

## **UNIT-III:ACTIVITY-BASEDANDGROUPCONTROLLED INSTRUCTION**

Activity Based Instruction: Concept, Classification - Role Play, Simulation, Incident method, Case Study method, Gaming and prioritisation exercises. Group Controlled Instruction: Concept, Definition and Importance of Group Controlled Instruction – Types of Group Controlled Instruction: Group Interactive sessions, Co-operative Learning methods, Group investigation, Group Projects.

### **UNIT-III: ACTIVITY-BASEDANDGROUP CONTROLLED INSTRUCTION**

#### **ActivityBasedInstruction: IntroductionandMeaning**

The ABL approach is unique effective effort to attract out-of-school children to schools. The teachers who are involved in implementing this method have developed activities for each learning unit which facilitated readiness for learning, instruction, reinforcement and evaluation.

ABL has transformed the classrooms into hubs of activities and meaningful learning. Activity-based Learning is the method of education followed in the Corporation schools of Chennai (Tamil Nadu), from 2003 when M.P. Vijay Kumar

became the Commissioner of the Chennai Corporation. The ABL concept has been taken from the Rishi Valley practices. This has been



introduced in the Corporation Schools of Chennai with slight modifications. Seeing the success of the scheme this has been introduced in the Panchayat Union Schools.

- ✓ The Process of ABL approach
- ✓ Each part/unit is called a milestone.
- ✓ In each subject, the relevant milestones are clustered and linked as chain and this chain of milestones is called LADDER.
- ✓ To enable the children to organize in groups group cards are used.
- ✓ Evaluation is inbuilt in the system. Separate cards / activities are used for this purpose.
- ✓ Each child is provided with workbook/worksheet for further reinforcement activities.
- ✓ Children's progress is recorded through annual assessment chart.
- ✓ Each milestone (Each part/unit is called a milestone) has different type of activities such as introduction, reinforcement, practice, evaluation, remedial and enrichment activities represented by different logos. Benefits/Features of ABL approach
- ✓ Children learn on their own pace.
- ✓ There is clarity in each lesson. Each lesson are planned in a systematic way. The child knows what must be done next. Each unit of information or process is broken up in such a way that clarity of the lesson is ensured.
- ✓ Classroom environment is highly enthusiastic.
- ✓ Children are truly engaged in the act of learning.
- ✓ There is wide scope for creativity of children.
- ✓ Provision of more time for self-directed learning and teacher directed learning is reduced considerably.
- ✓ Group learning, mutual learning and self-learning are promoted.
- ✓ Teacher teaching time is judiciously distributed among children.

Only needy children are addressed by teachers.

- ✓ Children's participation in every step is ensured in the process of learning.
- ✓ Evaluation is built into the system; it is done without the child knowing it.
- ✓ Rote learning is discouraged and almost no scope for rote learning.
- ✓ Periodical absence of child from school is properly addressed. Ø Classroom transaction is based on child's needs and interests. Ø Freedom to child in learning as he chooses his activity.
- ✓ Multi grade and multilevel in learning is effectively addressed. Ø No child can move to the next higher step of learning unless attains the previous one.
- ✓ Sense of achievement boosts child's confidence and morale.
- ✓ Attractive cards and activity create interest among children.
- ✓ Scope for child's development in creative and communicative skills.
- ✓ Children will have a feel of security as they sit in rounds in the groups.
- ✓ Children are allowed to move in the classroom as they choose their activity.
- ✓ Moreover the distance between the teacher and the child is largely reduced and the teacher acts as a facilitator rather than teacher.
- ✓ The Teacher's Role in ABL The teacher has a very important role in this system. She has to learn the entire ABL system and work effectively with it. She has to exercise a quiet authority, without becoming authoritarian.
- ✓ An egalitarian attitude may require some un-learning and re-learning for teachers, but when they see it as part of the new culture of education, they are quick to accept it and practice it.

They are also able, in this system, to spend some time on children who are slow.

## **Concept**

The activity-based learning revolves around the following concepts:

- **Experimentation** – gathering knowledge through experience.
- **Exploration** – gathering knowledge and attaining skills through active investigation.
- **Expression** – encouraging kids to express their views through visual presentations.

## **Characteristics of Well-designed Activities**

### **1. Active Involvement**

The more students are actively engaged with their own learning, the more they learn. Students learn better when they are presented with problems that interest them and when they are provided the support and encouragement to discover relevant knowledge and strategies for solving those problems.

Well-designed group activities require students to develop problem solving strategies, articulate their mathematical ideas in words and in writing and to argue with peers about which strategies to employ.

### **2. Confronting Misconceptions**

New ideas and knowledge are largely constructed out of existing ideas. If the existing ideas contain misconceptions, chances are the new knowledge too will be flawed.

For this reason students should be urged to consciously identify and confront their own misconceptions. Learning activities should be designed to help identify and correct these misconceptions.

For example, students could be asked to make predictions and to compare these to the actual results. By consciously addressing the difference between prediction and reality the learner would have the opportunity to make necessary adjustments to their accumulated

understanding.

### 3. Multiple Representations

Learning is enhanced when mathematical ideas are presented with a mixture of representations. These include analytic, numerical,

graphical, verbal, and written. Well-designed activities both convey mathematical information and ask the student to respond in multiple modes.



### 4. Iteration

Student learning is

improved when students are required to express ideas and get timely feedback on them. Well-designed activities allow students the opportunity to reflect on the critiques they receive, make adjustments, and try again.

### 5. Appropriate Use of Technology

Calculators and computers should be used to help students visualize and explore data and relationships, not just to follow algorithms to predetermined ends. Well-designed activities with technology help students learn by providing a tool to explore different ways to represent the same information.

### Classification

#### Role Play

Role playing is a way of working through a situation, a scenario, or a problem by assuming roles and practicing what to say and do in a safe setting. This kind of learning experience has several benefits and advantages when it's implemented skillfully by a good trainer or teacher.

