THE TWO METHODS OF TEACHING

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Teaching demands a method in which students should learn at their best. The task of the teachers is not a walk in the park as many people think it was. They should carefully select on which method should be utilized in every transfer of knowledge. Teachers should devise an attack based on the needs of the learners.

There are two teaching methods, namely deductive and inductive. Deductive method of teaching roots from conclusion or generalization to specific example. This method begins when teacher presents the lesson by declaring the general information (definition) and then follows by giving specific examples. Take for instance if the topic is Ohm’s Law, the teacher will state its meaning and then eventually giving examples like word problems or the given is already presented. The teacher will show how to solve each problem applying the formulas derived from the Ohm’s Law. After several examples, the teacher will then give other examples and let the learners solve the problem. In other words, a deductive approach to instruction is a more teacher-centered approach (Bilash 2009). On the other hand, inductive method of teaching starts with specific examples to come up with a conclusion. Take Types of Circuit as an example. The teacher will present the lesson by giving specific examples. He/She can use video presentation showing the movements of electrons. He can also make simple circuits on the spot using bulbs, lamp holders, wire, and a battery. Through these examples, the teacher will permit students to conclude about series and parallel circuits based on the examples given. This type of method encourages students’ critical thinking ability. It allows students to come up with a generalization. This method involves not only the
teacher, but also the students and the class. In other words, an inductive approach to instruction is a more student-centered approach (Bilash 2009).

Now the question is: When are you going to use inductive or deductive method of teaching? Teachers should understand the needs and capabilities of the students. Teachers must also evaluate the learning styles of their students. When you choose the right method, then you choose students to learn. Both methods can be used in different types of learners, however teachers should be realistic. Do not allow hypocrisy to occur, because it will frustrate you. Most of the time inductive method is used among fast learners or bright students, while deductive method is applied to slow learners. Fast learners have high percentage of making conclusions even if the topic is difficult. They have the ability to store previous knowledge. Although inductive method can be applied to slow learners, but teachers should know when to use it. Teachers’ undying patience is needed if they want to practice inductive method of teaching to slow learners.

At the end, there is no impeccable method of teaching in order for the students to learn. It is left on the hands of the teachers. Teachers’ own strategy is vital in the process of learning, because they know their learners very well. Their ability to execute lessons with the ease and comfort students felt is the key to effective learning, as well as their tenacity and dedication towards teaching.

References:


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