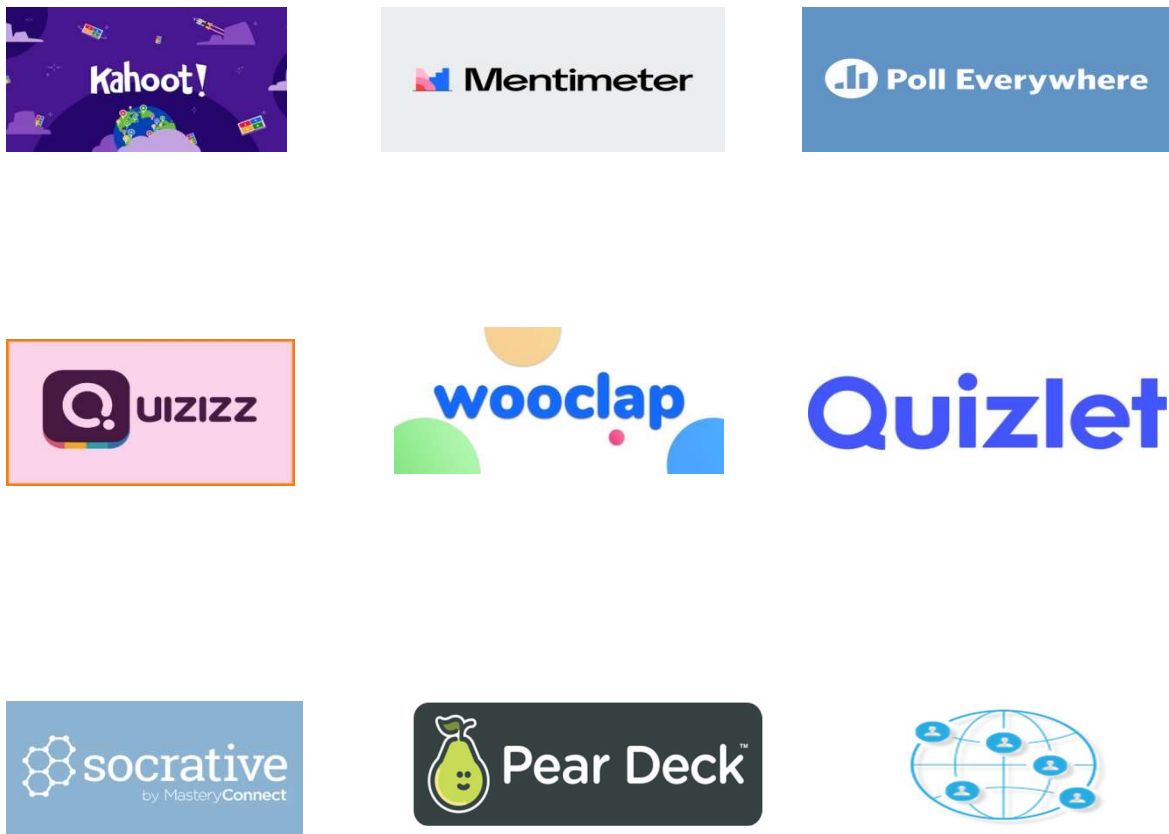
Rubric: This cutting-edge method of evaluation consists of a list of instructions for assessing a student's performance.

Formative Assessment: During this form of assessment, students receive continual feedback that helps them improve their learning. Formative evaluations often involve cutting-edge techniques including presentations, question-and-answer sessions, essay writing, surprise tests, etc.

Summative assessment: This style of evaluation is also a cutting-edge practice, and we can make it even more so by including a variety of questions, such as extremely brief, short, and long ones, along with some objective ones.

Online assessments: It also crucial in the digital age because of the online nature of classrooms and the development of technology. Online assessments can be conducted using a variety of platforms or programmes. Several cutting-edge solutions for online formative evaluation

Fig 2. Displaying tools for online formative assessment



Kahoot: Kahoot is a startup that provides a global learning platform with the goal of enabling everyone—children, students, and employees—to realize their full learning potential. It makes it simple for any person or organization to design, distribute, and engage in learning games. Both a free and a superior rendition are advertised. It is utilized in the classroom for discussions, quizzes, and real-time formative assessment.

Mentimeter: This programme is great for getting real-time input online for live polls, quizzes, word clouds, Question-Answer, and other activities. It simplifies remote and hybrid work.

Poll Everywhere: You can organise interactive meetings anywhere with the help of the programme Poll Everywhere, which also helps you capture comments right away during online meetings, classes, and events. The product likewise offers various different elements.

Quizizz: This gamification tool offers real-time formative evaluations, gamified quizzes, polls, and courses, among other things. It can be shared through LMS, email, or messaging applications. Any device can join the event as a participant.

Wooclap: This programme enables students to participate in their education. It assists in analysing the outcome of the incident through the use of question and response data, and it sends progress reports to students on an individual basis.

Quizlet is a great tool for teaching through gaming. Quizlet simplifies the subjects and themes and presents them in a fresh way, assisting the learner in quickly and easily grasping the material. There are tests, games, and flashcards available.