Instructors can supplement their teaching methods with role

playing in any context where it seems relevant. Even rehearsals of personal situations through role playing with a trusted friend can

provide beneficial learning opportunities. Let's look at some of the benefits of adding role playing to other instructional methods **Categories of role-play with examples of exercises.**

| Category of role-play       | Example of role-play exercise  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Experiments/investigations  | Any practical experiment Games<br>Cut-and-stick; card games<br>board games; dice games; memory<br>game |
| Presentations               | Child-in-role; make a radio or TV<br>commentary; short or extended<br>science plays                    |
| Metaphorical role-play      | Human sculpture; mimes   |
| Analogy role-play           | Using children as objects or<br>elements of scientific theory  |
| Simulation or moral/ethical | Organized debates; simulated<br>meetings; simulated court cases<br>(role-play)                         |
| Theatre in education        | Outside 'drama' companies which<br>encourage audience participation                                    |

Role play is the easiest way for children to understand since they are used to playing them and quickly learn any new rules. For teachers who may be new to role play, these activities would form an ideal platform from which to move on to the more complicated or abstract categories of role-play.

Children may have difficulty taking on these roles because they have had no experience of them in their lives. In these cases a good deal

of background knowledge needs to be supplied, through textbooks or information sheets and detailed 'character cards' that give information about any character's opinions and arguments.

Some examples of the uses of games in the science curriculum.

| Examples of Suggested activity | Examples of curriculum applications role-play exercise  |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Cut-and-stick                  | Worksheets containing jumbled words, All aspects of the science curriculum, e.g. phrases or pictures which children cut out names of planets; bones and organs of the hand stick in the correct order. Body parts, Periodic Table; electrical symbols; etc.   |
| Card cycle                     | Children work in groups to organise Cyclic aspects of science, e.g. water cycle; prepared information cards into a loop. carbon cycle; nitrogen cycle; blood circulation; decay cycle; rock cycle; food webs.   |
| Matching cards                 | Prepared cards of words and pictures;   |
| 20 questions Stick             | Stick a word or picture label on the backs eg Elements, compounds and mixtures; the metals and non-metals; energy resources; forces; chemical equations; electromagnetic spectrum; planets in the solar system. the questions to guess what is written on the skeleton; cells and their function, label. Answers are limited to yes or no. energy resources; types of work in pairs |

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Boardgames | Question and chance cards; trivial All aspects of the science curriculum, e.g. pursuits; ludo;snakesandladders;growthanddevelopment; sexeducation;blockbusters;bingo.propertiesof chemicals; habitats; forces; etc.           |
|            | Dice game Children throw a dice to assemble a Skeletal system; organs of the body; parts of a scientific diagram which has had numbers flower; partsofthePeriodicTable;electricalassignedto variouspartsofit.circuits. Memory |
| Memorygame | Ask pupils to remember everything on a table or tray afterlookingatitforterms;metalsandnon-metals; toyanimals; various fuels.   |

In science education role play can be seen as an interaction between play, games and simulations and the student that performs an activity with learning outcomes .Using this method, the teacher encouraged the student to be intellectually and also physically involved in the lesson content and that facility his understanding of difficult concepts .

Therearemany **advantages** for learning science trough role play. Role-play

- ✓ encouragesstudentstocreatetheirownreality;
- ✓ developstheabilitytointeracttoother people;
- ✓ increasesstudents motivation;
- ✓ engagesshy studentsin class activities;
- ✓ makesstudentself-confidence;
- ✓ helpsstudentstoidentifyandcorrectmisunderstandings;
- ✓ isagreeableandfun;
- ✓ Shows students that the real world is complex and problems that appear in the real world cannot besolved by simply memorizing information;

- ✓ Underlines the simultaneous use of different skills (acquired separately).

There are other reasons why role-play can be considered a valuable didactic method

- ✓ it gives students an understanding of their own learning by creating their own roleplays;
- ✓ can teach about ethical and moral issues arising from the science curriculum;
- ✓ it helps students to recognize and interpret their place in the world;
- ✓ it gives to the students a chance to experience life events in a physical way (more appropriate to their own learning style);
- ✓ analogical roleplay can help students to conceptualize.

There are five categories of role-play that can be used in science classes: investigations, games, presentations, analogy role play and simulations

### **Benefits of Role Playing**

Role playing can be effectively used in the classroom to:

- ✓ Motivate and engage students
- ✓ Enhance current teaching strategies
- ✓ Provide real-world scenarios to help students learn
- ✓ Learn skills used in real-world situations (negotiation, debate, teamwork, cooperation, persuasion)
- ✓ Provide opportunities for critical observation of peers

### **Guidelines**

- If you plant to use role playing as a graded exercise, introduce small, non-graded role plays early in and during the semester to help students prepare for a larger role play which will be assessed.
- Determine how the role play will be assessed:
  - ✓ Will observers be given an assessment rubric?
  - ✓ Will observers' remarks and scores be shared with the role players?
  - ✓ Will the observers' scores be included with the instructor's

scores?

- ✓ Will the role players be given the opportunity to revise and present the role play again?
- ✓ Will observers be taught how to properly assess the performance (include meaningful feedback that is not purely judgmental but rather justify all remarks that are practical and unbiased)?
- Instruct students that the purpose of the role play is to communicate a message about the topic and not focus as much on the actual person acting the role.
- Tie role plays to learning objectives so students see their relevance to course content.
- Allow time for students to practice the role play, even if it is spontaneous, so they will be able to think deeply about the role and present it in a meaningful way.
- Reduce large chunks of content into smaller sections which can be more effectively presented as a role play.
- When assigning a role play, explain its purpose and answer questions so students are able to properly prepare the exercise.
  - ✓ Provide guidelines about content to include:
  - ✓ general presentation behavior (eye contact, gestures, voice projection);
  - ✓ use of props; and
  - ✓ specific language to be used (content-related vocabulary) and language not to be used (profanity, slang).

## **Simulation**

Simulation is a controlled representation of reality. Simulation means role-playing or rehearsal in which the process of teaching is carried out artificially. Simulated teaching is a teacher training technique. It is used to bring about modification in the behavior of the teacher. It introduces pupil teacher to teach in non-stressful conditions.

Simulated teaching is used prior to the classroom teaching practice with the objective of developing a specific skill of communication. It can be used for pre-service teachers to make them effective.

In simulated teaching, one pupil-teacher acts as a teacher and other teacher trainers act as students. The teacher in this situation teaches considering the student as school students. Basic Assumption

- ✓ Teacher behavior is modifiable by the use of feedback device.
- ✓ The underlying skill of teaching can be modified and practiced.
- ✓ Teacher behavior can be identified.

