

IAO

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ACCREDITOR

Featured

**TEACHER
COMPETENCE**
7 DEFINING
QUALITIES
OF A MODERN
TEACHER

**Digital
Natives**

**A Myth or a New
Challenge for Teachers?**

An Insight into the Recent Challenge for
Traditional teachers

Exclusive

**IN
CONVERSATION
WITH**
BARDEES AL HAWAWSHEH
OF
AL-QADISIYAH COLLEGE



**FEATURED
ACCREDITATIONS**

**INSTITUTES
DISPLAYING
COMMITMENT
TOWARDS QUALITY
LEARNING**

Editor's

Note...

Recently, singing praises for technology in Education has become a *new cool*. Open your Facebook timeline or skim through a newspaper, developments in educational world are plastered everywhere. Technically, technology should make teaching easier for educators, but teachers are telling a different story. They believe that technology has made teaching too much of a herculean task for them.

Students may be a fan of internet and it's blessings but the educational sector is caught in the crossfire where some teachers are embracing EdTech with open arms while the naysayers remain adamant. Despite the conflict, all the teachers agree on one thing that class culture has transformed drastically over the past few years.

Teachers in the colleges have grown up in an environment where internet was a luxury. They are not tech-savvy and certainly not a fan of IGen that is glued to their phones. These teachers are still insistent upon traveling in a post chaise when they have an option to drive. Teaching and learning methods that are years behind the curve may not be completely useless, but there are more effective methods that technology has simplified for us. The debate between the modern and traditional teachers is an important one that has the future of many college students on stake.



Teachers are caught in a catch-22 in deciding whether to stay glued to outdated methods or jump on the digital bandwagon.

With that said, this issue of IAO features articles that discuss this very issue of changing educational culture. The magazine also includes interviews, engrossing articles and a list of institutes that acquired accreditation from IAO after a thorough evaluation of their academic practices and school culture.

A vertical photograph of a desk with a clock, books, and glasses. The clock is on the left, and the glasses are in the foreground. The background is a wooden desk with several books and a pen.

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The 21st-century drastically changed the humdrum educational system by introducing innovative trends that teachers are not familiar with. These trends have made teaching just as challenging as any other profession by superseding the methods that teachers have sworn by for years. Recently, the term "Modern teacher" has become the talk of the town and a favorite topic of experts and educators. Classes have increased in size, student culture has transformed, and distractions have quadrupled, making it harder for teachers to make traditional methods word.

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DIGITAL NATIVES – A MYTH OR A NEW CHALLENGE FOR TEACHERS?

Students like their lessons in the form of graphics because that's how they grew up. Students who can watch a video extending up to 10 minutes on YouTube, would never be motivated to read a thick book. 'This is exactly why students in a traditional classroom lose interest in their lesson and score poorly in their tests. Not only that, but many teachers observed a huge decline in student performance and attributed it to their lack of understanding of EdTech and confirmed it has become challenging to teach the new generation. There are many challenges that teachers are facing when it comes to education the digital natives.




TEACHER COMPETENCE

7 DEFINING QUALITIES OF A MODERN TEACHER

It was a general assumption for a very long time that teaching is one of the most convenient career options. The educators enjoyed teaching a small class, checking notes and tests, lecturing, and going home with no workload. The 21st-century drastically changed the humdrum educational system by introducing innovative trends that teachers are not familiar with. These trends have made teaching just as challenging as any other profession by superseding the methods that teachers have sworn by for years.

Recently, the term "Modern teacher" has become the talk of the town and a favorite topic of experts and educators. Classes have increased in size, student culture has transformed, and distractions have quadrupled, making it harder for teachers to make traditional methods work.

A hand is shown reaching out from the right side of the frame, palm facing up, against a dark, textured background that resembles a chalkboard. A white chalk scribble is visible on the left side of the board. The title text is overlaid in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

WHY TRADITIONAL METHODS ARE NOT WORKING

The word “backbenchers” is generally associated with a group of students who don't pay attention in class and sit in the back, far from the reach of teachers. This simply covers the condition of the entire traditional educational system. The prompt transformations in trends and culture have put a lot of distance between teachers and students. The knowledge and methods of a traditional teacher are obsolete and modern students' have a hard time understanding those, which results in decreased motivation level.

