

Title: Teaching Practices using ICET

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Abstract: *Blog, Educational network, open source tools as- Freemind (mind maps), Unfreeze, Irfan -view, slide shows, exe.*

Key words:

Blog- A **blog** (a contraction of the term "**Web log**") is a [Web site](#), usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video.

Freemind- An open source, mind mapping software program written in Java. It is an organization tool.

Unfreeze- It takes any number of images, saved as separate GIF files, and create a single animated GIF from those images.

Irfan view- It is a small, compact & innovative graphic viewer. It can convert pictures into slide shows.

exe- it is the common [filename extension](#) denoting an [executable](#) file (a [program](#)) . It is an offline tool which can be used to create e-lessons.

Main Paper:

Technology has seamlessly blended in today's education scenario'

I read it in the news paper and I totally agree with it.

We are entering a world in which we must continue to update in order to be successful. Hence we teachers are leaving no stone unturned to enable ourselves to become technologically competent and through this competence facilitate teaching and learning process.

I am **a Social science teacher**. Social science though is a very interesting subject but is generally regarded as 'lengthy' and 'too much to learn in too less a time'. I would constantly think and brood over as to how to make it interesting and easy to learn subject; how to involve students. Dictation of notes in our subject after explaining the text takes lot of time and is also it is boring for the students to write & write...

"Tell me, and I'll forget. Show me, and I may remember. Involve me, and I'll understand"
(Chinese Proverb)

My school- Kulachi Hansraj Model School is open to incorporating new & innovative techniques in teaching. It was through one of these Training programs that I got 'Beginners training' from INTEL. In this program I learnt to make **Power point Presentations**. It was a wonderful thing as now I could present my lectures with the help of a Presentation . It was more interesting as now visuals of the related topics could be shown. This enhanced students comprehension and improved their retention of the content.

Teachers in our school, including myself have made number of power point presentations in our subject, which are shown to the students in Multimedia room & we also have Smart classrooms in our school where these are used to explain the concepts.

Students response to this was tremendous and they look forward to such sessions.

It was in January 2006 that I was exposed to the CII Shiksha - a voluntary organization which believes in learning and sharing. It was this training that gave me lot of new ideas as to how to make my subject more interesting. It was during this training that I learnt about **Blog** . I created a Blog (<http://contemporarylearning.blogspot.com>) at Blogger.com. for class X, as a part of training & then as suggested by a friend I decided to use it for my subject.

Initially **slideshow**s created through slide.com on the topics related to syllabus were posted. These slideshows contained pictures which were rare & not in the text books. Along with this various useful links related to the topics were also given to the students. Students were happy & contented, in particular the ones who are always on the look out for extra knowledge.

Slowly I started using my Blog for giving **Assignments** and finally for giving **Notes** which is an essential feature of our subject. We teachers give simplified notes to students .

In the traditional classroom dictating notes was very time consuming but now with the Blog **not only students directly took notes from the Blog but also the absentees could benefit from this .They could access the notes & assignments as and when they wanted. It reduced boredom. In case of misplacement of notes one could rely on the Blog & for us teachers it saved time and energy.**

Blog proved very beneficial to me even during the CBSE class X Board exams, as now I could be in constant touch with my students even during holidays . They would write to me their queries and I answered them through the blog post. Any latest development or announcements could be made through it. There was an overwhelming response from the parents & students, who appreciated it for **the convenience and constant connectivity**.

I have posted various **Mind maps** created through 'Freemind' on the Blog to make learning and retention easier. There is also an. **Audio facility** provided BY Odigo.com which reads out the post.

Contd..

Some **snap shots of my blog-contemporary learning & comments** given by the students.

Contemporary learning... - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Address <http://contemporarylearning.blogspot.com/>

SEARCH BLOG FLAG BLOG Next Blog» Create Blog | Sign In

Contemporary learning...

Contemporary learning is blog created mainly for the benefit of students to provide them with more and extra in socialsciences.It would give them an easy access to the work done in classroom and also a record of what they have missed out on.