### **Characteristic**

- ✓ This technique requires very systematic planning in advance that ensures attainment of desired goals.
- ✓ This method is effective for the practice of teaching skills by pupil teacher.
- ✓ The training is provided in artificial situations. Through mock trials, learners are fully trained to face real situations.
- ✓ Through feedback, drawbacks are noted in teaching, they are pointed out along with appropriate suggestions to rectify them.

### **Procedure of simulated training**

Following are the six steps that are usually followed in simulated teaching.

#### **(1) Assignment of role:-**

The student teachers are assigned the roles of teachers and observer resp. It is done on a rotation basis.

#### **(2) Deciding skill to be practiced**

At this stage, the skill to be practiced is decided and planning and preparation for it are done. Each trainee selects the topic according to his interest and intelligence.

#### **(3) Preparation of work schedule**

At this stage, it is decided who will teach first and who will observe and how everyone would be teaching /observing one by one.

#### **(4) Determining technique of observation**

In this stage, the decision is taken about the type of observation technique to be adopted. It also includes which type of data is to be collected and how these data are to be intercepted.

### **(5) Organization of first practice session**

The first practice session is started and its observations are recorded for judging the teaching behavior.

This is followed by feedback and suggestions for further improvement.

### **6) Alteration of procedure**

The whole procedure is changed at this stage. There is a change of teacher, change of observers, change of teaching skill and change in topic to be taught. Every student is given the opportunity to play the role of teacher, a student, and a teacher.

### **Precaution for simulated teaching**

- ✓ Pupils for the same subjects should go for practice.
- ✓ Each pupil-teachers should be provided with the opportunity to play the role of teacher, student, and an observer.
- ✓ For practice pupil-the teachers should prepare micro-lesson plan.
- ✓ At the end of the session there should be a decision for diagnostic processes.

### **Advantage of simulated teaching**

- ✓ It is for experiencing problems situation.
- ✓ This technique helps us in acquiring some classroom manners.
- ✓ The use of this technique enables us to study and analyze the teaching problems.
- ✓ Self-confidence in teaching develops through simulated teaching.
- ✓ This technique helps in explaining the behavior problems in the classroom and contributes to its solutions.
- ✓ This technique makes a person more aware of the role.
- ✓ It bridges the gap between theory and practice of teaching.

- ✓ It provides them with the reinforcement to develop various teaching skills.

### **Limitation of simulated teaching**

- ✓ Its use cannot be made in all subjects of the curriculum.
- ✓ This method requires a lot of preparation on the part of the teachers which they might not be ready to take.
- ✓ The observer who is doing the role, may incorrectly read.
- ✓ For beginners, it may be difficult to practice a few teaching skills such as questioning,
- ✓ No emphasis is given to teaching the content.

### **Incident method**

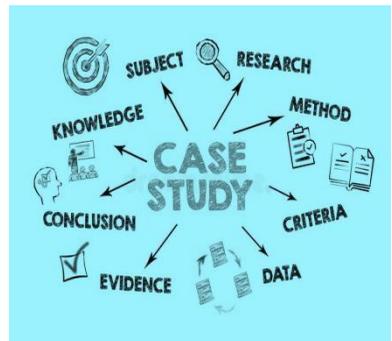
#### **Case Study method**

Case study provides a systematic and scientific way of perceiving or examining events, collect data, analyses information, and prepare a report. Psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud used case study method to assist his subjects in solving personality problems. The detailed accounts of interviews with subjects and his interpretations of their thoughts, dreams and action provide excellent examples of case studies.

The case study approach is based on reality. Some of these studies have been conducted in school environment, which have mostly centered on behavioural problems of children.

Observation, interviews, psychological tests and inventories have been used for collecting relevant data about the case or cases. However, subjective bias is a constant threat to objective data gathering and analysis techniques.

#### **Criteria for selection of case study**



For selection of cases for the case study, we often use information

oriented sampling. Our cases are based on this only information, which is mostly based on the extreme cases or typical cases. The average case is often not the richest in information.

Extreme or a typical case reveals more information because they activate more basic mechanisms and more actors in the situation studied. In addition, from both understanding oriented and action oriented perspectives, it is often more important to clarify the deeper causes behind a given problem and its consequences, than to describe the symptoms of the problem and how frequently they occur, etc.

Three types of information oriented cases may be distinguished:

- Critical cases
- Extreme or deviant cases
- Paradigmatic cases

### **Types of case study**

There are four types of case studies which are

- ✓ illustrative case studies
- ✓ exploratory case studies
- ✓ cumulative case studies and
- ✓ critical instance case studies.

#### **Illustrative Case Studies:**

These are primarily descriptive studies. They typically utilize one or two instances of an event to show what a situation is like. Illustrative case studies serve primarily to make the unfamiliar familiar and to give readers a common language about the topic in question.

#### **Exploratory (or pilot) Case Studies:**

This type of case studies performed before implementing a large scale investigation. Their basic function is to help identify questions and select types of measurement prior to the main investigation. The primary pitfall of this type of study is that initial findings may seem convincing

enough to be released prematurely as conclusions.

### **Cumulative Case Studies:**

These serve to aggregate information from several sites collected at different times. The idea behind these studies is the collection of past studies will allow for greater generalization without additional cost or time being expended on new, possibly repetitive studies.

### **Steps for a case study**

The following steps are used in the conduct of a case study:

#### **Step 1. Determining the present status of the case or cases**

The first step is to determine the present status of the case or cases through direct observation. In addition to physical examination of the case or cases, a psychological evaluation is required to determine the general ability level etc. For example, to make a case study of a 'slow learner', the first thing to do is to determine the present status of the child by making an assessment of his physique cognitive factors through direct observation and psychological test.

#### **Step 2. Identifying the most probable antecedents of the case or cases**

Determining the most probable antecedents of the case or cases is the next important steps. This information helps in formulating a workable hypothesis or a set of hypothesis. For example, in case of 'slow learner' cited in Step 1, the researcher may formulate a hypothesis that occurrence of slow learning behaviour in the child is due to unhealthy home environment, bad study habits and poor teaching in the school.

#### **Step 3. Verification of Antecedents/Hypotheses**

The case is then checked for the presence or absence of the antecedents supposed to apply to situation of under study. For example, the behaviour of slow learning of the child. This involves multi-method approach, which includes observation, past history of the case, interview etc.

