

## THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS

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*Abstract:*

Teachers play a pivotal role in the education system, serving not only as knowledge conveyors but also as shapers of students' character. Their guidance facilitates self-awareness among learners, nurturing self-confidence and building on individual strengths. Within the education system, teachers hold various responsibilities that are foundational and influential. Despite their significance, the effectiveness of teachers is sometimes questioned due to resource constraints. Optimal resource utilization to maximize educational output presents a challenge, particularly in environments where resources are limited. Educational activities in schools are multifaceted and complex, influenced by the unique qualities of individuals accessing them. As each person learns in a distinct manner and requires tailored approaches, the diverse nature of learners adds complexity to the educational process.

*Key words:* teachers, education system, knowledge conveyors, character development, self-awareness, self-confidence, individual strengths, foundational responsibilities.

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### Introduction

Teachers indeed play a crucial role in shaping the future of a nation, making them akin to nation builders. They, alongside parents, lay the foundational pillars of education and character development for every student. By instilling values, attitudes, and behaviors from early childhood, teachers and parents collectively mold the youth. In today's challenging educational landscape, teachers stand at the forefront of influence in schools and colleges. The evolving role of teachers has become increasingly demanding, necessitating qualities of sociability, understanding, and approachability to create an environment where students feel at ease seeking assistance.

An engaging classroom environment is paramount for effective teaching. Teachers must foster a comfortable atmosphere that encourages student-teacher interaction while motivating students to excel. The delivery of knowledge should be presented in a manner that is easily comprehensible to students, guiding them on the right path. The system approach to education, as proposed by (Rassekh and Vaideanu in 1989), underscores the organization, operation, and assessment of the teaching-learning process. Central to this approach are teachers and learners, seen as pivotal elements influencing the efficiency and quality of education. The seamless interaction among objectives, content, teaching methods, resources, instructional organization, learning processes, and evaluation mechanisms is vital for the success of the educational process within classrooms. Teachers are undoubtedly among the foundational pillars of the social structure within schools. Teaching is a specialized profession that encompasses the educational, instructional, and

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administrative responsibilities mandated by the government. Teachers serve as vital conduits for achieving the goals set by educational institutions. They hold a revered status within school management, being the true architects of the educational product and the linchpin for students' accomplishments. The success of an education system is intricately linked to the proficiency of its teachers, as they are the ones responsible for executing and implementing the system. It is widely acknowledged that the efficacy of any education model is inherently tied to the competence and dedication of the individuals operating within that model. Thus, the role of teachers is pivotal, acting as the driving force behind the success and effectiveness of the education system

#### Role of a Teacher

Teachers indeed hold the key to creating a positive and nurturing environment for their students. Establishing a pleasant atmosphere within the classroom benefits both the teacher and the students, fostering a conducive learning environment. However, before this environment can be achieved, it is imperative that teachers are well-prepared to provide the best possible education to their students, especially during the crucial early years of schooling. Preparation is essential as it sets the foundation for a teacher to effectively impart knowledge and guidance to their students. During these formative years, teachers play a role akin to that of parents within the school setting. They are responsible for instilling respect, care, and acting as role models for their students. Creating a positive and supportive environment, treating students with fairness, providing guidance without being authoritarian, and steering them towards success are all integral aspects of a teacher's responsibilities. In the school environment, teachers influence and shape the character and personalities of their students during their developmental years. A good teacher not only instructs but also nurtures students, helping them discover their strengths and encouraging them to become better individuals. Through guidance and support, teachers play a significant role in helping students understand their potential and guiding them on the path to personal and academic success. Teachers indeed hold a significant position in society, revered for their knowledge and expertise in various subjects taught in schools. Their role extends beyond imparting academic knowledge; they are looked upon as role models by their students. Students often emulate their teachers in manners, style, and other aspects, as they view them as credible and influential figures. The affection and love displayed by teachers towards their students can deeply impact the latter, shaping their attitudes and behaviors. In order to effectively instill values and principles in students, teachers must possess not only professional competence but also a strong moral background. It is through these values that teachers can set examples and guide their students towards ethical conduct and personal growth. As the environment evolves and careers become more challenging, teachers play a crucial role in equipping students with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate their chosen paths and build a solid foundation in various fields. Given the complexity of decision-making that students face, teachers often step into the role of mentors, offering guidance and support as students navigate their educational and personal journeys. By serving as mentors and guides, teachers play a pivotal role in shaping students' futures and helping them make informed decisions that contribute to their academic and professional development.

#### Various roles of a teacher in classroom management

1. The Controller: In language learning settings, especially when a new language is being introduced, the teacher assumes a position of authority and responsibility within the classroom. The teacher is tasked with guiding students through the process of acquiring the new language, which often requires precise instruction, accurate reproduction, and drilling techniques to ensure comprehension and retention. As the individual with specialized

knowledge in the language being taught, the teacher takes charge of the class, directing students on what to do, say, and how to say it correctly. This authority is essential in creating a structured and effective learning environment where students can grasp the foundations of the language. Through accurate reproduction exercises and drilling techniques, students gain practice in using the language correctly, improving their language skills and fluency. The teacher's guidance and direction play a crucial role in language acquisition, as their expertise enables them to design appropriate learning activities and exercises that enhance students' linguistic abilities.

2. The Prompter: In the classroom setting, particularly during language learning activities, the role of the teacher as a facilitator of student participation is crucial. Encouraging students to actively engage in activities and offering suggestions on how to approach tasks effectively are fundamental aspects of effective teaching and learning. While it is important for teachers to provide guidance and support, intervention should be limited to when it is truly necessary. When students find themselves struggling or unsure of how to proceed, a gentle nudge or prompt from the teacher can help steer them in the right direction. These prompts should be discreet and supportive, aimed at helping students overcome challenges without overshadowing their own efforts.

