

THE CLAVERIA TECHNIQUE IN DISTANCE LEARNING FOR GRADE 1

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The foundation of all academic learning is reading. It gives learners the chance to speak clearly, explore novel concepts, and hone their critical thinking abilities. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the traditional classroom structure was upset by the transition to distant learning, which had an impact on millions of students' foundational education, particularly in the early grades. Students in Grade 1, who were only starting to read, were among the most impacted. Teachers investigated and put into practice a variety of remote reading instruction methodologies in order to close the gap created by the absence of in-person instruction. The Claveria Technique, which was developed by Erlinda S. Claveria, is one such strategy that worked well during these trying times.

The Claveria Technique is a way of teaching reading that is structured and focused on phonics. This method focuses on syllabic recognition, starting with a word's initial syllable, and employs visual aids like drawings to assist students in making the connection between a syllable's sound and meaning. To help the student visually and contextually establish the sound and its meaning, the syllable "ba" can, for instance, be paired with an image of a bata (child). With time, this approach helps students improve their word identification, decode increasingly difficult words, and ultimately develop sentence comprehension.

In distance and modular learning, where many students have little to no access to devices or internet connectivity, this method is quite helpful. The Claveria Technique can be included in printed learning modules or activity sheets due to its straightforward

structure and visual aids, which enable parents or guardians to help their children with little assistance from teachers.

According to Benitez and Maguyon (2021), their study during School Year 2020–2021 revealed that Grade 1 pupils exposed to the Claveria Technique showed notable improvements in phonemic awareness, syllable blending, and word recognition. Even without direct classroom instruction, learners engaged in consistent reading exercises using this method achieved better fluency and comprehension than those who relied solely on traditional worksheets.

The Claveria technique has a helpful effect. The researcher interviewed the participants' parents regarding their experiences teaching their children to read and their views of their growth in order to gather qualitative data. According to the parents, this tool catches their kids' attention due to the image used in each syllable (Benitez and Maguyon, 2021).

When teaching beginning reading, the Marungko Approach is still the key method, including the Claveria Technique offers a more comprehensive and varied approach, particularly in rural settings. Combining the two approaches, according to teachers, provides students with a more solid basis and accommodates different learning preferences.

To sum up, the Claveria Technique is a useful tool in reading for students and teachers, particularly when it comes to distance learning. It is flexible to many instructional setups, such as modular and home-based education. As and educators, who continue to look for some strategies to close the learning gaps caused by the pandemic, this technique is indeed a big help.

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