## **Step 4. Diagnosis and Remedial Measures**

After the verification of the antecedents or hypothesis (es), the next step is directed towards the diagnosis of the causes (example, causes of slow learning) and suggesting remedial measures in the light of the causes.

## **Step 5. Follow-up of the case or cases**

The last step of the case study is the follow-up of the case (es) to study the impact of remedial measures. If impact is positive, the diagnosis is taken to be correct.

**Ways of case studies** There are different ways of using case studies, which are given below:

### **Writing analysis of case study**

The most careful analysis of a case study is probably obtained when it is made in writing. Case studies can be used as term papers with other related readings and bibliographies.

### **Panel of experts**

Although group members miss the advantages of participation, listening to a panel of experts a case may be useful especially as an introduction to the case method. A variation of this technique would be to bring in a panel of experts to analyse a case after a group had already done so.

### **Analysis of similar case studies**

**Case Study** Another variation of case discussion is to collect from the group members incidents from their experience similar to the case under consideration. Generalizations drawn from the case under consideration may carry over to the experiences of other members.

### **Cross examination**

By cross examination group members with questions prepared in advance, they will discover that it is necessary to do careful thinking and preparation before entering into case study. This technique, especially appropriate for use with cases containing a great deal of

detail, gives the researcher many opportunities to ask individuals to defend their points of views in terms of the data presented.

### **Gaming and prioritization exercises.**

There are many subject areas that can be gamified; however, games can be particularly helpful when teaching students science-based lessons. Educators can use two primary methods to gamify a particular subject or curriculum. Teachers can incorporate science-based games into their curriculum, or they can find ways to create a game-like experience within the structure of the coursework. The first method, adding games into the curriculum, can be easier for teachers to incorporate into lesson plans.

There are many types of games available that can be used in the classroom to enhance student learning including video and board games. For teachers that are looking to add free science-based video games to their curriculum, the Educational Gaming Environments group has three available: Impulse, Quantum Spectre, and Ravenous.

During class, students can play games related to instruction about physics concepts with 'teachable moments' as students encounter challenges. Teachers can utilize a similar design with any relevant game by organizing lessons to allow time for playing games and provide corresponding instruction on the topic.

For educators interested in modifying their course structure to incorporate game elements, there are several components to consider including competition, rewards, levels, cooperation, and feedback. In this scenario, students used an iPad with the 3D Game Lab platform to obtain experience points and badges, while competing against themselves to complete quests. The course material was incorporated into the platform and multimedia was added for students to view at various points within the quests.

Additionally, the 3D Game Lab platform utilized scientific terminology within the game's structure to reinforce the curriculum.

- ✓ First, students will need to be trained on how to use the technology that will be necessary for the games.
- ✓ Second, consider developing the curriculum into a series of assignments or activities that build upon each other.
- ✓ Third, offer students the opportunity to choose between assignments and have some control over their own learning.
- ✓ Finally, implement assessment strategies that are low-risk for students.
- ✓ Provide students with frequent assessments that offer opportunities for additional practice and repetition until proficiency is achieved.
- ✓ When teachers implement these strategies students will be more focused on learning the material and attain a higher level of proficiency.

When teachers gamify their curriculum, they should ensure that games are incorporated into instructional activities using a design that allows students to learn concepts at their own pace, receive feedback on progress, and provide repetition. When adapted correctly, gamification can provide many benefits to student learning including engagement, collaboration, and the acquisition of twenty-first-century skills that are necessary for a successful introduction into the workforce.

Teachers at any level can gamify science with a few modifications to their lesson plans. The key for gamifying any lesson is that it should be fun for the students. When students are engaged with the material, knowledge acquisition will occur more easily as students begin to enjoy learning.

Taking a step back, gamification refers to the application of gaming components to other aspects of life. When properly implemented, strategies associated with gamification in education may yield incredible benefits. Cognitive development, student engagement, accessibility, homework completion, classroom enjoyment, and

teaching feedback times all can experience significant boosts. That said, these possibilities would remain just that unless the basic success factors are met, which include:

- Challenges Students
- Teaches Students
- Entertains Students
- Focuses Students

In order to take proper advantage of all that gamification in education has to offer, you should consider doing so in the ways that have been proven effective. With that in mind, 6 of those ways have been elaborated upon below.

### **1. Introduce Collectibles**

When it comes to gamification in education, this concept is applied to the classroom. For example, when a student masters the use of Microsoft Word, they may receive a badge. Conversely, these badges may reflect long-term achievement, such as when a student receives their 10th perfect score on a quiz. Oftentimes, these collectibles are tracked by way of programs built into class' interactive technology.

### **2. Point-based Rewards**

When it comes to gamification in education, think about everything that must be done in the classroom – take notes, get good grades, stay quiet, do your homework, and so on. In that regard, consider applying a point-value to each performed task. If a student gets an A, then they get 5 points. If they turn in their homework on time, then another 3 points go their way. Once students acquire enough points, they can then use them to earn certain privileges, as set by the teacher. For instance, 30 points may allow them to skip one assignment, while 50 points will let them eat a snack during class.

### **3. Grading via Accomplishment**

Returning to gamification in education, those teachers applying its strategies should think of Pac-Man when devising their grading

structures. Therein, instead of focusing grades on the loss of points, focus it on the accumulation. In that vein, if a student receives an 8 out of 10 on a quiz, consider giving them a +8 instead of a -2. When it comes down to it, this method allows students to watch their final grade grow as the semester progresses, as opposed to watching it slowly decline.

#### **4. At-home Work**

Teachers often struggle with motivating their students to complete their assignments. When it comes down to it, they need to want to do their homework, or else the pursuit may be fruitless. With gamification and interactive technology, students are exposed to a new, fun learning style that they may also want to experience and continue at home.

#### **5. Compete for Participation**

In the analogy classroom, certain less-than-motivated students may ask themselves, “what’s the point?”. That is where gamification in education comes in. Just like incentivization, competition and the prospect of victory have proven to be excellent catalysts for improved student engagement and participation. If a class needs to review for an upcoming test, for instance, then a team-based version of Jeopardy should yield desirable results.

