ACTIVITY BASE LEARNING OR JOYFUL LEARNING IN COMMERCE EDUCATION

PUROHIT DR. NEEL KAMAL

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR,
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
S.S. JAIN SUBODH PG COLLEGE,
RAMBAGH, TONK ROAD, JAIPUR

ABSTRACT

The ABL concept is a unique concept to overall development of a student. ABL is a useful tool to enhance the skill of students. It makes easy to learn to any subject. For commerce students ABL approach should be accepted compulsory. In academic side of commerce education, the students generally apply rote study. There are no practical approaches of study. On adoption of ABL process, a commerce student will be able to learn practical aspects of commercial activities & it will be helpful for their future after completion of basic education.

KEYWORDS: Transforming, David Horseburgh, Neel Bagh, Pedagogic, Journal, Ledger, Debit Note, Credit Note.

Introduction:

Learning is the lifelong process of transforming information and experience into skills, knowledge, behavior and attitude. Albert Einstein said that “The only thing that interferes with my learning is books”. Since, learning is not dependent upon classes and courses but the facts are, these can be very worth full tools for learning. Confucius said that “You can not open a book without learning something”. So, in general terms learning is an activity which encourage to any person to ask or think about query on an aspect and such query should be solved by any other person by using his/her knowledge and experience.

Activity-based learning started sometime in 1944 around World War II when a British man David Horsburgh came to India and finally decided to settle down there. He was an innovative thinker. He started teaching in “Rishi valley School” He joined the British Council and worked in Chennai and Bangalore for many years. After his voluntary retirement, he located a 7-acre (28,000 m²) site in Kolar District and opened his school, Neel Bagh. Neel Bagh was known for its creative methods in teaching well-planned learning materials. Horsburgh developed a diverse curriculum, which included music, carpentry, sewing, masonry, gardening, as well as the usual school subjects, English, mathematics, Sanskrit, and Telugu. These pedagogic materials were systematically planned, with sketches and drawings and an occasional touch of humor. This initiative of Horsburgh was later proved to be one of the pioneer and milestones in ABL. ABL has transformed the classrooms into hubs of activities and meaningful learning.

The ABL concept first of all tested by the “Rishi valley School” in Andhra Pradesh in 90’s and later on ABL successfully implemented in other states i.e. Karnataka, Kerala, UP, Rajasthan, MP
etc. In modern time, ABL is the method of education followed by corporation schools in Chennai with slight modification from 2003 and it is supported by UNICEF.

Implementation of ABL Approach:

The philosophy of ABL is that, a fearless and freedom to experience environment always adds to best learning outcomes because learning can be best when it is initiated by the surrounding environments.

For, effectively implementation of ABL concept following steps should be taken into consideration:

1. For effective learning process there should not be rote learning.
2. A teacher should not be under estimate to student & there should not be communication gape between teacher and students.
3. A teacher should be focused on learning instead of teaching and there should be provision of covering the loss of learning if student is absent for a period.
4. The teaching should be joyful and there should be sufficient facilities for learning activities.
5. Institutional material should be attractive and syllabus should also be covered by the teacher.

How ABL approach is helpful for commerce students:

In case of students who are studying in the field of commerce (other than professional courses), generally they don’t know; how they can implement there study in practical approach? After graduation, whether they got degree with high percentage but they are blank regarding to practical implementation of knowledge which they acquired during the study period. In commerce education ABL concept is very useful for development of skills of students. To become more impressive to commerce education following activities should be taken into consideration during with their academic study period.

1. Establish a commerce lab in every institution and there should be discussion on practical aspect of commerce.
2. In the lab students have to learn about field transactions e.g. how to make Demand draft/ Pay orders, Deposit cash into bank, withdrawal of cash, Cheque procedure and other bank transactions.
3. Students knows about Journal entries, Ledger posting and Subsidiary books also but original format of Journal, Ledger, Subsidiary books, Debit note, credit note etc. should be shown to them and entries should be recorded by him in these format.
4. In present time computer education is compulsory in every institute, but they are giving basic knowledge of computer. But in case of commerce students knowledge of software of computer accounting should be provided mandatory e.g. TALLY etc.
5. In spite of classroom & commerce lab study, there should be a provision of short term practical training in any business organization or in a production unit. The period may be of 10 to 15 days or more. It may be in vacation period. This training should be compulsory every year during the college education. Consequently, after graduation, the student will be able to understand documentation in accounting, knowledge of banking transaction and any other practical aspects of accounting and costing.

6. The institute should be including in its academic calendar to organized group discussion session on equal intervals on different current topics.

7. Symposia, Lecture of eminent educationist and experts on various topics should be organized by the institute. It will be helpful for enhance the analytical capacity of the students.

Findings & Conclusion:

After study of above article it is clear that ABL approach is useful for all categories of students. It is useful for school students as well as college students. At the level of preparatory & primary school ABL has been almost implemented in all over India. But in case of commerce students (other than professional courses) it is not applied by the institutions. In academic education, whether it is school or college education of commerce ABL approach should be adopted compulsorily by all the institutions. In case of commerce students, I have suggested so many points earlier in the article. ABL approach will be very useful for overall development of students. It improves personality of students and after completion of their study the students won’t be blank about applicability of knowledge which they have learnt during their student life.

References:

Research articles & papers


Websites:

1. http://education.state.mn.us
2. http://www.ssa.in.nic.in