

TEACHING PRACTICES WITH THE USE OF ICET

DEEPA ARORA

(PGT ENGLISH – MAHARAJA AGRASEN MODEL SCHOOL)

pearl.deep@yahoo.com

Ph no. - +91 9899914644

We are going through a period of rapid transition. Changes are taking place in our society faster than one could think of. Changes are taking place in technology, values, economy, policies and a number of other fronts.

In the first place, scientists and other specialists have produced ideas faster than they are being communicated, absorbed and applied. Hence there is an increasing gap between what is known and what is done. Not only are there more ideas than ever before, but they are more complex. Tasks of the teacher therefore become more complicated and more challenging. All this has put a big question mark on the efficiency of our classroom communication techniques. Today's teacher is constantly battling for the attention of the learners.

ICET- (Information, Communication, Entertainment, and Technology) has come up with the solutions. The age of the old classroom is over. With the arrival of the latest equipments and technological developments, each class is developing into a smart class.

- I- Information-It is needless to emphasize that there has been an explosion of knowledge in the recent years. This has made the teachers and students to learn more and learn it more efficiently. What now passes for education is to pump information from all sides in the minds of the young. Information has advanced in all the subjects, social studies, vocational, arts and many more. The teacher has to have information. No longer can one small head (that of the teacher) carry all that a student must learn. So the teachers have to do something drastic to better enable them to handle the staggering build up of her knowledge.
- C- Communication- The past few years have witnessed revolutionary changes in the field of communication. No more is there any restriction on the satellite communication system. The globalization policy has brought changes in media. Even the daily newspaper is more colorful than it used to be. The children are getting used to the information that is visually presented.
- D- Entertainment- as well as attention are said to be the key factors in the process of teaching and learning. By adding variety to the classroom the children can be entertained and the monotony and the boredom can be removed. Watching channels like Discovery does not only entertain but proves to be a source of information.
- T- Technology- Including technology in education becomes IT. Recently it has evolved to be information and communication technology. The teachers get support, encouragement and practical ideas to develop their

personal and teaching skills. Alternatively, to mix metaphors, we hope that some of the ideas will help the teachers to get on their bikes, or perhaps paddle a little faster to use ICT in classrooms.

A few gadgets and usages

1. Computer

The most versatile and potentially the most powerful of educational aids and materials is the computer which has been making sizeable contribution to several subjects

In language teaching learning, computers are being used in different ways. Nowadays CALL is in use (Computer Assisted Language Learning) which uses multimedia facilities. Many of them combine high quality images with high fidelity audio recordings to make learning much more effective and enjoyable. The use of PC for improving the quality of one's writing with support available for speech, spell check, grammar and appropriate vocabulary is becoming increasingly popular. Especially at the advanced levels of language study and learning, CALL is at work in teleconferencing which makes it possible for scholars and students in far off places to both learn much that is new and to contribute their thoughts and insights on issues of common concerns. Research is the number one reason to use the internet in education. Students have a wealth of information open to them. Often, when they are researching obscure topics, school libraries do not have the needed books and magazines. The internet helps solve this problem. Here's an example of a great research project: Using this site's new [Lecture Outline Series for the History of China](#), students can research directly off this page and then present the information they find. The possibilities for assessment of research on the internet are endless, many of them involving other forms of technology. Some ideas include [essays](#), [debates](#), panel discussions, role play, video presentation of information, web page creation (see next subheading for more on this) and PowerPoint(tm) presentations. A second project that can help integrate technology while truly getting the students excited about school is website creation. You can publish a website with your class about information the students have researched or personally created. Examples of what this page might focus on include a collection of student-created short stories, a collection of student-created poems, results and information from science fair projects, historical 'letters' (students write as if they were historical figures), even critiques of novels could be included. To see what a group of students can really do, visit [Why is Mona Lisa Smiling?](#) One concern that will be discussed more in part two is fears of plagiarism and parental support. HTML, the basic language of the internet, is not that difficult to learn at all. [Here](#) is a great HTML Workshop to help you along. You will need some sort of editor to make your life easy. HTML editors really take the headache out of creating pages. If you are using a geocities as mentioned above, they have a text editor which you can use to help you create your site along with a lot of preformatted pages. A newer area of the internet to explore is online assessment. You can create your own tests online through your own website. These require knowledge of the internet; so many new users might not be quite ready for this. Although, it might be a great way to interact with

Advanced Placement students over vacations and the summer. If you are interested in this, see [Free Home Pages for Educators](#) for more information. In the near future, there will be many companies who will offer not only online testing but also instant grading of exams.

IM – Instant messaging is another key towards progress. Students who are shy to speak up in front of class may feel less intimidated to participate or to ask questions via IM. Give your screen name to your students and let them know that you will be online and available to answer questions. Have an online quiz review session. You can also help them surfing finding the facts behind the texts for instant message tell students-”If you don’t see me online feel free to send your questions by email, I will respond to you later”.

Wikis-Wiki is a collaborative website that allows users to add or remove content. The information is free and open to the public. Today’s students are wired also known as digital or GenY. This generation is the first to grow up with computer at home and class. They frequently use internet technology for information communication entertainment and self expression.

Handhelds – Handheld program can be used in 1:2 ratio i.e. each pair of students has a handheld which they share. A set of 5 or 10 handhelds can also be available for different students to use. If students frequently do project work. A mobile laptop lab may work best if teachers are conducting longer projects. In fact, a large number of schools are being retrofitted to place the internet in every classroom. Even more exciting than this is the newest technology: Wireless. A school can purchase a 'Portable Classroom'. This consists of laptops networked together, allowing students to work at their desks WITHOUT wires. If the laptops are networked to a printer, students can print from their personal computer to the classroom printer. Imagine the possibilities!