3. The Resource: The educator is a sort of strolling asset focus prepared to offer assistance if necessary, or furnish learners with anything that language they need while performing informative exercises. The instructor should make her/himself accessible so students can counsel her/him when (and just when) it is totally important. As an asset the instructor can direct students to utilize accessible assets, for example, the internet, for themselves' purposes, it surely isn't important to coddle learners, as this could have the drawback of making students dependent on the instructor.

4. The Assessor: The role of the teacher as an assessor in language education is vital for evaluating students' performance, providing feedback, and facilitating their learning progress. Effective feedback and correction mechanisms are essential in helping students improve their language skills and reach their learning goals. Feedback and correction should be organized systematically and delivered constructively to guide students towards understanding their strengths and areas for improvement. Different assessment methods can be employed to evaluate learners, such as formative assessments during the learning process or summative evaluations at the end of a unit or course. These assessments allow teachers to gauge students' progress accurately and tailor their teaching strategies accordingly.

5. The Organizer: Perhaps the most difficult and significant role the teacher has to play. The success of many activities depends on good organization and on the students knowing exactly what they are to do next. Giving instructions is important in this role as well as setting up activities. The organizer can also serve as a demonstrator, this role also allows a teacher to get involved and engaged with learners. The teacher also serves to open and neatly close activities and also give content feedback.

6. The Participant: When a teacher actively engages in classroom activities, it can have a positive impact on the overall learning environment. By participating alongside students, teachers can demonstrate their enthusiasm for the subject matter, model effective problem-solving strategies, and showcase a genuine interest in the learning process. This hands-on approach can help create a dynamic and interactive classroom atmosphere that motivates students to actively participate and engage with the material. Furthermore, teachers who actively participate in activities can serve as role models for their students. By showcasing a willingness to learn, explore, and collaborate, teachers set a positive example for students to

follow. This demonstration of continuous learning and growth mindset can inspire students to approach challenges with a similar level of enthusiasm and curiosity. In addition, when teachers actively participate in classroom activities, it can bridge the gap between theory and practice.

7. The Tutor: The role of the teacher as a coach is crucial, especially during project work or self-study activities. In this capacity, the teacher serves as a guide, offering advice, direction, and support to help students clarify their ideas, set goals, and manage their tasks effectively. By functioning as a coach, the teacher can facilitate the learning process, encourage student autonomy, and provide individualized assistance to address specific learning needs. Coaching allows teachers to offer personalized attention to students, catering to their unique strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles. This individualized approach enables teachers to adapt their teaching methods, materials, and feedback to suit the specific requirements of each student, promoting a more tailored and effective learning experience.

#### Teacher effectiveness

Teacher effectiveness plays an important role in teaching –learning process. An effective teacher indeed plays a critical role in fostering students' self-image and supporting their overall development. Rather than imposing an image on students, effective teachers empower them to shape their own identities by understanding their challenges, providing assistance, and cultivating a positive learning environment. They achieve this by making subjects engaging, maintaining classroom discipline, and treating students with fairness and respect. Teacher effectiveness is a field of study that explores how various teacher characteristics, instructional practices, and interactions impact students' learning outcomes. It involves distinguishing between more and less effective teachers based on their abilities to engage students, promote learning, and create a supportive educational environment. Effective teachers are those who possess the necessary skills and competencies in areas such as lesson planning, subject knowledge, interpersonal relationships, and classroom management. To enhance teacher effectiveness, educators should focus on continuous professional development to refine their teaching practices, expand their subject expertise, and strengthen their interpersonal skills. Factors contributing to teacher effectiveness include academic qualifications, mastery of the subject matter, intellectual capabilities, genuine care for students, job satisfaction, teaching experience, professional growth opportunities, age, and the effectiveness of instructional techniques utilized. Ultimately, maximizing teacher effectiveness is a fundamental objective in education, as it directly influences the quality of instruction, student engagement, and overall learning outcomes. By prioritizing continuous improvement and utilizing effective teaching strategies, educators can enhance their impact on student learning and create a more conducive and enriching educational experience for learners. K. Patrica Cross remarked, "The task of the excellent teacher is to stimulate „apparently ordinary“ people to usual effort. The tough problem is not in identifying. It is in making winners out of ordinary people." Barr (1952) remarked, "Teacher effectiveness may be essentially a relationship between teachers, pupils and other persons concerned with the education, understanding all affected and facilitating aspects of immediate situation." Bending (1953) "found significant relationship between the rating of a teacher and his student's achievement." Good (1959) observed teaching effectiveness as "the degree of success of a teacher in performing instructions and other duties specified in his contract and demanded by the nature of his position." Flander and Simon (1969) defined "teacher effectiveness as an area of research which is concerned with relationship between characteristic of teacher's teaching act and their effect on the educational outcome of classroom teaching." Ryan described it as "Teaching can be effective

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to the extent the teacher act in ways that are favorable to the development of basic skills, understandings, work habits, desirable attitude, value judgment and adequate personal adjustment of the pupils." Anderson (1991) described it as, "An effective teacher is the one who quite consistently achieves goals, which, either directly or indirectly, focus on learning of their students." Medley and Shannon (1994) "recommended that all evaluations of teachers be based on information about teacher effectiveness but noted that as direct information about teacher effectiveness is not available, many teacher evaluations are based on information about teacher competence or teacher performance."

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