The backbencher example implies not only figuratively, but literally as well. The sizes of the class used to be smaller years ago, now the sizes have increased due to less student retention. Students prefer online education which has decreased admission rates in institutes, to maintain their budgeting, institutes merge up classes to save money on teacher's pay and other expenses. The large size of classes make it impossible for the teachers to stay connected with the students and ensure whether their instructions are effective or not.

The large class dilemma could be resolved if teachers interacted more with the students. But, almost all the traditional methods of learning and teaching are teacher-based. Lecturing the class, assessment at the end of the term, grading system, everything in the traditional method is based on instruction provision rather than instruction exchange or discussion. Teachers often share the instructions in hope that they would be effective, however, there is no room for students to make mistakes and then improve.



TEACHER COMPETENCE IN MODERN EDUCATION

Scholars define Teacher competence as a set of skills or knowledge an educator must have to teach a class of students. The competence of a teacher is measurable and hence a good teacher needs to be highly competent. A vital part of teacher competence is a pedagogical culture, a concept that takes competence up a notch. Unless a teacher doesn't understand the current culture and is not able to adapt to new trends and methods, the teacher lacks in competency. Setting goals, building problem-solving skills, self-critique are all parts of teacher competence, but adopting and transforming is the biggest part. There are many problems that traditional teachers deal with, but failing to adapt to the changing culture is the crux of the problem. Here are a few defining qualities to attain modern teacher competence;



1. Ability to Establish an Inclusive Environment

Apart from other elements, the large size of classes could be attributed to globalization. Students are flying in from all over the world to study in their desired institutes, increasing the class sizes. It is not only the size that is impacted by globalization but class culture as well. A teacher in a modern class deals with students from diverse cultures, religions, and races. A traditional class is not a miscellaneous one which doesn't require special skills from a teacher, however, a modern one requires a teacher to be skilled enough to maintain a diverse, healthy, and wholesome environment in the classroom.



2.

They know the content they teach

Having in-depth information about the educational content included in the curriculum is one of the key qualities of a modern teacher. Students have the facility of internet and when they are eager to learn something, chances are they have already studied about the basics on the internet. A modern teacher has meaningful and whole information about the subject so that they can add to the information that the students already possess.

3.

Adaptability

As mentioned earlier, adaptability is a huge part of the pedagogical culture. With the advent of technology in the educational world, the dynamic trends are not going to stay here for long, they'll keep changing. A modern teacher is flexible and more acceptable of changes and new trends to accommodate modern students more efficiently. Instead of hesitating to embrace technology or other academic developments, teachers must accept them and learn to implement them in their class.



4. Continuous Learning

A good way to be more adaptable to increase student learning is continuous improvement. Traditional teachers are called traditional because they are either hesitant to embrace modern methods or are not in touch with new trends. Their learning has been halted which has a direct impact on class performance and student learning outcomes.

It is the quality of a modern teacher to keep exploring and never stop being a student. As mentioned earlier, technological changes and trends are not going to stop. Therefore, to stay in touch and make the most of these changes, modern teachers never stop learning. It is a part of their nature to be a critique of themselves and hustle each day to learn what's new.



5. Communication

Going back to the backbencher example, the teacher-student gap has extended to a point where it has started to mar the student performance. Teachers are not aware of the student's needs, what they want to learn and how they want to learn it. You can't fix the issue if you don't know the problem. To detect the root problem behind deteriorating student grades, the teacher must facilitate class communication.

A dilemma about modern education for teachers is that they are confused about whether they should teach or follow. Whereas, a modern teacher knows how to pave a new middle way. Teachers should form a collaborative environment in class where communication is not only limited to student teachers, but students communicate with each other as well to attain enhanced class performance. This is the essence of class communication where students who are accustomed to texting and nonverbal communication, feel comfortable talking to their teachers and peers.



6. Collaborate with Students

Where traditional teaching largely revolved around teachers and their lectures, modern teaching is all about collaboration. The 21st-century students don't like to follow stern orders, a modern teacher understands that. It is important to treat students with respect and listen to their ideas and thoughts. The modern teacher has a high level of the patient so that they can listen to student complaints, ideas, and feedback to improve class learning.

