

WHAT DISTINGUISHES A TWENTY-FIRST-CENTURY TEACHER?

by:

Maria Cecilia R. Cabrera

Master Teacher I, San Benito Elementary School

The implementation of education in the twenty-first century differs from that of the previous century. Education in the 21st century is expected to produce students who are capable of adapting to the post-industrial era (industrial revolution 4.0). The direction of education in the twenty-first century is no longer aimed at preparing people for a simple, steady state, and predictable world. The four learning characteristics of the twenty-first century, namely: (1) Critical Thinker; (2) Creativity and Innovation; (3) Communication; and (4) Collaboration, are a result of the characteristics and demands of the century as described above. Teachers must be able to create lessons that use the outputs of HOTS (High Order Thinking Skills). The competitiveness and innovation capacity of organizations are driven by 21st-century digital skills. Despite the importance of these skills, the digital component of 21st-century skills is still not well defined.

Because 21st-century skills are broader than digital skills, they are not always supported by ICT. Technical, information management, communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving are the seven core skills that should be included. Ethical awareness, cultural awareness, flexibility, self-direction, and lifelong learning were also identified as contextual skills.

Teachers must embrace that the availability of internet connectivity, in particular, is critical because it creates an environment for a shift from teacher-centered pedagogy (content-based learning) to learner-centered pedagogy (inquiry and project-based learning), which is more interactive and activity oriented.

However, regardless of the facilities provided; teachers' increasing use of computers and the internet; the approach to teaching and learning; the most important aspect should be the technological competence acquired by teachers; thus, one must be willing to recalibrate his or her own ways of teaching, attend seminars, training, and workshops.

According to an article published on ThoughtCo.com, an effective 21st-century educator considers their students' futures and is conscious of the career potentials that may arise as a result of them. They are constantly planning to ensure that no child is left behind, so they continue to focus on preparing today's youth for what is to come in the future. Using everything important in today's world so that students can live and prosper in today's economy, as well as having the ability to guide and prepare students for the future.

References:

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