

VARIOUS METHODS OF TEACHING HISTORY- PROJECT METHOD.



SIGNIFICANCE AND MEANING OF PROJECT METHOD

- Project Method is a natural, whole-hearted, problem solving and purposeful activity carried to completion in a social environment. It is a practical outcome of the pragmatic environment and practical philosophy of John Dewey, a well-known American philosopher and educationist. It was developed and perfected by Dr William Kilpatrick of the University of Columbia. It is a revolt against the traditional, bookish and passive environment of the school children where in obedient masses are carefully drilled and spoon-fed with unrelated and disconnected facts.

DEFINITION

Project method has been defined by various educationists as:

- 1. According to Ballard. A project is a bit of real life that has been imported into the school.
- 2. According to Burton. The problem is a project which results in doing. The motor element is not what makes the activity a project, but the problem solving of a practical nature accompanying the activity.

CHARACTERISTICS OF PROJECT METHOD

- i. A project is problematic act.
 - ii. A project is purposeful activity.
 - iii. A project is whole-hearted activity.
 - iv. A project is activity in a natural setting.
 - v. A project is activity in a social environment.
 - vi. A project is bit of real life introduced in school.
 - vii. A project is problem solving of a practical nature.
 - viii. A project is positive and concrete achievement.
 - ix. A project is activity through which solution of various problems are found out.
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PRINCIPLES OF PROJECT METHOD

- i. The Principle of Purpose
- ii. The Principle of Activity
- iii. The Principle of Experience
- iv. The Principle of Social Experience
- v. The Principle of Freedom
- vi. The Principle of Utility

VARIOUS STEPS IN PROJECT METHOD

- I. Providing a situation.
- II. Choosing and Purposing.
- III. Planning
- IV. Executing the plan
- V. Judging
- VI. Recording

ESSENTIALS OF A GOOD PROJECT

- I. Timely
- II. Usefulness
- III. Interesting
- IV. Challenging
- V. Economical
- VI. Rich in experience
- VII. Co-operativeness

MERITS OF PROJECT METHOD

- i. Based on Laws of Learning: a. Law of Readiness, b. Law of Exercise, c. Law of Effect
- ii. Related with life
- iii. Correlates with all the subjects
- iv. Trains for a democratic life
- v. Gives training in citizenship
- vi. Upholds the dignity of labour
- vii. Stresses on problem solving attitude
- viii. Provides Freedom
- ix. Solves problem of indiscipline

DEMERITS OF PROJECT METHOD

- i. Neglecting intellectual work
- ii. Haphazard unconnected teaching
- iii. Difficulty of suitable textbooks
- iv. Lack of competent teachers
- v. Too much reliance on students.

CONCLUSION

- A review of the above brings us to the conclusion that most of the limitations are unreal and without much significance. Whenever a new method is suggested criticisms are unnecessary levelled.
- Traditional methods have been tried and found unsuitable to the changing needs of the time. New methods must be tried and if found suitable should be accepted.