#### **Play Games**

At its core, gamification in education, or in any other setting, is nothing without the games that make it up. That is why games are so integral to the gamification process. Just because gaining aspects are integrated into classroom management does not mean that it will automatically be fun. No matter what, consideration still needs to be paid toward the implementation of each activity and process.

#### **Getting Started in Turning Lessons to Games**

Try out a few ideas illustrated above to help your students get motivated in the subject matters. Get them up and participating in the

lesson. Challenge their minds with a little competition. That is what gamification is all about in education.

### **Gamification in Higher Education?**

Games, in any form, increase motivation through engagement. Nowhere else is this more important than education. Nothing demonstrates a general lack of student motivation quite like the striking high school dropout rates: approximately 1.2 million students fail to graduate each year. At the college level, 56% of students complete four-year degrees within six years. It's argued that this is due to current systemic flaws in the way we teach; schools are behind the times. It's been proven that gamifying other services have resulted in retention and incentive.

### **Gamification in grading:**

Students' letter grades are determined by the number of points they have accumulated at the end of the course, in other words, by how much they have accomplished. Because of the extracurricular interests of the current college-age generation attributes success to the fact that "the elements of the class are couched in terms they understand." Students are progressing towards levels of mastery, as one does in games. Each assignment and each test feels rewarding, rather than disheartening. Using experience points allows educators to align levels with skills and highlight the inherent value of education.

### **Award students with badges:**

For each assignment completed, award students with badges. This may seem like a regression back to Kindergarten stickers of gold stars. As students watch instructional videos and complete problem sets, award them with points and badges to track progress and encourage perseverance.

### **Integrate educational videogames into your curriculum:**

The use of games allows students to fail, overcome, and persevere. Students are given a sense of agency—in games, they control

the choices they make, and the more agency students have, the better students do. Instantaneous feedback and small rewards are external motivators.

### **Implement a class-wide reward system:**

Encourage camaraderie among students by setting up a rewards system where students achieve something as a team. For example, set a goal of 80% of the class passing an exam. As a reward, give the entire class bonus points. That way, students are working to master the material together instead of competing, and the highest-achieving students will help those around them.

### **Gamify homework assignments to encourage informal learning:**

Ultimately, educators hope that games translate learning into informal environments. There simply aren't enough hours in the day for an educator. Games allow the curiosity—and the learning—to continue after the bell rings.

## **Advantages of the Gamified Classroom in Higher Education**

### **Increases Student Engagement**

**Studies have shown** that students are more likely to spend time playing a learning-based game if you are using a reward system. Badges and points help translate the work the student is completing into a tangible benefit. By increasing engagement you'll also see a rise in learning retention through gamification of learning. Students will be able to relate to the content easier through practice than just reading or watching a lecture.

### **Creates Enthusiasm**

Gamified learning can be used to foster feelings of enthusiasm towards the subject-matter, especially in subjects that students struggle with, like math. By creating a gamifying learning with rewards, students are becoming excited and competitive while learning through **quizzes, polls** and other collaborative learning methods with their peers.

### **Provides Instant Feedback**

Most gamification apps or systems allow for instantaneous feedback such as leaderboards and dashboards, which students can use to see where they stand among their peers. This information can push a student to try the quiz or activity again to get a higher placement and creates motivation for further lesson engagement.

### **Makes Social Connections**

In higher education we often find that students have trouble creating social connections with other students in their courses. Gamified classrooms, seated and virtual, help students who have trouble with social interaction and give them a reason to work together. This is especially true if you create team competitions that require students to collaborate on challenges.

### **Disadvantages of the Gamified Classroom in Higher Education**

#### **Decreases Student Attention Span**

Critics of gamified learning believe that the fast pace and immediate feedback creates a problem with student attention span. Students may begin to expect the same kind of responses from all parts of their education and won't find it, leading to frustration.

#### **Cost**

The costs of gamified learning are varied based on the type of system you are using. There may be equipment costs, software costs, and training costs for instructors. Sometimes these costs are passed on the students through registration fees and course codes that must be purchased, creating a higher barrier for entry into the classroom. There are often support or maintenance related costs for system that are delivered online or are hosted in your campus environment.

#### **Student Assessment**

When choosing a game it is not often clear how the results of the gamified learning activity will tie into your course assessment. While most games have a built-in way to track progress, you will need to find a way to translate the student's game progress into fulfill objectives. It

is not always easy to find a good fit between the games on the market and your course materials so this can be a time-consuming process.

### **Game Logistics**

Many times, setting up a game for your course requires a lot of prior planning and logistics. Questions you need to ask are: Will students be able to play the game at home? Is there an additional cost if they use it outside of the classroom? Are there enough computers available for students to play the game in class? Do I want to use class time for students to play the game? Most of the time you will need to sit down and play the game yourself all the way through, which can take about 40 hours, before you fully understand the game and objectives.

### **Gamification Apps and Tools**

Gamifying your higher education classroom through online tools and platforms can help engage your students course content and helps them connect with their classmates on a deeper level. Here, we share some tools that help you bring enthusiasm, connection and competition to your course.

**Kahoot:** Kahoot allows instructors to design their own multiple-choice quizzes for both formative assessments and informal quizzes. To participate, students answered timed questions, where they are ranked based on their speed and accuracy. It can be accessed via the Kahoot! app or web browser.

**TEDEd:** TEDEd houses hundreds of educational videos with an accompanying app where instructors can create interactive video lessons based on their course concepts, with quizzes, discussions prompt and other activities.

**Gimkit:** Gimkit gives instructors the opportunity to create their own gameshows that students can answer on their own devices. Working at their own pace, students work question sets until they reach mastery to ensure they've fully comprehended course concepts.

## **Group Controlled Instruction:**

### **Concept**

When instruction is organized in such a manner that students carry out the instructional activities together in a group it is called GCI Group Controlled Instruction. GCI is based on the fact that every member of the group actively participates in the instructional activity.

Learning takes place due to interaction among the group members and learning by doing work in the group with the support of each other. Thus, learning in this mode of instruction is controlled by the interactive climate generated by the group working as a team with mutual support.

### **Definition**

Group Controlled Instruction may be defined as the mode of instruction wherein learning is dependent on group interaction or mutual support of group members. You might have noticed that in this type of instructional method. The group takes up the responsibility of organizing learning tasks.