7. Understanding of Technology

Modern methods of teaching came into existence due to the advent of technology in education. Students are all about the internet these days, despite that many traditional teachers still refuse to incorporate technology. Technology is not only a great tool to grasp the attention of new students but is extremely effective in speeding up the class progress and learning.

Teachers who are efficiently teaching a class at this age are familiar with EdTech and are incorporating tools such as social media into their class. On the other hand, traditional teachers are not only losing the attention and interest of students, but they are causing the students to be less competent part of the coming age where technology dominates.



Final Words

The purpose of teaching is the distribution of knowledge, if students are not aware of the recent trends, the purpose of teaching is not fulfilled. Teachers must respond to the development in the learning models, curriculum, assessment and everything that is evolving in the educational world at breakneck speed. A good teacher identifies and realizes his/her role in the ever so changing educational world and creates new techniques through which these changes can be simplified and used for the benefits of students.



Monthly Announced

Featured Accreditations

Reputable institutes around the world acquire accreditation from IAO to be recognized on global level. IAO evaluates institutes based on a global education criteria to ensure high quality education for all. This issue features stories of educational pioneers that acquired accreditation from IAO.



ELLEN TECHNOLABS

Ellen TechnoLabs is an Industrial Automation Training Centre where that offers broad and comprehensive professional training covering areas of the industrial automation field and complete cycle of a project. It is conducted in small groups and comprises classroom sessions as well as practical training and hands-on experience, so as to ensure maximum learning and enhance expertise in product competency, engineering and project execution. Ellen TechnoLabs helps fresh graduates achieve the skills and expertise required to take their careers to the next level. The institute also offers them comprehensive technical training to acquire, maintain and optimize their Industrial Automation skills.



ITS ENGINEERING COLLEGE
GREATER NOIDA | SINCE 2006

ITS ENGINEERING COLLEGE

ITS Engineering College believes in the vision of becoming a “technical institution of choice” to promote modern education and to be at par with global institutes. Along with other courses, ITS Engineering College is offering B. Tech and MBA Degree programs that are taught by skilled and experienced faculty. The teachers at ITS are well aware of the changing technical paradigms and learning trends and their adaptability allows them to deliver the knowledge in the best way possible. The state of the art technological assistance at ITS accompanied by skilled faculty enabled ITS to acquire accreditation from IAQ.



TRIPURA INSTITUTE OF PARAMEDICAL SCIENCES

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Inaugurated in 2009, Tripura Institute of Paramedical Sciences has gained an extraordinary reputation for itself. The institute is teaching young students in the field of paramedics by providing them with hands on training to expand their area of expertise. The institute offers various degrees, courses, and certifications that are taught under the supervision of experienced professionals, doctors, and professors. Tripura Institute of Paramedical Sciences is an exceptional project that is working towards the goal of nurturing skilled professionals in the field of paramedics.



ITS DENTAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE

ITS Dental College and research Center is offering BDS and MDS degrees to aspiring students. The medical training at ITS is based on practical examinations with the help of professional and proficient faculty. The continuous improvement of teachers at ITS demonstrates the management's zeal to deliver high quality education. Medical equipment at ITS is up to par with recent technological development that allows the students to learn in an advanced environment.

ITS is offering programs that would allow the students to become skilled dentists and professionals in the future. The institutes blends different methods of learning to suit the needs of students.



