

TEACHING AIDS/ CC-14

Instructional aids are used in the classroom to encourage learning and thereby make it easier and interesting. The materials like charts, maps, models, concrete objects, film strips, projector, radio, television etc. which help a teacher for effective teaching may be called instructional aids.

Albert Duret rightly said, “It is easier to believe what you see than what you hear; but if you both see and hear, then you can understand more readily and retain more lastingly”.

Classification of Aids

Instructional aids can be classified into three main categories

1. Audio aids
2. Visual aids
3. Audio-visual aids

Teaching Aids

Audio- Visual Aids

Audio Aids	Visual Aids		Audio-Visual Aids
	Printed	Non-Printed	
Tape recorders Radio Lingua phone	Books Newspapers Magazines	Blackboards Pictures Charts Flash cards Models Slides & slide projector LCD projector Film strips	Motion Pictures Television (Smart Phones)

Teacher-made Aids – *Flash Cards, Pictures, Charts, Models, Blackboard Sketches*

Flash Cards: Flash Cards are also an inexpensive teaching aid. They can be used to teach words, pronunciation etc. We can also use them as testing device.

Pictures: School children are enthused by pictures. The interest of the children on pictures can very easily be exploited to describe a scene, a series of pictures can narrate a story. Pictures are used to explain the meaning of some difficult words. It can also be used to develop the imagination of the students.

Charts: Chart is the easiest and cost-effective teaching aid. It can be used to teach all the four skills. It is the timesaving teaching aid for teaching structures by Substitution Tables. Moreover it can be used for at least for a few years. It is also useful to minimal pair drill. Mechanics of writing also can be taught by drawing the strokes. Vocabulary, pronunciation and main points of the lesson also can be taught through chart. Chart promotes the photographic memory in the students.

Models: Models also play a vital role in teaching of English. When we do not have the real objects, models will come in handy. Some real objects like ship, Indian Parliament etc. cannot be brought to the classroom. In that case, models will be much useful.

Blackboard. "A blackboard is an easily available, dependable visual aid. This can improve the handwriting of the students. There are many advantages of blackboard. Some teachers are totally crippled without a blackboard.

Printed Visuals: Printed visuals like, books, newspaper and magazines are vital in promoting self-learning. These printed visuals have all ingredients to take for teaching of English. So, teachers have to encourage the students to rely more on the printed visuals for learning English.

Electronic Aids: *Overhead Projector, Tape Recorder, Lingua Phone Records, Radio, Television.*

Slides and the Slide Projector

Slides are a bit expensive, as they require a projector. The teacher can make his own slides with camera. Vocabulary can be taught through slide projector and students can be asked to frame their own sentences with the words learnt.

Filmstrips: Film Strips are very useful in many respects. A sequence of story can be projected through filmstrips. They are used on a slide projector or a film strip projector.

Tape Recorder: Tape recorders are very useful in training the ear. Ear training is very important for developing listening skill. Listening skill is the most

important language skill which can pave way to the acquisition of other language skills. Tapes are available for good pronunciation, prose reading, poem recitation, stress, intonation etc. It is fine, if the teacher is confident of creating his own tape script which can suit his students. Tape Recorder is useful for self-examination, self- criticism and self-education.

Lingua phone: Lingua phone is of great advantage in the class-room situations. There are records available on speeches of great personalities. This will enable the students to become good speakers of English. The new concept of Language Laboratory is strengthened by lingua phone.

Radio: Radio helps improving the pronunciation of the students. Lectures, talks and addresses of important personalities can be heard on A.I.R. Radio is one of the important teaching aids.

Fredric Wittis says, " I like to think of education by radio as a timely, vital, dramatic thing, a system of learning or acquiring more information, means of widening one's horizon or enriching one's life and breaking down prejudices through inspiration and prescription, and education by desire and not by discipline, a pattern of swiftly changing pictures, events..."

Television: We have been trying to find out ways through which our children will understand difficult tasks very easily. When we are successful in using Radio and Tape-recorder for the educational purposes, they are not able to hold the audience to the required level. Students have to pay extra attention to gain knowledge from radio and tape-recorders. The blessing that we got to eliminate this problem is Television. Teaching through television makes the learners attracted towards the content of learning. There are many subject oriented CDs available in the markets with quite interesting way of presenting the content. The work of the teacher is made easy and the hardship that the students have to put for understanding is kept aside with teaching through television.

When teachers use educational television programs during class, the relationship between them and their students have desirable changes. Usually the status quo of the classroom is the teacher imparts knowledge while students absorb the information. Educational programs change the status quo by, in a way, making the educator and children peers who can share and discuss the viewing experience. Teachers can take advantage of this shift in roles by encouraging small group discussions after watching the show. Educators can set specific goals or activities for students in these small groups, which allows them to explore their

own questions and share their ideas on the given topic with their classmates. The instructor can then ask one member of the small group to share their team's insights with the rest of the class, strengthening the absorption of knowledge.

LANGUAGE LABORATORY

Technology Enabled Language Learning

English language teachers have understood the importance of integrating technology in teaching English. It is felt that tradition English class doesn't have required scope for learning English at a desired level. So, it is imperative to offer language instruction in multiple settings as it promotes the use of language skills in authentic situations with the help of various techniques using technology.

WEB-BASED LANGUAGE LEARNING

Internet has made the entire globe into a small village. The use of internet has given the education sector a giant leap in the perspective of amount of learning and quality of learning and of course, the innovativeness in all fields. So, any teacher concerned and concerned teacher will capitalize the benefits of websites in teaching his subject. English, being taught as a second language, is crippled with the teachers' use of language, especially, in pronunciation perspective.

Received pronunciation can be brought to the English classroom just with a smart classroom. There are millions of articles published on the internet by specialists. Finding out the exact information is an uphill task considering the stack of documents available on even in one topic.

TO SUM UP

- ❖ Audio aids, visual aids, and audio-visual aids are instructional aids.
- ❖ Tape-recorder helps in Micro-teaching and develops listening skills.
- ❖ Tape-recorders, radio and lingua-phone help in developing listening skill.
- ❖ Visual aids support the teaching and facilitates learning and retention.

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