### **3.3.Importance of Group Controlled Instruction**

Both the teacher-controlled instruction and the learner-controlled instruction are effective modes of instruction mainly for cognitive and skill development of individuals. In these modes of instruction the individuals develop a feeling of competing with one another, defeating one another. It spoils the innocent fun of children and of young students. It also does not educate students on how to lead a harmonious life in the society.

Therefore it is important to supplement these two modes of instruction with group-controlled instruction. Group controlled instruction provides deeper understanding of knowledge through

#### **Group controlled teaching ( Action oriented, democratic teaching)**

- Project methods
- Simulation instruction
- Field trip
- Field work, survey
- Workshop
- Problem- solving method
- Problem based learning
- Role play
- Narrative
- Conducting experience
- Story telling
- Field observation
- Model building
- Buzz sessions

participating in group work including discussion.

It develops the power of expression critical thinking, tolerance, belongingness, trust, team spirit, habit of helping each other, etc. Thus, Group Controlled Instruction can help prepare knowledgeable and skilled human beings who could support a society with democratic values leading to harmonious life, prosperity and happiness.

### **.Types of Group Controlled Instruction:**

Group controlled instruction is of two types, one involving interactive sessions which you have just gone through and the other based on group activities involving team work. In this section you will study those activities which involve team mode and the process of their organization.

These activities can be organized regularly for various subjects like math, science, social studies and languages. Considering the nature and the procedure of organizing these activities, there are three methods of learning involving team work, viz., cooperative learning, group project and group investigations. Let us discuss each of these methods in detail.

### **Group Interactive Sessions,**

#### **Elements of Interactive Sessions**

To organize an interactive session in a secondary or senior secondary school either all the students of the class can take part in an instructional task as a group or the class can be divided into smaller groups and given separate activities to work on. There are four main elements of the interactive sessions:

- Chairperson
- Speaker Participants, and
- Recorder
- In such a group activity one member from the group is chosen as the chairperson or coordinator of the session.

The person conducts the proceedings of the session. The coordinator need not necessarily be the teacher or an expert. One of the students (group members) may act as the coordinator. The coordinator is one of the important elements in an interactive session. It may also be noted that students cannot take part in discussion until they have some briefing about the topic. Therefore, it is essential that you should make the students aware of the instructional activity and present a brief note according to the requirement. This member of the group is called the speaker and is the second element of interactive session.

Meaningful interaction can take place only when individual members of the group participate in the discussion. All members of the group are participants in the interactive session. These participants are the third element of the session. The proceedings of the sessions may be systematically observed and recorded by a member. This person is called the observer or the recorder and (s)he is fourth element of the interactive sessions.

### **Pre-interactive Session Activities**

For organizing interactive sessions at the secondary school stage one should keep in mind that our students are not trained in organizing group-controlled instruction. The seating arrangements in our classrooms are also not suitable for interactive sessions.

The importance of interactive sessions has not been adequately realized: because of this interactive sessions are seldom organized in our schools. Due to these reasons organizing interactive session can be a challenge for you as a school teacher.

Accept the challenge; you will be successful if you systematically follow the steps of organizing interactive sessions. We present here the steps you should follow while organizing group interactive sessions in your class. These steps are suggestive and you can modify them to suit the requirements of your students.

## **Instructional System**

### **Assign separate weightage to interactive sessions:**

In order to organize interactive sessions, it is necessary that the activity should be considered important in the school time table. This will give legitimacy and due weightage to interactive sessions. This will also make it a compulsory activity for all the students in your course and will develop seriousness on the part of teacher and students.

### **Allocation of topics:**

You should allocate the topic(s) to the students so that they can prepare for presentation. It is better to give students only a small portion which they can prepare and present in about 20 minutes. Lengthy topics should be presented by different students. You may also suggest some reference books to the students.

The work of topic allocation may be taken up just after the reopening of the school, within first 10-15 days. This will enable students to prepare their topics in time to start interactive sessions at an early date, so that each student may get a chance to present. As a teacher, you should keep a record of the portions allotted to various students.

### **Decide the dates of presentation:**

The dates of presentation should be fixed for each student in the beginning itself. This may be notified also. Students may be asked to prepare the write-ups in advance. More confident and capable students should be given early dates.

**Guiding and motivating students for preparation of write-ups:** In order to ensure that every student prepares a write-up, you should encourage students to start work immediately, such as reading books on the topic, etc. You should guide the students regarding reference books and also in the preparation of write-ups. Providing continuous motivation to the students may be essential for you as a teacher.

### **Making seating arrangement:**

You should remember that an interactive session requires a seating arrangement of the kind that enables all participants to see and listen to each other. For this reason circular arrangement is the most effective.

The school should ideally have a room where furniture is arranged in a circular form. This room could be utilized by different classes during different periods. But, providing a room exclusively for this purpose may be difficult for many schools.

It is, therefore, suggested that such room should be optimally used for various curricular and co-curricular activities in the school. Reshuffling of furniture is also easy in the same class.

### **Orientation of the students:**

For conducting effective interactive sessions at school, you should orient your students about the interactive session. You should state the purpose of the interactive sessions. You should clearly inform the students what they are expected to do during the interactive session.

You should also tell them that they will be evaluated on the basis of the write-ups they prepare, presentation they make and their participation in the discussion. The students, therefore, should know their role and the process of evaluation.

### **Circulating write-ups:**

An interactive session requires that the student should prepare a write-up which may be brief or a detailed one. The write-up may be circulated among all the participants one or two days in advance so that they go through it and come prepared in the session. This responsibility may be assigned to the student who has to make the presentation.

### **Demonstration involving team of teachers:**

At the school stage, it is necessary that the first presentation should be made by the teachers. The chairperson and recorder also may be teachers. The students should be encouraged to take part along with

the participating teachers. Students should be asked in the beginning itself to observe the entire proceedings of the session so that later on they can conduct the sessions independently in the same manner.

### **Conducting Interactive Sessions**

Conducting an interactive session is the responsibility of the chairperson. In your class, it would be advisable that you should function as the chair person. School children may show a lot of hesitation in participating in group discussion.

Your initiative, encouragement and guidance will ensure meaningful interaction in the group. You can function as an elaborator, moderator and controller, once the students acquire confidence in them. They can be given responsibility to organize sessions independently. Nevertheless, your role in organizing group interactive sessions is very crucial.

