



IMPORTANCE OF DISCUSSION METHOD IN DEVELOPING BEST TEACHER

Prof. Nilofar Patel

H.G.M. Azam college of Education, Pune.

Abstract

Discussion methods are forums for open-ended, collaborative exchange of ideas among a teacher and students or among students for the purpose of furthering students thinking, learning, problem solving, understanding, or literary appreciation. . There are different forms of discussion that can be used in the classroom. Two major types of discussions which are formal and informal. Small group discussions are better than a whole class discussion. It encourages more pupils to give their own views through open participation.



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Introduction:

Discussion method is most challenging teaching methods. Using discussions as a primary teaching method allows teacher to stimulate critical thinking. As teacher starts interaction with students, teacher can demonstrate and appreciate their contributions at the same time that teacher challenges them to think more deeply and to articulate their ideas more clearly.

Objectives of the Study:

1. To study the concept of Discussion in point of view of Teacher Education.
2. To study the Significance of Discussion in developing the best teacher.

Statement of the Problem:

To study the Significance of Discussion in developing the best teacher.

Concept of Discussion:

Discussion methods are a variety of forums for open-ended, collaborative exchange of ideas among a teacher and students or among students for the purpose of furthering students thinking, learning, problem solving, understanding, or literary appreciation.

Exchange of ideas between several people is the best process of learning and teaching from one another.

In the classroom environment, discussion is the best way of promoting conducive learning and convenient teaching situation. It refers to the method of instruction which give pupils an opportunity to express their views or opinions orally on certain issues. One person speaks at a time, while others are listening. It doesn't always involve the presentation of new information and concepts. It also involves sharing of ideas and experiences, solving problems and promoting tolerance with understanding. Discussion method is suitable in many situations and can be used in many situations of teaching and learning. There are different forms of discussion that can be used in the classroom. Two major types of discussions are formal and informal. Informal discussions are governed by pre-determined set of rules and it includes debates, panel, symposia etc. While formal discussions may involve whole group or small groups of people divided with the intention of discussing themes. These are not governed by pre-determined set of rules. Let's focus on the informal type of discussions. In the classroom discussions involve a free verbal interchange of ideas for all pupils as a whole. Here the teacher is the leader who guides the discussion. Through conducting the discussion process, ask questions and decides on who should speak. This method can be suitably used in the first stage of child book child approach.

Small group discussions are better than a whole class discussion. It encourages more pupils to give their own views through open participation. Pupils are divided into small groups of four, five, six, seven, eight or nine and given questions or task to discuss and then report back. Each group should have a group leader who is instructed to control the discussion process and someone who can report back of what has been discussed.

The group setting arrangements should be in such a way that pupils are relaxed and can hear, see each other well. This type of discussions is more appropriate in the second stage of the child book child approach. Which happens to be evaluation stage where pupils can discuss questions related to the text found in the book. For example in the parable of a prodigal son in the bible pupils can discuss these questions.

To a good discussion should involve a well planning where the teacher should have a clear understanding of the subject topic, content and objectives of the lesson to be discussed.

The teacher's way of giving instructions should be clearly and effectively communicated in an atmosphere that is conducive for free discussions. Rather stimulate their interests by giving positive comments and discourage domination of the discussion by the outspoken members in a group.

A teacher who helped the reserved and shy children is doing good than harm by providing the child with an opportunity to contribute.

Stick to the topic and discourage private conversation and should conduct discussions to an end as scheduled.

The major advantages of discussion method are :

- It teaches interpersonal skills such as understanding and communication.
- It is child centered through provides an opportunity for pupils to learn from each other, thus encouraging teamwork.
- It promotes tolerance and helps pupils to understand that there are many aspects or opinions to any one topic.
- It also helps leadership, speaking and listening skills.

The demerits of discussion methods include time consuming, easily dominated by the outspoken pupils, those perceived to have high status. Some pupils may not interest from listening to others and easily get out of hand and lose direction. Moreover some teachers can neglect planning and take advantage of discussion method in the classroom.

Nature of Discussion:

To a good discussion should involve a well planning where the teacher should have a clear understanding of the subject topic , content and objectives of the lesson to be discussed. The teacher's way of giving instructions should be clearly and effectively communicated in an atmosphere that is conducive for free discussions. Rather stimulate their interests by giving positive comments and discourage domination of the discussion by the outspoken members in a group.

A teacher who helped the reserved and shy children is doing good than harm by providing the child with an opportunity to contribute.

Stick to the topic and discourage private conversation and should conduct discussions to an end as scheduled.

Importance of Discussion methods for developing Best Teacher:

1. Emphasis on Learning instead of Teaching,

Discussion Method emphasises pupil-activity in the form of discussion, rather than simply telling and lecturing by the teacher. Thus, this method is more effective.

2. Participation by Everybody.

In this method, everybody participates in the discussion, and therefore thinks and expresses himself. This is a sure way of learning.

3. Development of Democratic way of Thinking.

Everybody cooperates in the discussion, and the ideas and opinions of everybody are respected. Thus, there is a development of democratic way of thinking and arriving at decision.

4. Training in Reflective Thinking.

Students, during the course of discussion, get training in reflective thinking, which leads to deeper understanding of the historical problem under discussion.

5. Training in Self-expression.

During discussion, everybody is required to express his ideas and opinions in a clear and concise manner. This provides ample opportunities to the students for training in self-expression.

6. Spirit of Tolerance is inculcated.

The students learn to discuss and differ with other members of the group. They learn to tolerate the views of others even if they are unpleasant and contradictory to each other's views. Thus, respect for the viewpoints of others is developed.

7. Learning is made Interesting.

History is considered to be a dry subject. The learning of history is made interesting through Discussion Method. More effective learning is possible when the students discuss, criticise and share ideas on a particular problem. Active participation by the students in the discussion makes learning full of interest for the students. This also ensures better and effective learning.

Conclusion:

The Discussion Method demands that students come to class well prepared. Compelling them to think out their arguments in advance and to answer their peers' questions and counter-arguments, it sharpens their powers of reason, analysis, and articulation. It thus provides them with fundamental skills necessary for success in any discipline or profession.

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