MAWHIBA TRAINING AND POSITIVE MOTIVATION

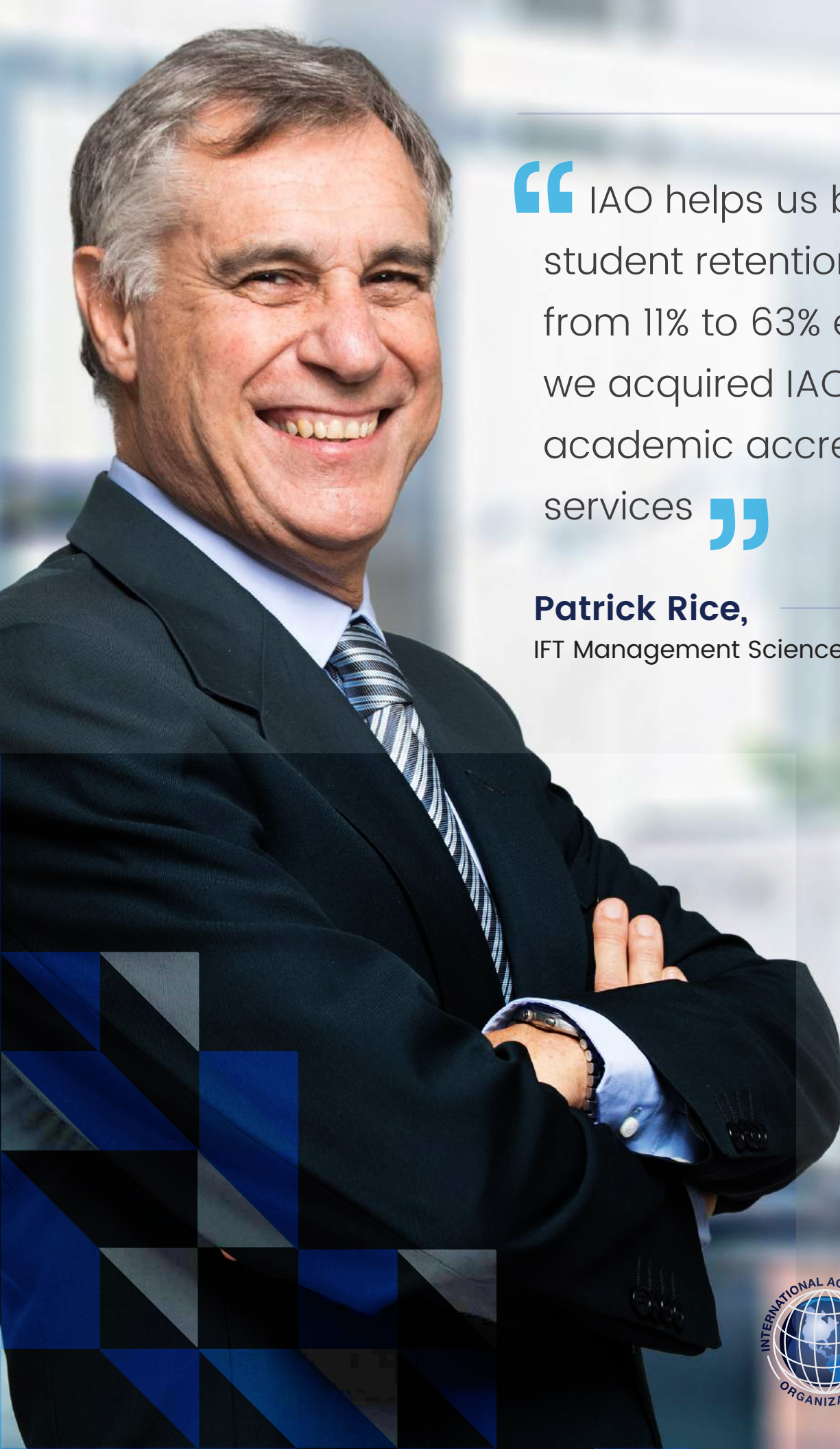
Mawhiba Training and Positive Motivation aims to train community groups to live life in accordance with the 21st century's norms and tech. Their ambition is to spread positive awareness and develop thinking skills of individuals to be more aware and mature of the surroundings around them. The comprehensive programs at Mawhiba training institutes help the students become a contributing part of the advanced age and provides them with leadership abilities.



ROTOMAKER INSTITUTE

Located in Hyderabad, India, RotoMaker is an institute offering training related to VFX rotoscoping, virtual reality services and the like. The institute is among the very few institutes in India that are leading the charge of equipping the youth with EdTech (tech education). The institute offers variety of advanced and basic courses that would help the students in their job hunt.

