

## CREATIVETEACHING: SOME INSIGHTS

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### *Abstract*

*The present research paper is the result of study, analysis and personal observation of the researcher. In this research paper multiple factors associated with the process of teaching have been highlighted. The term creativity has been defined by writers in multiple ways. In this research paper major lacunas as well as some innovative ideas to make teaching creative and effective have been discussed. Also, the entire teaching process is analyzed and some insights have been thrown in order to put forth important arguments for improving entire teaching learning process. In this research paper the researcher has tried to focus the attention of readers on some very simple yet important point as observed by him in his teaching career.*

*Key-words- creativity, teaching*

### **Introduction**

Change is the rule of nature. Therefore, with respect to changing scenario in educational field, the teachers need to come up with some innovative and creative ideas to make the process of teaching effective and useful for the holistic development of students. According to the dictionary definition “creativity is the ability to transcend traditional ideas, rules, patterns, relationships, or the like, and to create meaningful new ideas, forms, methods, interpretations, etc.; originality, progressiveness, or imagination.” In the light of this definition the researcher has tried to apply it in teaching and shared his innovative ideas in this research paper. Applying creativity in teaching involves few important points like- there should be learning with interest happen among the students. Moreover, teaching should not be just exam oriented, rather it should be done in context with improving life skills with the sole aim that there should be optimum utilization of the potential of the students. If we take a general outlook of what is happening in Indian Universities, especially in degree colleges, we observe certain major drawbacks in the process of teaching. Therefore, in order to put forth the clear picture, the researcher has divided this research

paper into two parts- a) Lacunas in the present teaching system and b) Innovative ideas to make the process of teaching creative.

### Lacunas in present teaching system -

- 1- Most of the teachers use dictation method which is not suitable in present system. The teachers either use market notes or self-prepared notes which they dictate in the classroom. It is absolutely boring and there is nothing challenging, novel and creative. It is just a case of time pass and still many teachers are using the same method in current era of digitalization.
- 2- Most of the teachers are not aware of their role. Their role is just to create atmosphere conducive for improving learning. Most teachers follow exam-oriented, mode of teaching which shrinks the great possibilities inherent in students. Due to malpractices of taking money at the time of appointment, the teachers lose their moral honesty which is a great concern and reflected in their teaching methodology. Therefore real learning does not happen.
- 3- Marks obtained in the exam is the only criteria to evaluate potential of the students which is absolutely wrong. Latest studies reveal multiple intelligence theory and most of the teachers are not serious or aware about it. Therefore, majority of teachers instead of realizing the true potential of students, force them to engage in a rat race. If a student does not get enough marks in one exam then he can lose self-confidence, at such situation it is the duty of teacher to handle him properly.
- 4- The appointment process has some lacunas. Due to political interference and ill-methods used in selection process, moral honesty and integrity are not observed. Teaching proficiency is not evaluated in the process of selection. It is especially evident in the case of selection of teachers for teaching degree college students
- 5- Teachers do not update themselves. For example there is ample amount of research done in the field of ICT, but most of the teachers are not aware and equipped with necessary knowledge and skills. They do not try to update themselves with recent teaching learning methodologies and latest happenings in teaching and research.
- 6- In the present system most of the times students are passive learners. It just a monologue. Participative method is not applied. It has been continuously done in India from a very long time. If we compare it with the other countries which are more developed, the situation is exactly different. They use participative method.
- 7- Structure of classroom is traditional where teachers don't get space to make the students active. It may be due to various reasons like- economic factors, insufficient knowledge about latest happenings in world of teaching and the lack of courage to be creative. The major drawback of this system is that most of the times back-benchers do not get enough attention and involvement in the classroom.

