

Negative Effects of Technology on Teenagers' Education

Abstract

In reality, the impact of technology lies somewhere between the two views, i.e. its negative as well as positive effect on education of children. It is definitely a controversial issue. It is seen as a forwarding step in advancing education as well as a distraction in real learning. It has quite an impact on student performance and collaboration on learning tasks. For active learning to happen, technology can be utilized in a big way. It is indeed a challenge to educators to contemplate and thereby reflect on the ways of technology usage in a multidimensional perspective.

Keywords: Technology, Academics, Computers, Multimedia.

Introduction

The World is encountering a technology boom, especially in the field of education among children and teenagers. It has brought about havoc changes in the pattern of the education system. The past 40 years have experienced a significant change in the classroom itself.

Computers have become a regular feature in every school since the 21st century.

Need of The Study

Many experts still believe that technology has in a big way upgraded the entire education system in the world. On the other hand, many believe that hi-tech mechanization hinders the learning process in general. We need to study the pros and cons of technology, and also study the fact, as many believe, that human beings are gradually becoming technology dependent, ignoring the possibility of efficient working of the brain. We also need to know the advantages of technology in its various uses. So, the two new sides of a coin is an absolute necessity, to look at.

Objective of the Study

The basic reason behind such a study is to map the effects of technological devices on students ---if negative, then to what extent; and if positive, then how strong. One would like to know whether students learn better from books than other social media. It is also important to know to what extent teaching and learning may be successful, as far as social media is concerned. Also, the effectiveness of ICT in education needs to be gauged as a means of communication technology. Basically, the objective should be to study the use, misuse and addiction to technology.

Context

With the advent of computers, internet etc. a world of opportunity has opened up to the students, who have a great deal of access to information. The total milieu of study has expanded, and with such aids, learning has become very student-friendly. Again, this technology has reduced the time taken by students to tap various resources. Students spend less time in recording their learning experiences.

On the other side, quite a few hindrances have been noticed regarding the intervention of technology in the process of learning of students.

1. First of all, technology prevents the students from developing basic literacy and communication skills that which are very useful in day to day life. For example, spell check, grammar checkers and other tools.
2. Secondly, it involves immense expenditures - Hi-tech machines and softwares involve a great deal of maintenance charges, which has to be incurred by the schools and colleges.
3. Thirdly, technology is actually transforming learners into inefficient learners, as they think that it is not important to pay attention in classrooms, as it is available online.



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4. Fourthly, the technology might, at times, fail due to technical difficulties. So, the teachers need to be ready with other sources of task assignments to avoid the loss of time.
5. Fifthly, social networking sites can tempt students to other activities. This distraction can be avoided if the teachers monitor their use of technology.
6. Technology is ultimately making the students fail in verbal communication. They cannot actually share their problems with others and overcome them. Interaction is non-existent.
7. Another difficulty is that, online courses fail to bring about motivation for learning or self-discipline.
8. There is a great challenge for teachers, as software's keep on upgrading, with which they have to be constantly in touch with the rolling system.
9. Most important component of student's academic experiences is one's handwriting. This is not at all promoted, as there is no scope for papers and pens.
10. Nowadays, e-books are in vogue in place of books. But all e-books are not compatible in all devices. Books are always a real asset.
11. Lastly, in a country like India and other third world countries, group cannot always afford such hi-tech devices, and are deprived of updated information.

Several surveys have been conducted in schools and colleges. A comparison has been made between students who texted during a lecture, versus those who did not. It was observed that those who did not indulge in texting during a class lecture, actually performed well in their learning outcome.

It has also been found that most of the students using a computer in classroom spend considerable time on activities unrelated to academics. It has also been observed that students perform better when they take notes on paper rather than on a laptop.

To combat all the above drawbacks, there are definitely effective uses of technology. Foremost, it is very useful for those who have writing difficulties. Researchers say that multimedia learning increases student's retention of course material.

Conclusion

Finally, it might be rightfully said that the influences of technology is huge in today's academic world. Students can do a lot, almost everything in a matter of a few seconds. Keeping aside the negative side, it is positive in the way that it is completely up to the people using this technology, whether they use it to their own benefit or allows it to distract them from their goal or purpose. Technology can be an amazing tool to carry on the educational endeavour infinitely.

Endnotes

1. <https://universityhomeworkhelp.com/15-disadvantages-of-technology-in-education/>
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