

Learning History Through Social Media at the Higher Secondary Level

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ABSTRACT

Education is the process by which a society transmits its accumulated knowledge, skills and values from one generation to another. The history of human is closely associated with the history of the earth. The earth contains the geological, archaeological and biological records of historical items. The content can be explained through persons by using the modern devices such as computers, mobile phones, learning Apps, e-content and etc. This article clearly explains the possibility of learning history through social media and its strength and weakness. Finally it gives the ways to improve the new approaches in learning various subjects.

Keywords: Social media, history and Higher secondary level

Introduction

History is one of those subjects that can cause a lot of headaches to many students. That is why students may describe their History classes as long and dull, boredom and not easy to learn and etc. However, a good knowledge of history is essential for all students, not just because it is a common subject but also it provides actual context to the reality in which we live in and apply to current affairs of everyday life.

Social media

Social media is an interactive learning tool in which the learning content is available on online and it provides automatic feedback to the students' learning activities (Paulsen, 2003). Social media covers a wide set of applications and processes such as web-based learning, computer based learning, virtual classroom and digital collaboration. It includes the delivery of content via internet, audio and video; satellite broadcast, interactive TV and CD-ROM (Kaplan-Leiserson, 2000). The link between distance learning and telecommunications is becoming even stronger, yielding new solutions to old problems, innovative educational resources and new learning practices. These include any time learning, anywhere learning, asynchronous interaction and group collaboration.

Scope of social media in learning

Social media learning is the education of students who may not always be physically present at schools or colleges. A learning program can be completely through social media learning. For example Massive open online courses (MOOCs), offering large-scale interactive participation and open access through the World Wide Web or other network technologies, are recent educational modes in distance education. A number of other terms (distributed learning, e-learning, m-learning, online learning, virtual classroom etc.) are used roughly synonymously with distance education.

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the closure of the vast majority of schools worldwide. Many schools have moved to online learning via platforms including Zoom, Google Classroom. Concerns arose over the impact of this transition on students without access to an internet-enabled device or a stable internet connection. The education technologies are divided into two modes of delivery: synchronous learning and asynchronous learning. Learning can also use interactive radio instruction (IRI), interactive audio instruction (IAI), online virtual worlds, digital games, webinars, and webcasts, all of which are referred to as e-Learning.

Concept of history

History is a subject based on the succession of events so having the correct order is key to success. It is essential, therefore, to ensure that your notes follow a chronological order. You should split your study notes by topic, then by years, decades and centuries. Books and notes often cover events with a lot of details. In most cases, it's not necessary to memorize a large catalogue of notes on a topic. Instead, it's best to establish a connection between the facts. The events should follow a logical order to help you understand and memorize them, so the use of mind maps can be quite helpful when visualizing all this information at a glance and whenever you're recapping for an exam.

Objectives of learning history

The discipline of history is intended to develop the following in the life of the students.

- Students' higher order thinking skills.
- To enable them to synthesis historical events.
- To apprehend nation's-political, social, religious and economic problems.
- It contains facts, figures and dates, important personalities of the past.

The Top Four tips to learn History subject

History is one of the subjects that students don't like as they need to remember a lot of things including event description and date. If they don't take the necessary steps systemically, they end up with low score in tests or examinations. The following four important tips can be useful for both teachers and students to learn History in an effective way.

1. Understand and memorize: Well, some people can say that this formula stands good for every subject. That's true, but in the case of History the sequence is more important. You need to draw a picture in mind that what exactly happened in the chronological order and how do sub-events relate each other.
2. Know the reasons behind the historical event: Understanding the reasons behind the historical events is important. This not only helps to draw the imaginary flowchart to relate the multiple events but also, it gives clear idea behind the event.
3. The consequences of the events: Learning and understanding the outcomes or consequences followed by the event is very important to learn History in an effective way. For an example, to know Independence of India in 1947, one must learn the previous movements what happened during "Jallianwala Bagh Kand" in 1919 and "Quit India Movement" in 1942 and relate those major events.
4. Summarize: Summarizing the whole event in a couple of lines is important to learn and remember the historical events. By doing this, you not only reframe the event in your own words but also you are preparing valuable notes for your examination.

It is not necessary that all the tips help everyone. Each one has own tricks to learn and understand various subjects. History is the subject which we need to understand before memorizing. Remembering hundreds of dates and events is never easy, but if you use above four tips to learn, History will become your favorite subject.

Strength of learning history through social media

- 1) Social media in learning history can create new interpretations that the learning is being done internationally.
- 2) it enables students history to use a wide range of sources and make it possible to compare the sources and discuss these in an easy way.
- 3) History can be studied from multiple points of departure by utilizing digital sources.
- 4) It can offer interactive narratives for learning history, for example by assuming roles and playing games.
- 5) Social media learning tools create learning communities where students can study topics and learn skills that nobody in practice is able to teach them.
- 6) By using Social media learning technologies, students learn the historian's craft on ICT skills.

Weaknesses of Social media in learning history

- 1) There is a chronic shortage of intermediate transferring pedagogical ideas into technical solutions.
- 2) Social media in learning history courses tend to cause too big work-load for planners and teachers.
- 3) Lack of good

experience in Social media in learning history hinders new teachers from getting interested in its possibilities. 4) Digitally-available material is still rather limited, so does not meet the demands of all courses and learners. 5) Lack of standardized technology limits transferability and the re-use of courses.

Opportunities of social media in learning history

1) Student mobility can be enhanced by giving them the possibility of studying in international history courses using social media. 2) social media learning courses can reach a greater numbers of students including day time workers saving their time and place. 3) social media learning can be used for spreading the importance of history among the general public. 4) It can create co-operation in teaching and also in academic research. 5) It can promote and justify demands for open archives and open access to materials. 6) It can offer supports the quest for tolerance and critical thinking which are essential for our society.

Conclusion

social media learning has been described as the use of electronic technology to deliver, support and enhance teaching and learning. It requires new skills, competences and attitudes among the learners and teachers who intend to design and develop materials online. It uses a variety of media like audio, video, text virtual environment and animations to present the learning content. It leads the user to learn the subject at his own pace. Learner can work from any location at any time.

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