

SKILL OF EXPLAINING

Subject: Pedagogy Of Economics

Class: B.Ed. I st Year

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Meaning and Definition of Explanation

- ❖ Explanation also called as presentation means to explain or to give understanding to another person.
- ❖ According to Brown and Hatton (1982), explaining is, “giving understanding to another person”.
- ❖ Explanation skills deal with the ability to use verbal and non-verbal cues at appropriate times in a lesson.
- ❖ It is concerned with explaining, narrating, giving appropriate illustrations, examples and planned repetition where necessary.
 - Leads from the known to the unknown.
 - Bridges the gap between a person's knowledge or experience and new phenomena.
 - May also show the interdependence of phenomena in a general manner.
 - Assists the learner to assimilate and accommodate new data or experience.

❑ Explaining addresses the questions
“ why” , “how” and “what” ?

❑ An effective explanation should be

- simple,
- clear,
- concise, and
- interesting

Effective explanation requires careful and sensitive planning, it also requires recognition of a number of essential characteristics.

Components of the Skill:

A good explanation is one which is understood by the pupils. It has some components and can be divided into desirable and undesirable categories.

- ❑ ***Desirable Behaviours:*** The teacher should practice the following desirable behaviours in order to master the skill of explaining.
- ***Use of Introductory Statements:*** The teacher announces the topic or concept which is to be explained by him/her. It helps in creating mental alertness and readiness in the class to listen to what is to be explained.

Components of the Skill:

- *Use of Explaining Links:* Link words increases the effectiveness of explanation. Such links make explanation clear and bring continuity in statements.

Examples: “If”, “then” , “but”, “hence”, “due to” , “because”, “after” etc

- *Use of Visual Techniques:* Visual techniques such as charts, diagrams, pictures , models etc can be used by teacher. This helps the students to use their different sense organs for better understanding of the concept.

Components of the Skill:

- *Covering Essential Points:* The teacher needs to cover all the essential points as specified in instructional objectives in explanation.
- *Interesting:* Effective explanation makes lesson interesting to students. Explanation can be made interesting by teachers by giving examples from daily life and use different media of communications.
- *Defining Technical Words:* Sometimes topic consists of difficult , technical and ambiguous terms in the topic. It is the responsibility of the teacher to explain such words in simple, clear , easy and understandable language so that students find no difficulty in understanding the topic.

Components of the Skill:

- *Testing Pupils Understanding:* In order to know whether the students have understood the topic, and the teacher has achieved his/ her objective, testing pupils understanding is needed. At the end of topic the teacher can ask simple questions and test the understanding of students.
- *Use of Concluding Statements:* When the teacher finishes the lesson, he/she should conclude it with some statement. This statement gives an outlook picture of what has been explained to the students.

Components of the Skill:

- ❑ **Undesirable Behaviour:** There are some behaviours that teachers should avoid while explaining to the students:
 - **Use of Irrelavant Statements:** Teacher should avoid of using statements which are not relevant to the topic. this creates confusion annd distraction in students.
 - **Lack of Continuity:** Continuty is broken in the following situations:
 - * when statements are irrelavant
 - *when there is no sequence either of place or time.
 - *when new information is introduced without relating it to the previous knowledge.
 - **Lack of Fluency:**
 - **Use of Vague Words:**
 - **Use of Inappropriate Vocabulary:**

The elements of skill of explaining :

- Clarity
- Continuity
- Relevance to content using beginning and concluding statements
- Covering essential points
- Simple
- Relevant and interesting examples appropriate media
- Use of inducts, deductive approach, it can be functional, causal or sequential

Characteristics of effective explanation:

- ***Coordination in Statements*** :Coordination in the statements used during the explanation is very essential; otherwise there will be all hotch- potch.
- ***Relevant Statements***: While presenting the subject matter, the concerned statements should be relevant.
- ***Fluency in Language***: The teacher should use fluent language so that the pupils may listen and understand his thoughts.
- ***Connecting Links***: The use of words, idioms or connecting links such as ‘therefore’ as a result of etc. is essential to link the different thought or statements.
- ***Clear Beginning Statement***: Before starting any explanation, the teacher should make the pupils aware of what he is to teach on that day through a clear beginning statement.
- ***Use of proper Words***: The teacher should use proper words for explaining an object or an event otherwise he would be in a state of confusion

- THANK YOU

