WILL COMPUTER EVER REPLACE REAL TEACHERS?
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In response to the growing demand of technological skills, how computers have contributed immensely to the development of education in the world became a matter of concern. In the 21st century, computers provide a tool in education and alternative ways for students to learn subjects such as in Science, Literature, Mathematics Social Studies and many more. Access to the Internet provides communication avenues between students and teachers about particular assignments or topics, and use of school blogs can provide quick feedback from peers, these are done through social medias such as the use of e-mails, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. Educational resources on the Internet allows students to review a lecture or assignment and some elements of teaching can be effectively done by computers today through the idea of E-learning. Transmission of multimedia presentations and basic quizzes and exercises prove that technology can open doors, expand minds change the way we think, communicate, and share knowledge across the world thus computers are now considered as gigantic brains that would control our lives. However, there is a debate if computers can be used as supplement educators in “hybrid” teaching models; and replace teachers in “virtual” classrooms. Now, the question is: Could computers replace real teachers? As a teacher my personal and immediate answer is no, considering the immeasurable ways on how teachers made a great impact on every student’s life and how they influence them holistically, for being the main facilitator, mentor and counselor. Computers are essential for 21st-century skills, and they should play a great role in the classroom, as a trusted tool or resource, maybe, these computers provide a wide range of information and performed a variety of skills, but there are certain things teachers can do that computers cannot, teachers can inculcate discipline among learners, encourage and lead them to a successful future. Technology in the classroom should be an addition, it should only be a part of teacher’s toolkit, not a replacement for teachers, that’s the problem, it’s not about the technology but it’s all about enhancing the lesson, it’s about improving yourself professionally as a teacher to be a more effective one. Besides, computers cannot replace the amazing relationships between the teacher and the learners during the formative years of their lives. Now, Could computers replace real teachers? The simple answer is…they cannot.