Rotomaker nurtures the young talent with the assistance of latest tools and technologies so that they can become a valuable part of the tech industry through their competency. The creative talent pool at Rotomaker enjoys cutting-technology, skilled teachers, and guidance from the professionals.



“ IAO helps us boost our student retention rates from 11% to 63% ever since we acquired IAO’s academic accreditation services ”

Patrick Rice,
IFT Management Sciences School



IAO

Exclusive

IN CONVERSATION
WITH

BARDEES AL HAWAWSHEH

Instructor at
Fitness with Gomzi



Academic Life:

Q: Could you please walk us through your academic background and achievements? Your extensive and varied experience can be a source of inspiration for many; please share the highlights and milestones of your professional journey.

I finished high school with a science major, then I went to university to study English literature. My professors were fond of me and their support helped me finish my 3-year bachelor's degree with excellence.

I had a great passion to enroll in postgraduate studies but I needed to specify my specialties carefully. I got a training certificate during my teaching

tenure and studied about human development, self-strength, and the laws of attraction. I enjoyed a distinctive presence when I was training as a coach and excelled there as well. I finally fulfilled my dream of completing a master's degree in quality management from the University of Jordan. I conducted case studies, researched quality culture, my hard work in these fields earned me a scholarship to study business management. I was doing my masters in two fields and that is where my struggle started.



Experience:

Q: Currently heading the institute, what are some of your long-term and short-term goals for the education system?

I have always seen this job as an answer to my career objectives. It would not be wrong to say that I had set up goals to reach this position. Now that I have achieved those, I look forward to setting up new objectives. As a short-term goal, I see myself gaining trust and credibility because I believe that I can be trusted with new tasks in future if I am reliable today. While short-term goals can be achieved within the initial years, my long term goals are related to my development in the upcoming years. I want to see myself taking bigger responsibilities as bigger responsibilities sharpen your decision making. I understand this can take some time, but I am ready to work for the cause. These goals would always be motivating me to achieve new heights.



Q: What do you think your biggest challenge is working in the education industry at such a key position?

In my personal opinion, some challenges in the educational industry are technology integration, school environment, and ensuring teacher training before the appointment.

Q: During your entire career, which milestone felt most accomplished and why?

My recent appointment as university professor, as it was my ambition and this is only the beginning of my career.

Q: Educationists are advised usually to share their experience and learning. What method of information-dissemination would you say is most effective for this purpose?

Through the publication of scientific research and also possible seminars and workshops.



Interest & Opinions:

Q: Recently, there have been many reports and trends of students opting for alternate methods of education such as distance learning, diplomas, short-courses, etc. instead of traditional degrees. What's your view on this?

As for short courses, they are useful and can develop the skills of the person participating in a specific subject. Diplomas add academic and practical experience to a specific subject and are useful for professional development. Distance education, I would say is useful for people who have access to it, but in my opinion, it is not as effective as students can't engage in the full academic experience and the atmosphere of scientific debate.

Q: As an educator, what's your perspective on the current education system in your region and how do you think it can be improved or revolutionized, if required.

I consider education in my area to be dying, as free public education is poor and private education is commercial and low. Unfortunately, we need an integrated system to structure education in terms of curricula, teachers, and administration.

Ending Notes

Q. Please share your philosophy of the ideal education a person can achieve regardless of its methods and processes. E.g. it could simply be a moment of enlightenment or a life-long struggle to gain perspective, how would you like to describe 'the best education or lesson' one can get. .

I think that education can be better if there is an opportunity to enrich the student scientifically through academic research and role exchange. Purely traditional education is a system that destroys the mind, because the goal is learning, not memorization.

Q. Thank you for taking the time to answer a few questions for IAO Accreditor. Do you have any parting words of wisdom for educationists and students?

Education develops talent, but it does not create it.