### **Some of the important activities that you may have to perform are as follow:**

Interactive sessions should be a regular instructional activity in the school. Once it becomes a part of overall teaching learning strategies, the students would develop necessary skills to actively participate in pedagogic interactions and acquire knowledge.

You can call upon the student who has to make presentation and introduce the topic raising one or two important issues to which the entire group may pay attention. For this you should go through the topic beforehand.

After a brief introduction you should request the speaker to make the presentation. As soon as the speaker completes the presentation, you should help the participants to recall, in a nutshell, the main points of the discussion.

As other students are not acquainted with group interaction, you should tell them some rules for participating in and learning from interactive sessions.

Some of these important rules are as under:

### **i) Participants**

Participants should raise their hands before asking questions and wait for the chairperson's permission.

All the questions should be addressed to the chairperson.

No participant will interrupt in another participant's talk and will speak only when the speaker has completed his presentation. In other words, students should take turns for speaking.

### **ii) Motivator:**

- ✓ You may find that many students do not take active part in the discussion.
- ✓ At the school level it is mainly due to the reason that students in the beginning cannot gather up enough courage to speak in a group.
- ✓ Some students generally feel shy and hence withdraw themselves from active participation in discussion. Some students do not interact because of the fear that they may commit mistakes.
- ✓ As a result, many students prefer to become just passive listeners.
- ✓ In order to ensure that every student participates in discussion, you should make some effort to motivate the students.
- ✓ You should invite, by name, those participants who are passive listeners and ask them whether they have anything to contribute.
- ✓ You should remain alert and read the facial expression of the individual student whether he/ she feels like asking questions but does not raise his/ her hand. Such students should be motivated to express their ideas.
- ✓ You should encourage them to participate in discussion.
- ✓ You should be polite in your behavior.

You should appreciate the views expressed by the students. This, in turn, will ensure their willing participation in the teaching-learning process.

**iii) Facilitator:**

- ✓ The students may expect you to clarify the issues and ideas, and occasionally raise questions when these are not clear to the group.
- ✓ You should summarize the ideas expressed by the participants. Sometimes when arguments and counter arguments start on a point of discussion and different participants give almost the same views, you can give your judgment and conclude, and ask the students to proceed to the next issue.
- ✓ But it should also be kept in mind that you should not become the main speaker; you should rather be an attentive listener than a compulsive speaker.

**iv) Elaborator:**

- ✓ At the school stage you may find that many participants face difficulty in expressing their ideas in proper words.
- ✓ They may not have mastery over the subject. Sometimes the participant may express a concept which is not correct.
- ✓ In such a situation you should elaborate the views expressed by the students.
- ✓ In other words, you should facilitate them in asking questions or raising points. You should clarify the questions which are not clear to the group.

**v) Moderator:**

As a moderator one requires the ability to moderate the time taken by the participants to express their thoughts, feelings, opinions, directions and suggestions.

You are required to moderate the overall environment of interactive sessions with a view to maintaining the warmth of the interpersonal

feelings and providing all participants a chance to take part in discussion. In order to provide each participant reasonable opportunity, you should decide the policy regarding organization of interactive sessions and inform participants about it in the beginning of the session.

- ✓ You should keep the total time allotted to the interactive session in mind and organize the session in such a way that every student gets a chance to express his/ her ideas.
- ✓ If the ideas expressed by a participant are novel, he/she may be permitted to speak a little longer.
- ✓ Repetition of the views should be avoided.
- ✓ At times, the points on which interaction is taking place may create tension and generate a few intense (if not bitter) feelings among participants.
- ✓ It happens in all such situations where participants tend to identify themselves with certain views. When such bitter feelings are created, you should maintain neutrality and in your capacity as the moderator, you should mediate and sum up without hurting anybody's feelings.

**vi) Controller:**

- ✓ An interactive session can be considered successful when it is organized systematically and purposefully.
- ✓ At times the discussion goes beyond the context, in such a situation you should bring participants back to the main theme of discussion.
- ✓ You have to control and regulate the conflicting view points which arise due to dogmatic opinions of the participants.

**Closing the interactive session:**

- ✓ You should close the session within the time allotted or when the participants have nothing more to contribute.

- ✓ Before closing the session, it is desirable that you should highlight and summaries the views and arguments expressed during the discussion.
- ✓ For this purpose, you should take notes during the session. You should also make some remarks on the conduct of the session as well.
- ✓ This may be done without any personal references and without hurting the feelings of participants.
- ✓ You should commend desirable behaviours and caution against undesirable ones.

### **Interactive Sessions Conducted by Students**

- ✓ When group controlled instruction becomes a regular feature in your school, you may find that one period is too small for an interactive session.
- ✓ It would be essential to divide the class into smaller groups and discuss the assigned topic or the problem in a more satisfactory manner. This arrangement will ensure that all the students take part in discussion.
- ✓ In a small group, students themselves can choose one of them as the chairperson who will take the responsibility of conducting the session.
- ✓ In the absence of the teacher some students who otherwise do not take part in discussion due to fear of committing mistakes, etc. may take part in the discussion.

However, such an arrangement should be made only when the students have observed 8-10 interactive sessions chaired by you.

It would also be advisable that in some sessions you should be present as a participant and allow the students to chair the sessions. During such sessions you should, however, guide the interaction and provide feedback to the chairperson. This would enable the students to conduct the interactive session by themselves.

## **Co-operative Learning methods**

In order to develop in students the skill of cooperation, belongingness and team spirit and to reduce individual competition amongst them, you should adopt the cooperative learning methods.

Cooperative learning is not individual learning but group or peer learning. In cooperative learning, students work together to achieve a common goal. There is greater participation and involvement of the students in cooperative learning.

Cooperative learning generates more intrinsic motivation than does individualized learning. The feeling of belongingness produces positive attitudes and team spirit in the students.

Cooperative learning is specifically useful for learning various skills and knowledge. You should, therefore, be familiar with the process of organizing cooperative learning in your class or school.

**For this specific activity you have to analyse as follows:**

### **a) Formation of groups:**

You should divide the class into small groups. While forming groups, you should keep in mind the heterogeneity among students in respect of sex, intelligence, religion, etc. Each group should consist of a cross-section of the class: boys, girls; above average, average and below average students in terms of intelligence. You should try to form groups by including students from different communities.

