

Qualities of Geography Text book

A textbook is of ultimate importance in the teaching-learning process. It is a very useful resource for both the teachers and also the learners. There are hundreds of thousands of textbooks available in the market for social science. Hence, the teacher face the problem of selecting a good textbook out of the various textbooks available. As a result, it is essential for the teachers to get themselves trained in the art of evaluating the textbook of their subjects. There are some criteria for appropriate evaluation of the textbooks. These are-s

- 1) **Coverage of the Syllabus:** The book should cover the prescribed syllabus for the particular class for which it is meant. It should cover each and every aspect of the syllabus in an appropriate way.
- 2) **Realization of the Objectives:** The teaching of social science has some aims and objectives for every stage or class. Hence, the subject matter and presentation style of the book should be helpful in the realization of the aims and objectives.
- 3) **Organization of the content:** The subject material of the textbook should be organized in tune with the maxims of teaching like 'from simple to complex', 'from known to unknown', 'from concrete to abstract' etc. There should be proper integration and correlation among the pieces of the subject material organized in different chapters of the textbook. The subject material should possess a proper link and correlation with the children's day to day life and physical, social and cultural surroundings.
- 4) **Presentation of the Subject matter:** The text should be vivid, full and concrete in terms of presentation of the subject material. The subject matter should be presented in such a way that it can arouse interest and curiosity of the students. The textbook should be reliable and valid in terms of providing dates, facts, information, maps, locations, events, episodes etc. There should be impartial description of the events, facts and information related to past events, religions, cultural traditions, ways of living and thinking of people and communities of different regions, states and countries. It should contain appropriate illustrative material in the form of examples, pictures, diagrams, maps, time lines, graphs etc. in various chapters as required.

- 5) **Language used:** The language used in the book should be suitable to the mental level of the students. The vocabulary and terminology used in the book should be common and universal besides being within the comprehension of the students.
- 6) **The Size and Overall Look of the Book:** The size of the textbook should be suitable to the age and grade level of the students. It should be attractive in terms of its overall look and appearance.
- 7) **Appendix and Index:** The book should contain appendices for necessary facts, information, data, tables, resources, dates of chronological sequence and events. It should also contain desired indices in the name of subject index, author index etc.
- 8) **Price and Availability:** The textbook should be reasonably priced as to remain within the reach of the students. It should also be readily available in the market and so also in school libraries.

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