IAO

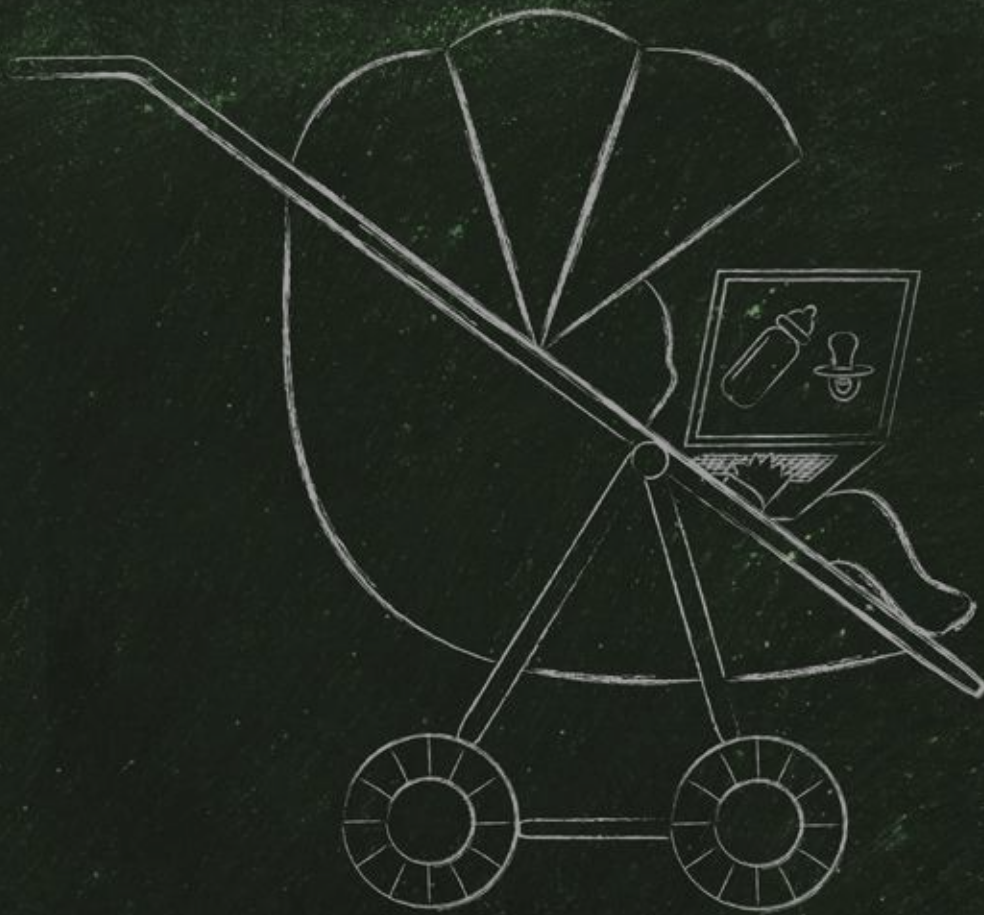
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Digital Natives – A Myth or a New Challenge for Teachers?





DIGITAL NATIVES

Digital education is irrelevant interference whereas students, parents, and other divisions of teachers believe that it is a need of the hour. Safe to say, technology is yet to gain a foothold in the educational sector. All in all, the educational world is hanging somewhere in the middle as teachers are still figuring out the technology dilemma.

A latest report by IAO showed that 60% of the teachers confirmed they were burning out at their job and showed signs of stress and depression. The percentage has never been so high before, proving that something has changed in the educational world, disturbing the uniformity that teachers enjoyed for years. Experts proposed that teacher stress could be attributed to the fact that student learning has gained pace due to the aid from internet and teachers are having a hard time keeping up with it.



The Debate of Digital Natives and Digital Immigrants

In his controversial essay, Marc Prensky coined the term Digital Natives to describe people born after the year 1980 and those who are born before are called Digital Immigrants. The essay focused on the dichotomous divide between the IGen and traditional generation, implying that those who are born after 1980 speak a different language of technology.

Growing up with easy access to the internet through tablets, mobile phones, and computers, it has put a lot of difference between the thought process of immigrants and IGen. It's not necessarily something that people should fret about, as there are plenty of benefits to this development. Although, in the educational world, this difference has made teaching a catch-22 for educators.



