

CAN TECHNOLOGY REPLACE TEACHERS?

Dr. Sabiha Asif Faras, Assistant Professor
Department of English, R. C. Shahu College.Kop.

Abstract:

The rise in Internet users and the revolutionary changes that have happened in education have created a very fertile environment for e-learning to grow. In his exclusive article, Albert Einstein once said, "Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school." This rightly reflects the fact that effective education is, indeed, constant and always evolving. E-learning is already huge and is looking to completely revolutionize the educational sector.

..The present paper seeks to examine whether this technological revolution will lead to the replacement of teachers in education field, changing his role from center to the periphery. In Developing countries like India, digital education should be "inclusive & sustainable" for all., Affordable internet access, data enabled devices and appropriate internet plans can play a significant role in tapping the market. Creation of a Hindi (other supported local languages) can bring a sea change in Indian education system. Creating Digital awareness will definitely change trends like Distance Education to Digital Education.

"Universities won't survive. The future is outside the traditional campus, outside the traditional classroom. Distance learning is coming on fast"

Peter Drucker, the Father of Modern Management said that way back in 1997. His prophecy couldn't seem more accurate now seeing that e-learning is one of the fastest growing sectors in the world. Till the end of the last century, the education system in India was based on the traditional classroom-based learning, where the students didn't get the opportunity to participate in the interactive sessions. To face the challenges of the changing time, it became necessary to make concepts more clear and students competent enough to cope up globally. Hence, the concept of Digital Learning evolved in 2002 - 2003. With technology spreading its wing to the education sector, the typical classroom which was once characterized by boring hour-long sessions now transforms into an interesting, fun-filled environment. Digital education made life easier for both, students and educators. Cloud-based platforms which help classroom go paperless are also finding takers. Also apart from the latest developments in ICT classrooms, Augmented Reality and Virtual reality is being adopted in the field of education. ICT solutions have gained momentum in driving quality education to the nooks and corner of the country. Teaching becomes a smoother experience with a perfect mesh of personalized packages having a blend of animations, gamification and elaborate audio-visual effects. The infotainment, which is the combination involved in digital learning makes it more practical, applicable to our life and surroundings in an interesting manner. With fast evolving technological tools, teachers are equally expected to remain updated so that to train the new age students. The student can learn a concept and test his knowledge in the privacy and comfort of his home. Weaker students can escape from the shame of facing a classroom full of students and can work on improving their scores.. Virtual learning has completely revolutionized the education sector in India. A student is no longer dependent on a teacher and the classroom teaching has transcended the four walls of the classroom. The student has an access to learning irrespective of his geographic location. Weaker students can escape from the shame of facing a classroom full of students and can work on improving their scores. It is in particular a blessing for developing countries like India. With wide coverage over various means of communication it becomes a natural choice to learn even for those in the hinterlands. With evolution of technologies such as cloud, data centers and virtualization there is huge potential for technology to be integrated with the Education Industry.

The question arises if the whole scenario is changing, the government is taking proactive measures to boost the e-learning environment in India, economies have now reached a point where work involves learning, businesses are not competitive unless their workers are knowledge workers, who continuously improve their knowledge, skills, and productivity. Even the home is becoming a learning place. The powerful learning opportunities are available to children in the home, where a parent is working. New educational technologies will not only energize the students, but teachers as well. The future of education explores the new ways to engage them. Technology has immense potential to upgrade today's educational system. So, the future of education will not be teachers versus technology, but it will be teachers plus technology. The role of the teacher is almost always more central, indeed fundamental, than it was before the introduction of technology. New technologies can, and no doubt eventually will, replace many of the routine administrative tasks typically handled by teachers, like taking attendance, entering marks into a grading book. If taken positively, smart classes are a perfect solution to the environmental hazards that are posed by the conventional methodology of education. Hence, smart classes come in as perfect learning territories for students to assimilate the nuances behind a subject in a single go or after repeatedly accessing subject details for a clearer understanding. Although the Indian market is still young, it will continue to adopt the concept of e-learning in order to meet its communication needs and seize business opportunities. There is an art to imparting knowledge to students that current technology is nowhere close to mastering. Educational technologies are currently aiding teachers in their work, not completely taking over them. They are tools, not replacements. Non-verbal or invisible interactions, that affect the learning experience no doubt matter a lot. They help to identify roadblocks for students that might be more personal or emotional in nature, that a machine cannot pick up on. They help to contextualize lessons in real time, which might not be possible for a piece of technology to do. We need teachers who are able to figure out not just how new technology works but how it works for every student in his class and where the use of technology is most appropriate. Individualized learning tools are self-learning material. So technology will play a critical role in the future of education but this role is not as big as a role of a teacher. Besides, everyone will be benefited from the right mix of technology and teachers who will use technology as part of an expanding toolkit. Classrooms will continue to change but we can be completely sure that there will be a human teacher for a long time yet.

Conclusion: The teachers have to play the role of mentor, guide, and facilitator for the students enabling better interaction between them. They can encourage, motivate and inspire the students to aspire, dream and fulfill their desires. This is something which no robot or artificial intelligence machinery can do. This type of warmth and personal care offered by the teacher can in no way be substituted by a machine. Thus, we can say that virtual learning resources can revolutionize the teaching learning process making the content more dynamic one, but they cannot completely replace the teacher. Computer can neither teach tolerance or empathy nor can encourage or understand an individual student's needs. Every student is unique and so needs individualized learning experience which was lacking in traditional education system. The trust and bond between a teacher and student creates the perfect learning environment; which can never be achieved through virtual learning. If the learning tools are made available in the regional languages, relevant in Indian social context, that itself would revolutionize the total Indian education system.

References

1. Drucker Peter 1997 Quotes, 2. Einstein Albert Quotes