Socrative: This programme aids in developing skills for blended learning. It aids in accelerating learning and keeping pupils actively involved in the learning process. It is an effective method for keeping track of and assessing the student and their academic progress.

Pear Deck: It supports teachers in establishing a productive learning environment for each student on a daily basis and guides students' active learning through formative evaluation. It easily creates interesting instructive material.

Go Conquer: It is a really straightforward learning tool. It includes making plans, coming up with ideas, and taking notes so that the students' work may be tested and graded. Everything is available on this platform in one place.

Here are some further examples of innovative teaching-learning strategies:

1. Cooperative and group learning
2. Reflective Education
3. ICT equipment applications
4. Techno-Pedagogy
5. Seminars and Workshops
6. Simulation
7. Gamification
8. Crossover education
9. Adoptive instruction
10. Stealth Evaluation

Collaborative and cooperative learning: Group or team learning is a type of collaborative and cooperative learning. Students learn in groups using these cutting-edge teaching methods. Therefore, these practices are connected to the process of socialising and the exchanging of ideas.

Reflective Learning: This technique aids in innovatively reflecting prior knowledge so that the learner can apply that knowledge to a new circumstance.

ICT equipment uses: There are several ICT tools available to improve the teaching-learning process. Teachers can use smart boards to offer students a variety of educational images, videos, slideshows, and other materials, which helps with teaching and helps students learn new ideas in a fun and engaging way.

Techno-Pedagogy: This is the technique of teaching that combines technological and pedagogical elements, such as teaching and learning strategies, student motivation, and skill development (using computers, the Internet, interactive whiteboards, etc.). regarding the subject matter or content.

Workshop and Seminar: The workshop gives professors and students hands-on experience where they can pick up some form of practical knowledge. The importance of seminars in helping people grasp various subjects cannot be overstated. Students' presentational abilities are improved, and their appreciation of the subject is raised as well. Institutions that train teachers must also adopt creative techniques of this nature.

Simulation: This technology measures how well a learner is doing. It encourages critical thought.

Gamification: Gamification is the practice of teaching through games. It improves the approach of learning through play. Numerous applications are available that foster critical thinking and a problem-solving mindset. Byju's, Class Craft, Kahoot, and other applications are some examples of gamification applications.

Crossover learning: Learning can connect academic material to concerns that are important to students in their daily lives in informal settings like museums and after-school groups. As a result, it aids students in documenting, connecting, remembering, and sharing their various learning experiences.

Adaptive teaching: It suggests the optimal times to go over previous material and where to start new material. They also offer a variety of tools for tracking one's advancement.

Stealth learning: Type of instruction where a teacher sneakily introduces learning objectives using unconventional tools, like games, to help students learn while having fun. Although students believe they are just playing.

Importance of Innovative Practices in Teaching:

Through its involvement in various domains, such as helping to enhance decision-making capacity and judgement power, as well as by being useful in promoting empowerment among individuals by using the following methods, we can clearly comprehend the significance of creative practices.

Boost Motivation - By encouraging students to be confident and curious, innovative teaching methods boost students' motivation.

Encourage Self-Learning: Innovative techniques encourage students' curiosity and resolve, which encourages self-learning.

Create a problem-solving mindset in students: Innovative education helps students create a problem-solving mindset, which prepares them to tackle various issues and come up with solutions.

Increased reflective thinking will aid teachers and students in reasoning and decision-making. Innovative approaches will also improve reflective thinking in both groups of people.

Engaging Classroom: The classroom becomes more interactive when innovative teaching techniques are used. Students will learn more and better if the classroom is participatory.

Challenges related to Innovative Teaching-Learning Practices

A lack of resources is a significant roadblock for new techniques. Numerous schools and institutes that train teachers lack additional resources in addition to having inadequate technology.

Lack of training: To use innovative methods effectively, instructors must have the proper training. However, the majority of educational institutions lack or are out of current with their training programmes. Therefore, workshops, seminars, or other types of training linked to this are occasionally needed for the proper application of novel approaches.

Lack of awareness: We occasionally fail to see the value of creative teaching methods. Therefore, in this regard, awareness is also necessary for innovative teaching to interest students and aid in the development of their knowledge and abilities.

A lack of motivation is another significant element. We should all be motivated because, as we all know, learning and teaching are impossible without it.

A lack of cooperation: Better learning requires teamwork. Lack of cooperation will have a detrimental effect on the effectiveness of teaching and learning.

A lack of favourable conditions: A favourable atmosphere is crucial for creative approaches to teaching and learning. Systematic arrangements are needed to establish a better learning environment since things like a lack of a library, improper seating arrangements in the classroom, and a lack of technology resources upset the atmosphere.

Conclusion:

Without a question, creative methods are crucial to the teaching and learning process. They are incredibly effective and capable of improving the educational process in any school. Because they train future teachers who will spread knowledge across society, these cutting-edge approaches are crucial for Teacher Education Institutions to provide high-quality education. On the other hand, we observe that there are still some challenges encountered while using creative techniques. By removing or trying to overcome these challenges, we might consider the idea of holistic growth.

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