Odiogo Feed

odiongo

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2008

Announcement-Notes of economics chapter-1

listen now

Dear students I have completed notes of chapter one of Economics-
DEVELOPMENT
Kindly take them down from the index given on right hand side.

Posted by Ialseema at [Sunday, October 05, 2008](#) 1 comments

Kulachi Blogger's Club

- Bio Education(Ms. Maniula Aggarwal)
- Kulachi's Blog
- Physics Learning(Ms. Manju Kapoor)
- Planet Infinity..Math Activities(Ms. Rashmi Kathuria)
- Robotics at KHMS(Ms. Nita Arora)
- socialscienceblog(Ms Sunita saini)

Labels

start ICET - Microsoft ... 2 Windows Expl... Contemporary lea... 10:12 PM

- **1 Comment –**
- **"DEVELOPMENT--CHAPTER - 1--ECONOMICS"**
- [shweta](#) said... Thank you very much mam for you'r cooperation. July 15, 2008 9:34
- [Beena](#) said... Could u please tell me the exact location of Ramagundam dam? In NCERT text book shows Ramagundam Thermal power plant and Ramagundam dam at different places in pages 28 and 61 of 10th class geogrophy text book.

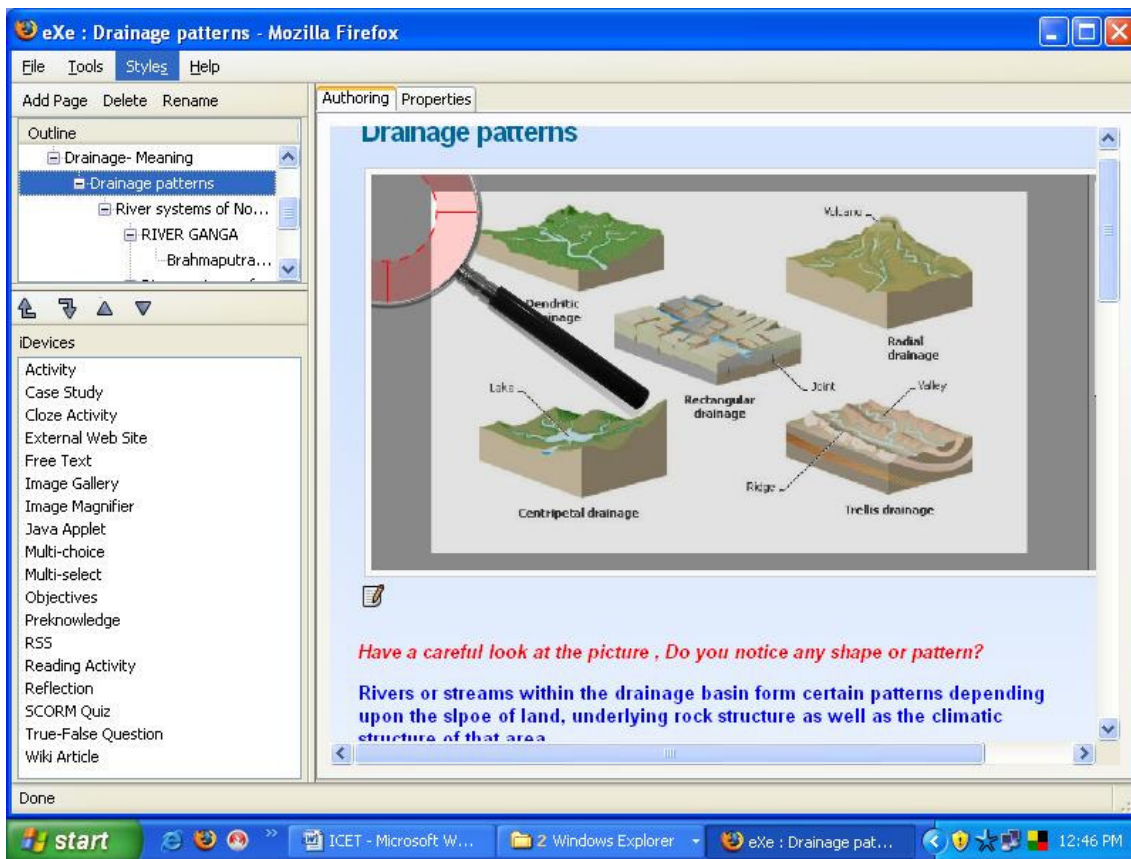
"DEMOCRACY AND DIVERSITY"

[humanobserver](#) said...