**Innovative ideas to make the process of teaching creative:-**

- 1- Teaching can be made creative by adding very small steps to our process of teaching. If we can add those then definitely we can add our quality of teaching. A good teacher is that who utilizes optimum potential of the students in the most systematic and adequate manner. It has been observed that many teachers follow the process of dictation in class. It is very wrong and time consuming as the teachers have the option to type the study material and provide that to students to save time of students. This time can be utilized for making creative dialogue with the students. Therefore by providing quality printed material with enough spaces in the content so that intelligent dialogue can happen, teaching can be made creative. It is not necessary to give the notes of entire syllabus to the students, rather it should be given up to a certain extent.
- 2- Asking good quality questions and beginning the lecture with quality question is a wonderful method to make the process of teaching creative. As questions pose challenges before the students, then the students come up with some out of the box thinking which enhance their graph of learning.
- 3- In today's era, ICT is a buzz word. But it cannot replace teacher because teacher in addition to teaching creates positive vibrations in the classroom for the students who are truly good learners. creative use of teaching tools helps to make the process of teaching creative. For example if a teacher has to draw a diagram on the black board, then instead of using a chalk, if the teacher comes prepared with the PowerPoint, then the time is saved which can be utilized in a better manner. In the similar manner teachers of every subject can use teaching tools according to requirements of their subjects.
- 4- Creativity is something which is associated with enhancing SQ of the students. It has a mystical dimension. The current system relies more on IQ and EQ level of students. Whereas a creative teacher through his quality questions and quality assignments can develop an atmosphere which is very conducive to enhancing creative potential of the students. For example if the teacher of English comes in the classroom with the power point presentation where he shows the pictures of market or cinema place of the city or village where he is teaching and asks the students to explain it verbally as well as in writing, then the students find it very interesting to connect with the picture. They are very easily able to associate and visualize. Same can be done in other subjects also. In this way teaching can be made creative.
- 5- The teaching methodology of every subject is different. Therefore every teacher has to adapt accordingly. Creativity or the creative element can be added by thinking what new can be added to make our process of teaching effective. The internal desire of the teacher to make his students creative, the vision, perception and understanding about the students matters most in making the process of teaching creative.

- 6- By designing a creative questionnaire especially in exams, the process of teaching can be made creative. Most of the times the students mug up the answers as routine pattern is followed. Hence the students don't get enough opportunity to be fully expressed. A creative questionnaire forces the students to think differently and to give up the tendency to mug up. The questionnaire must involve few application based, imaginative, real situation questions.
- 7- It has been observed that very few teachers use group discussion. It is a wonderful method through which creative potential of the students can be utilized in appropriate manner. If not possible every day then at least once/twice in a week it should be used.
- 8- A creative teacher is the one who has the potential to evaluate the circumstances and potential of the students in a better way. Therefore one thing should be in the mind of teacher how the students' mind are shaping and the teachers should closely look how the minds are shaping. In this process he should try to be impersonal and should not try to instill his thinking/ideas to the students. He can bring forth multiple perspectives before them and let them choose the right one. He should not dictate his own philosophy whose chances are very much. Hence the teacher should be acquainted with principle of uniqueness applied in the existence. In the current education system, instead of teacher the word facilitator is used which is more appropriate as teacher acts as a catalyst in teaching process. He ignites the caliber of students in the teaching process. Therefore every teacher must understand that he is just a catalyst.
- 9- Creativity is something which can be called as out of the box thinking because it requires a certain sense of outlook. The teacher should help the students to identify their inherent uniqueness and qualities. Ex- If a student is exceptional in one area then the teacher should help that student to develop the concerned faculty to its optimum level which can be done by keeping information of the concerned area. A creative teacher provides mental maps to the students and challenges the student to accept challenges in life. A creative mind is mostly unconventional which generally does not fit into the pattern of society. Therefore in every class while teaching the teacher should ask at least one question which is related to the current social, economic, national or global matters so that the creative faculty of students get a chance.
- 10- Majority of teachers use chalk and duster method. Very few does experiment. For ex- drama method can be used to teach one act plays and in history also it can be used. Use of such methods helps to make process of teaching creative. He should use methods where students can participate.
- 11- Health is one important area which is generally ignored in our teaching fraternity. It has been observed that many teachers who after they turn fifty are unable to justify their profession. Therefore every sincere and dedicated teacher should closely look after his personal health. A healthy teacher can be a creative teacher.

In this way one can add creative dimension in the process of teaching. Although there is no readymade method but one has to use his brain effectively.

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