### **b) Preparation of cooperative learning sheets:**

You should prepare these sheets for all the topics to be taught through cooperative learning. These learning sheets consist of objectives, activities to be done by the group members in accordance



with. The content of the topic and evaluation items based on the objectives.

**c) Orientation to the students:**

As students are used to working individually, they have to be oriented properly to work together. You should inform them about how cooperative learning will be organized. Every learning point should be discussed collectively.

A student who does not understand could be explained well by another student. They should work as a team to achieve the set goals. They should be informed that they will not be evaluated individually; rather the entire group performance will be assessed.

The group as a whole should ensure that every individual member of the group learns every concept. Average performance of the group will be the index of group learning or progress.

**d) Conducting the cooperative learning session:**

You should allot time for cooperative learning sessions and distribute cooperative learning sheets to the groups. All groups should carry out learning activities according to guidelines given in the sheets. These learning sheets should provide flexibility to the students.

The students may now do the activities according to the requirement of the group members. They may discuss the problem, ask questions, explain concepts and solve problems according to their convenience.

Every member may be evaluated by the group. If a member commits mistakes, he may be helped by others. At this stage you should observe how cooperatively the groups are working. You should give feedback for each group about whether they are proceeding in the right direction and gaining from the session.

Finally, the group should report about what they have done and how they have performed. The performance reported should be the average performance of the group.

## **Advantages of cooperative learning**

In cooperative learning an informal situation is created based on mutual dependence, feeling of being-accepted, liked and supported by fellow students.

They have the freedom to explore their ideas, discuss with their friends and sharpen their thinking and actions, get help and provide support to others. Thus cooperative learning is quite advantageous to students.

The main advantages of cooperative learning are as follows:

- Students are often able to translate the teacher's language into their own language and enrich their understanding.
- Students learn by actually participating in the teaching-learning process.
- The students have to organize their thoughts to explain ideas to their mates.
- They engage themselves in cognitive elaboration that greatly enhances their understanding.
- Students can provide individual attention to and get assistance from one another. As they can freely seek assistance from fellow students in learning, their achievement will be much higher.

## **Group investigation,**

At the school stage certain topics are such which raise doubts and questions in the minds of the students and for those they do not find answers in the textbooks. To answer such questions requires investigation into the phenomenon.

Problems/questions whose answers are not readily available require investigation some of the problems are such that no individual student can investigate these by himself.

It is, therefore, desirable to carry out group investigation in such a situation. The process in which a group of students selects

problems/questions and tries to find out their solutions collectively in a scientific manner is called group investigation.

### **Organizing a group investigation:**

In order to take up group investigation as an instructional activity at the same stage and to make it successful your guidance to students is very much essential.

Do you know how a group investigation should be carried out? It is necessary for you, as a teacher, to know what are the different phases through which group investigation proceeds.

A class engaged in a group investigation will through the following phases:

**Selection of problem:** You may indicate some example problems and guide the group to select a suitable problem for investigation.

**Cooperative planning:** The members of the group will plan their work regarding collection of evidence, sources of evidence, and allocation of work among members.

They should also estimate the time to be devoted to investigation work. Besides collecting data from various sources, the group should also plan about the data will be analyzed and who will do the analysis.

They should also decide the way the report on the investigation will be prepared. For each activity, time must be estimated  
**Implementation:** Work should be started according to the plan.

Every member should try higher best to complete the activities within the stipulated time. Evidence from all the sources and areas should be collected.

**Analysis and synthesis:**



The collected evidence should be analyzed and synthesized logically in order to arrive at valid results.

### **Preparation of report and presentation:**

A brief report of the work done should be prepared by each group.

The report should include information about how the work was done and what findings were arrived at the report should not be of more than a few pages.

It should not be a very technical report but just a write-up which should be presented by the coordinator of each group.

### **Evaluation:**

- ✓ You should evaluate the work of each team on the basis of your observation of the group's way of solving the problem.
- ✓ You should judge, are adequate and valid and solutions arrived at are logical and based on facts.
- ✓ You should provide feedback to the group.

### **Instructional System**

- ✓ The group investigation, as a group-controlled activity, requires a lot of your guidance to be successful.
- ✓ The knowledge gained through this type of instruction promotes deeper understanding of how children learn in groups as well as individually.

### **Group Projects.**

At the school stage there are several activities which cannot be completed by an individual and which require a group of students to work together.

For example, the activities presented below can be taken up as group projects:

- ✓ Presentation of models of different types of houses in a particular region of the country
- ✓ A model of hydro-electric power generators
- ✓ A model of different types of dams

- ✓ a Plantation and care of house-hold plants
- ✓ Study of a country's location, climate, crops, people and industries, and presenting them in the form of charts, maps, etc.
- ✓ Preparation of model of different organs of the body
- ✓ Conducting market surveys, etc.



A group project means a planned set of activities which are undertaken by a group of students with defined objectives and which results in a finished product or practical accomplishment.

In a group project, students learn by developing collectively a plan of action related to the subject matter to be learnt through their whole-hearted involvement in the activities. The course of action should be complete in itself.

There are definite, but not rigid, steps to be followed in completing a group project work.

### **Steps in a group project:**

A group project involves the following steps:

**Formation of groups:** The whole class may be divided into small groups of 5-7 students, keeping in mind the heterogeneity criteria proposing: At this stage the decisions are made about what is to be done.

The **objectives** of the project are stated explicitly. The students may need your guidance in selecting the project and stating its objectives.

### **Planning:**

In group project various means to attain objectives are considered and the most appropriate means are selected. Some action plan is also chalked out according to the group decisions.

Appropriate activities are identified and allotted to different members of the group. Project work is planned in such a way that involvement of all the members of the group is ensured.

### **Implementing:**

Project activities should be carried out by the members of group according to the plan. Students should be encouraged to discuss their allotted activities frequently and help each other in completing their activities. The group as a whole should come out with a finished product or an accomplishment.

### **Evaluation:**

The success of the group project should be evaluated on the basis of the attainment of the set objectives. In addition, you should observe how closely and cooperatively the group has worked to accomplish the project and prepare a finished product.

It is also advisable to arrange an exhibition of the products and accomplishments and invite 1 or 2 teachers who could judge and evaluate the projects.