Teachers in the 21st century are digital immigrants who may have access to the internet but are not as fluent as IGen. There are many teachers who are in denial and argue that the technological gap between the generations is nothing but smoke and mirrors. These teachers argue that belonging from the later generation doesn't guarantee fluency over the internet of Things. There are students who despite growing up among the heaps of internet devices, have no clue how to use it purposefully, while on the other hand, many old teachers ace at using the internet. Therefore, the debate of digital natives and immigrants is another fad in the educational world. However, their argument may not be as strong.

The debate whether the digital gap is real or not could be concluded with the fact that students who study in the modern environment facilitated with technological aid score higher on tests, reports showed. On the other hand, a traditional class that is led by a teacher who is not familiar with EdTech has high chances of burning out and decreased class performance.



Students that are entering college recently, grew up with the assistance of the internet in everything. They had access to mobile phones and learned to understand visuals, graphics, touch taps before they learned to walk or talk. This is another reason why IGen or digital natives prefer to keep their eyes down and tongues locked. Where teachers prefer engrossing class discussions, students prefer to look at visuals and type down their responses. It is an age of emojis where even text has become outdated.

Traditional teachers tire themselves out trying to get students to read, talk and speak the language that they never learned while growing up. This repudiation of the digital gap only increases the communication gap between the teacher and the student. Therefore, the term digital natives is not entirely a myth or a fad, it might be a bit exaggerated to call the older generation "Immigrant", but the gap is as real as it gets.



The Debate of Digital Natives and Digital Immigrants

Naturally, the parents, students, and society demand a higher skill level from the teacher when it comes to tech, despite the fact that most teachers are born after the 19th Century and the use of technology doesn't come as easier to them. Majority of teachers agree that the advent of internet in the educational world has made their conventional methods futile to a huge extent. They invest too much energy talking in class when students are not even paying attention.

Students like their lessons in the form of graphics because that's how they grew up. Students who can watch a video extending up to 10 minutes on YouTube, would never be motivated to read a thick book. 'This is exactly why students in a traditional classroom lose interest in their lesson and score less in their tests. Not only that, but many teachers observed a huge decline in student performance and attributed it to their lack of understanding of EdTech and confirmed it has become challenging to teach the new generation.

There are many challenges that teachers are facing when it comes to education the digital natives.



- **Teachers** who are eager to incorporate technology in delivering education don't have enough resources. Educational institutes are still not spending enough funds on tech gadgets and the internet which has forced the willing teachers to stick with traditional methods. The basic infrastructure for adequate availability of gadgets and systems is lacking in educational institutes.
- **Another** challenge is the lack of professional development plans in educational institutes. There are teachers who oppose the use of digital education because they are not aware of its benefits. To enhance the quality of education, it is important that there are PD programs that not only educate the teachers about technological development in the education sector but train them as well.
- **Another** challenge for teachers is that they are not personally expanding their wheelhouse to learn the use of digital methods. They are usually even more clueless than the students which could make the students lose trust in the teacher's ability.
- **One** of the biggest challenges is language. English is mostly the language that has been associated with technology. Therefore, it is more arduous for teachers who are not comfortable with speaking English to incorporate technology into their daily teaching methods.



Teachers who are not comfortable using technological devices usually restrict the use of these devices in class which reduces student productivity. For example, using YouTube to watch a video lecture that could simplify a long text for students, is usually prohibited by a teacher simply because the teacher isn't well aware or well trained. Therefore, it has become extremely crucial for teachers to overcome these challenges and familiarize themselves with digital methods in the educational world. It won't be wrong to say that technology has become an extension of the new generation, it is a part of them and it is about time teachers accept it as a fact.

Final Words

Teachers are not completely helpless here even if they are labeled as immigrants. As mentioned earlier, that the term 'Immigrant' maybe a little bit exaggerated, as it implies that traditional teachers will never learn tech to an extent where they can be as good as someone who grew up with the internet. It is a fact that students have more knowledge about the internet as compared to the digital teacher. However, if teachers are not well equipped to guide the students in direction, the digital natives may face consequences. Bill Gates once said, "Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important." Therefore, without guidance from teachers who are endeavoring to learn digital methods of learning, students would have no direction, whatsoever. The future is all about technology and the internet. When students study in a traditional environment, they are not getting trained to function in the real world. Teachers need to overcome this challenge so that students could play a contributing role in their professional life.



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