

Importance of information technology in education

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Importance of information technology in education The information technology has been used as a medium of education since ancient times. As information is the base of education. In short information means “knowledge” and technology means practical implementation of science. Education Is Just the knowledge transferred from teacher to pupil using the science available during that period of time In ancient times basic science and mathematics were taught using abacus and pebbles which formed the basis of technology at that time. Other specific based education as provided by experts In those fields.

These trends continued In the middle ages where apprenticeship became the technology for educating people In traditional jobs as well as In scholarly studies, where a pupil studied under tutelage of monks who were scholars of that era. But the fact Is this system was prevalent In India even before the middle ages It was practiced In form “Karakul”, where stress was given on “Guru” and “Sashay” relationship. The modern era of information technology dawned with the invention of computers in the year 1946 and was known as first enervation computers which used vacuum tubes.

Some of the computers of this generation were MANIAC, DEEDS, ADVANCE, LEO, UNIVAC-I, IBM-701 and IBM-650. The second generation of computers began in the year 1960 and it used transistors which were better than vacuum tubes and generated less heat compared to vacuum tubes used in first generation of computers. Some of the computers of this generation were UNIVAC-2, CIT-1300, IBM-1400, IBM- 1620, CDC-1604 and Philipp-2000. However the use of information technology could be used in education only after introduction of third enervation of computers.

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The third generation of computers began in the year 1966 after invention of integrated circuit by Jack Kilby at Texas (1958). The computers of this generation are IBM-370, DELL and APPLE. They were compact and were simplified enough to be used at home, educational institutes and offices. So they could be used as a medium to impart education. The convenience of storing data in form of compact discs, hard drives and floppy disc made it easy to store educational information in digital format and viewed when required.

Computers can now be used to find required information using internet and other online programs at the same time information can be provided offline by using CD of encyclopedia and dictionary. Due to the hub system in computers information on one computer can be shared with all computers in that institute by using LAN. The second most prominent invention has been projectors, through which information to be displayed can be focused on a surface thus allowing multiple people to view it. This has helped to revolutionize education and has helped multiple people achieve the goal of community based education.

Some of the firms banking on this pattern have started providing modules of complete syllabus based educational packages to educational institutes in exchange for a fee. Examples of these are Deduced and Keen. The future looks bright as the importance of information technology in education is increasing and soon we might even have our own robots as teachers who might cater to the needs of each student individually. So let

the technologies improve and hope for the best. Name: ALBUQUERQUE
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