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The Role of Information Technology in Teaching and Learning

In recent years, the speedy, effective and global communication of knowledge has created a new foundation for co-operation and teamwork. Information expansion is ever increasing phenomenon and it is a requirement of the society that the individuals should possess technological literacy. Information technologies help in promoting opportunities of knowledge sharing throughout the world without any barrier of linguisticand geographic boundaries. It provide access to variety of learning resources with the idea of "Anytime, Anywhere Learning".

Teachers can now collaborate to share their ideas and resources online for a better structure of course. Teacher decides the contents and activities, locates the resources and guides learner how to have access and utilize the information. They can arrange students to go through relevant matter before learning any new topic. Thus, technology can not only help time being better spent when teacher and student are togetheron a topic but also lead to less travelling making it cost-friendly. With the change in learning styles, the role of the teacher is changing too; as well as being a presenter of lesson material; they also assume the role of coach in an increasingly collaborative learning environment.

Introduction of audio-visual technology in education, makes students enjoy what they are learning. Visual illustration using images on projectors helps a student understand the concept as our brains tend to remember visual illustrations easily more than text. Technology allows the students to be more active with the opportunity of sharing information, exchange their learning experiences with their teachers and fellow learners and working through cooperative activities in virtual learning communities. Students can now study and take their examination whenever and wherever they want without any fixed timetable. Combined learning is also improved as students can now create ideas, solve problems and learn more through group studies and academic forums online. Students can be involved in skill oriented activities in group learning environments for accumulated knowledge. Education is a lifelong process therefore anytime anywhere access to it is needed. Various mobile application provide access to unlimited no. of free books anytime. This has replaced the conventional method of buying and carrying book thus saving time.

Technology is the ultimate carrot for students. It's something they want to master. Learning to use it enhances their self-esteem and makes them excited about coming to school. Information technologies are the result of knowledge explosion. Students are independent and free in choice of their programs of study and access to the resources. IT facilitate teaching learning process in more productive fashion. Because of their willingness to work with technology as opposed to a normal classroom of boring lecture, helps motivate students to learn. Similarly, the role of teacher is also different in new settings than in the conventional system. Teacher facilitates and guides the learners in their study playing the role of a coach or mentorrather than teaching through the conventional spoon feeding in the classrooms.