

TEACHING METHODS AND TOOLS

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Annotation: The article examines the evolution of educational methods and tools and their impact on the learning process. It analyzes traditional and innovative approaches, as well as the role of modern technologies in improving the effectiveness of teaching and learning. The article emphasizes the importance of selecting appropriate methods and tools to ensure effective and engaging education in the twenty-first century.

Keywords: Education, methods, tools, pedagogy, learning process, effectiveness.

The term “method” originates from the Greek language and means research, a way of achieving a goal, or a technique. In the broadest sense, a method is a way of reaching a goal, that is, an activity organized in a certain structured manner. In the educational process this concept reflects the harmony between the teacher’s instructional activity and the active learning and cognitive activity of students organized by the teacher.

Teaching methods represent a system of ways through which the teacher organizes instructional work and students’ learning and cognitive activities aimed at mastering the studied material and solving various didactic tasks. Through these methods the educational content becomes understandable and accessible for learners.

In didactics the concept of teaching techniques is also widely used. A teaching technique is considered a component or a specific aspect of a teaching method. Method and technique are closely connected with one another where the method represents the whole system while the technique serves as one of its elements.

Methodology is understood as a set of methods and approaches used to perform a certain activity according to a predetermined plan, rules and a structured system. The concept of methodology is often applied in the context of teaching particular academic subjects and it includes the teaching process, the content of the subject, the laws and principles of teaching, as well as the combination of forms, methods and tools used in instruction.

Teaching methods are always applied together with teaching tools. Teaching tools are the means used by teachers and students in the process of acquiring new knowledge and developing skills. They play an important role in ensuring the effectiveness and success of the educational process.

Didactic tools include instructional and visual materials, demonstration equipment and various technical devices used during the learning process. Teaching tools represent both material and intellectual resources necessary for achieving educational and instructional objectives. They are usually selected in accordance with the chosen teaching methods. If methods answer the question of how to teach, tools answer the question of what means should be used in teaching.



In pedagogical practice the selection of teaching methods is based on teachers' practical experience and its generalization while also considering the specific conditions of the educational process. When choosing appropriate teaching methods several important factors should be taken into account such as the general aims of education, the content and characteristics of the subject and the topic being studied, the specific features of teaching methodology, the time allocated for learning the material, the purpose and tasks of the lesson, the age and learning abilities of students, their level of preparation, the material and technical resources of the educational institution and the teacher's theoretical knowledge, practical experience, methodological preparation and pedagogical skills.

Traditional teaching tools include textbooks, visual illustrations, tables, speech-based materials, equipment used in training workshops, laboratory instruments, information resources, and tools used for organizing and managing the educational process. These resources play an important role in supporting the effectiveness of instruction and ensuring that learning activities are properly structured.

Didactic tools perform educational, developmental and formative functions within the learning process. They also contribute to the formation, management and monitoring of students' learning and cognitive activities. From an audiovisual perspective, didactic tools perform motivational and informational roles while also helping to manage and optimize the learning process.

When teaching a subject, educational tools are selected according to the topic and the specific learning situation. Teachers may choose to use visual materials and instructional resources at their discretion in order to make the content clearer and more accessible. The role of teaching tools in the educational process is therefore significant in organizing effective instruction and supporting student engagement.

When active teaching methods are applied, such as working with textbooks or performing practical exercises, instructional materials, textbooks and technical teaching tools are commonly used. Active technical tools are particularly effective when applied in practical teaching methods where students directly engage with learning activities.

The sufficient use of visual aids positively influences the quality of knowledge acquisition, increases students' interest and helps develop figurative and visual perception. However excessive use of such tools may lead students to develop an overly simplified perception of the subject. Teaching tools do not have a single strict classification and they usually complement one another rather than replace each other in the educational process.

The teacher's task is to select the most effective teaching tools in order to activate and enrich the learning process. Educational tools can be classified according to several criteria including the subject of activity, the object of activity, their relationship to educational information and their role in the learning process.

According to the subject of activity teaching tools are divided into teaching tools and learning tools. Teaching tools are used by the teacher to explain and reinforce a topic such as demonstration and experimental equipment. Learning tools are used by students to acquire new knowledge and skills for example laboratory and practical training equipment.

Didactic tools can also be divided according to their users into tools used by the teacher to achieve instructional objectives and individual tools used by students such as textbooks and notebooks. According to the type of activity they may include sports equipment, botanical and geographical training areas as well as technological resources such as computers which support practical learning activities.



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