

Demonstration – Observation Method of Teaching: **Meaning, Advantages & Disadvantages**

Demonstration method of teaching is a traditional classroom strategy used in technical and training colleges and in teacher education.

Focus, Structure and Principles

Demonstration Strategy focuses to achieve psychomotor and cognitive objectives. If we talk about its structure, it is given in three successive steps:

1. **Introduction:** In this step objectives of the lesson are stated as “The teacher may be called demonstrator”. He demonstrates the activity before the student that is to be developed.
2. **Development:** Students try to initiate the demonstrated activity. If there is any query the teacher tries to satisfy them by further demonstration and illustrations.
3. **Integration:** At this step, the teacher integrates all the activities and then these activities are rehearsed revised and evaluated.

Principles

This **teaching strategy** is based on the following principles

1. Learning by doing maxim is followed.
2. Skills can be developed by limitation.
3. The perception helps in imitation.

Application

This strategy is applied mainly in technical or training institutes. In teacher education programs it is used to develop skills in the student teacher. At school level, a teacher applies it in teaching science, biology, nature study arts & crafts, and social science.

Advantages of Demonstration Method

1. It helps in involving various senses to make learning permanent.
2. Though, teacher behavior is democratic, he invites the cooperation of pupils in teaching learning process.
3. It develops interest in the learners and motivates them for their active participation.
4. It helps in achieving psychomotor objectives.
5. Any simple or complex skill becomes easy to understand.

Disadvantages of Demonstration Method

1. It can be used only for skills subjects.
2. Only the attention of the learners is invited towards the activity demonstrated. They are not free to discuss about it.

Suggestions

1. The teacher should be a sincere, diligent and skilled person.
2. Teacher should himself prepare the models for demonstrations and encourage the learners too.
3. Demonstration should be followed by discussion.
4. There is scarcity of audio-visual aids and equipments, the teachers can produce handmade models for demonstration.