

TEACHER SKILLS AND LEARNING SKILLS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

by:

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The rapid evolving society brought by changing norms, innovations, and technological advancements emphasize the crucial role of high level of cognitive skills among students. 21st century learners should be able to develop high levels of critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, effective communication, respect and recognition of different race and cultures. In improving competences and relevant skills, schools are still relevant and important. Teachers' knowledge about learner skills can positively impact the teaching and learning process. It may be able to help students adapt to the 21st century educational conditions (Harris et al., 2009; Mazman & Koçak Usluel, 2011).

Teachers are being transformed through national and local training systems. Teacher training seminars are now engrossed on three factors which are pedagogy, content knowledge, and technology. Teachers' pedagogical methods are implemented during the discussion of the specific contents using available technology effectively in the teaching-learning process. School facilities and services are critical for the interaction of the three factors (Harris et al., 2009; Koehler & Mishra, 2009).

Learner skills develop teacher skills, and teacher skills will enhance learner skills. Teachers' skills must be maximized for students who advanced learners (Sanders & Rivers, 1996). On the other hand, a teacher maximizes teaching skills can motivate and inspire students to actively participate in the classroom instruction. Teachers who are knowledgeable on learner skills have the ability to use new technologies, possess innovativeness and flexibility, and collaboration which are expected to be the

characteristics of 21st century teachers. There is a need to educate teachers on new educational technologies to use it effectively (Brun & Hinostrza, 2014).

Teachers' own 21st century skills are important not only in transferring the contents of the curriculum but also in transferring 21st century skills to students. Cognitive skills can solve learning problems faced in schools and real-life. It can be transferred to skills such as cooperation, self-management, and self-confidence (Billing, 2007). However, 21st century learners have a generation conflict with their teachers, and this situation leads to more cognitive skills work (Young, 2012).

It is essential to train teachers and teacher candidates who are innovative, able to collaborate, and possess flexibility in skills. This only shows that teachers lack competence in using technology which is required by this present age have difficulties in adapting to new developments, technologies and ideas. The role of the teacher is very important since it is a chance to raise individuals who will be the architects of the future (Bahadir et al., 2019).

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