A thought-provoking article indeed....

September 10, 2008 11:17 AM

I have also created e-lessons through another tool **-Exe-** these are offline lessons on the subject related topics, which students can take back home and can use them. They are essentially helpful as it contains various evaluation tools through which students can be assessed and students also receive feed back side by side.



Children have to be educated, but they have also to be left to educate themselves. (- Abbé Dimnet, Art of Thinking, 1928)

In the August month I thought of yet another way to reach my students and to involve them. This was done through an '**Educational network**' (<http://contemporarylearning9.ning.com>) that I created for my class IX students. It is a network whereby every student of the class is a member and each one contributes after signing in.

They can float discussions, ask questions and share their answers and can even upload their work, slideshows or videos. I as a creator of the network can monitor these students and help them in the work done.

How I use this network?

I have divided my class into groups and at the end of each chapter I give questions to each group which they have to answer. After reading these questions I edit them if required and then post them to the **Blog**, which is another feature on the network.

Students can access these notes which have been written by them only.

--This **gets students involved** and also gives them confidence & immense satisfaction to see their work being published.

--It also **inculcates in them a habit of self learning & sharing** .

Snap shots of my educational network.

Discussion Forum - Contemporary Learning - Microsoft Internet Explorer

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Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites History Mail Print

Address http://contemporarylearning9.ning.com/forum

Ning Create Your Own Social Network Seema Lal Search

Contemporary Learning


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All Discussions My Discussions [+ Add a Discussion](#)

Discussion Forum (1)

Search Forum Sort by: Latest Activity

Discussions	Replies	Latest Activity
 <p>Flood situation in Bihar After reading/seeing about the flood situation in Bihar, number of dead & lost, hungry & thirsty... who do you think can be held r... Started by you</p>	3	Sep 21 Reply by Seema Lal

start Internet 12:29 AM

ICET - Mic... ningblog - ... Microsoft ... Discussion...

Main Invite My Page Members Photos Videos **Forum** Events Groups Blogs Manage

Videos [Add Videos](#) [Edit](#)

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Welcome to your new social network, Seema Lal!
Here are a few things you can do right now...

 Invite friends
  Add photos
  Add a video
  Start a discussion
  Make it unique

Members

start Internet

ICET - Mic... c2 - Paint Microsoft ... Contempo...

 **My Questions & your Answers to-- Peasants and Farmers- (History)**
Posted by [Seema Lal](#) on September 30, 2008 at 10:00am
[View My Blog](#)

***contd....

Open source tools:

My exposure to open source tools was through CII Shiksha Training. I got to know about various tools and resources which I could use in my teaching and which were compatible to the existing infrastructure. These tools helped me in making my teaching & delivering lectures more interesting & interactions more interactive.

Some of the tools that I have used are **Flash, Unfreeze, Irfan view, Exe, slide shows, Freemind etc.** I have made use of these tools in my blog, educational network and exe lessons.

Benefits:

- Through Irfan-view & Flash I created slide shows and uploaded them on the Blogs. Thr
- Through Exe I have created off-line e-lessons. thr
- Through Freemind- Mindmaps were made to summerise the lessons and were posted to the blog. thr
- Teaching maps have become easier with Unfreeze. Te

ICET would be a success only if we teachers empower ourselves with more and newer tools to facilitate our teaching & student’s learning process, within the existing infrastructure.

As in the traditional classrooms presence of teachers was a must but these days with these e-tools students are free to learn at their own pace, with their own appititude & as per their convenience. All this has enhanced learning outcomes, levels of achievements, engagement, motivation and understanding of the students.

Today there is a paradigm shift from traditional learning to e-learning i.e learning through technology-- which is being used as a supplement- for enrichment; as a complement- because of its direct impact; and at times as a substitute –of a teacher (off line lessons created by the teachers).