Use of Computer Application 'Whatsapp' in Understanding and Presentation of William Wordsworth's Daffodils

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Abstract

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is a system that is based on computers, internet, electronics devices and cell phones and is widely used in schools, colleges and universities for teaching and learning. The technology is accepted for its benefits and advantages over the conventional teaching learning process. The conventional class room teaching method has its limitations and lacunas. As the technology has made its impact over almost all walks of life how can education field be remain behind? Nowadays ICT has been applied not only to learning and teaching but also in examination, instructions and assessment. It is considered as a powerful tool and technic for educational change and reforms. The influx of technology is inevitable and necessary for the changing environment of education. One of the tool of ICT is cell phones withsoftware application and systems. The student's generation has been affected by mobile phones in variety of ways. The present research paper tries to find out the use of Whats App application in students learning process. The Second year students of Computer Science are chosen for the research study and they are given a task of collecting and presenting the information about a poem of their syllabus. The poem 'Daffodils' by William Wordsworth is included in their academic syllabus. The use of cell phone and the application Whats App is very popular among the students. The students were given a task to present their learning outcomes in the class.

KEYWORDS:- ICT, Whats App, William Wordsworth, Daffodils, English poem.

1. Introduction:-

Whats App is a very common application available on android and IOs operating systems cell phones. Out of 80 students in the Second year computer science class 71 students are using Whats App application. The poem 'Daffodil' by William Shakespeare is the part of S.Y Bsc syllabus. The subject English is compulsory for Second Year Computer Science students and the objective mentioned in the curriculum about this program.

2. What's Up and its History:-

'More than 1 billion people in over 180 countries use WhatsApp to stay in touch with friends and family, anytime and anywhere. WhatsApp is free and offers simple, secure, reliable messaging and calling, available on phones all over the world.' claims the website of the company. The basic motto of this application is to connect people easily and share photos, videos and documents faster.

Whats App Application was innovated by Jan Koum and Brian Acton. They had previously spent 20 years combined at Yahoo. WhatsUpApplication is overtaken by Facebook in 2014, but continues to operate as a separate app with a laser focus on

building a messaging service that works fast and reliably anywhere in the world. WhatsApp started as an alternative to SMS. Our product now supports sending and receiving a variety of media: text, photos, videos, documents, and location, as well as voice calls. Our messages and calls are secured with end-to-end encryption, meaning that no third party including WhatsApp can read or listen to them. Behind every product decision is our desire to let people communicate anywhere in the world without barriers.

3. Assignment:-

Daffodil is a famous poem by William Wordsworth and it is prescribed in the syllabus. The objective of teaching the poem in class can be illustrated like this-

- 1) Making the students aware about the aesthetic beauty of the poem.
- 2) Feeling the emotional message of the poem.
- 3) Understanding the poetic language and its expression.
- 4) Imagining the similar poems in Marathi and Hindi languages.
- 5) Narrating similar incidents from one's life.

Students are asked to collect the information of William Wordsworth from internet and share it with the class. They are given the tasks to collect various literary reviews and criticism through the internet and share them with all through What's up. The images of Daffodils and its significance in the poem are studied with students' point of views. What's up is used as a medium of collecting, compiling and circulating information of the poem as it is very easy and flexible for all the students.

4. Methodology:-

Community Language Learning is the method used for group learning. Student interaction is the main focus in this method. Basically Understanding of English through active student interaction is studied in this method but the objective is not only English language learning.

Another methodology used for this paper is 'Content-based, Task-based, and Participatory Approaches' which keeps its focus on what is being communicated overlooking the structure of English. In this methodology the content is based on the relevance to students' life and experiences. The selected topics are given as tasks for the study and the approach is towards problem solving and common output as a group.

Following activities are done by students for the assignment:-

- 1) The students are given the task of reading the poem individually and analyze the poem as per their own understanding.
- 2) Students have formed a group of Whats App and started sharing their views on it.
- 3) Teacher is also present in the Whats App group to control the activities and to offer any guidance if required.
- 4) All the students became very active and participative in the discussions and contributed with their ideas and opinions.

- 5) Pictures of Daffodils are shared and various anecdotes, myths, stories and references are shared in group.
- 6) Huge exchange of information and knowledge is happened for a week.
- 7) Various related information is also made available in bulk such as William Wordsworth, his life and time, romantic period in English literature, his sister Lucy and other stories involved her, S.T.Coleridge and Wordsworth's friendship.
- 8) Comparison between Indian flowers with foreign flowers.

4. Research finding:-

Students completed the assignments with enthusiasm and fun. What's up is very interesting and user-friendly. It proved as interesting assignment for students.

- 1) Students submitted the assignments in time which normally do not happen when they are given assignments to write in the notebook.
- 2) The pictures and images helped the students to see the flower 'daffodil' which is not available in India.
- 3) The comments and commentary on the poem proved very helpful in understanding the significance of the title.
- 4) Lot of material is available on internet and it became very easy to compile and share all the information.
- 5) Students used their imagination and creativity in presenting the information.
- 6) The poem is analyzed from various perspective and students get to learn many views and comments on the poem.
- 7) The assignment created interest and curiosity amongst students about William Wordsworth and other poets.
- 8) Students also shared their own experiences while presenting the information in the class.

5. Conclusion:-

The idea of using social networking application 'what's up'proved very beneficial and innovative. Young generation who is addicted to social networking sites need to be given the tasks related to their area of interests. Student's interests and curiositiescan be utilized positively for their study. ICT involves mobile applications and use of social networking sites. The assignment was very successful as far as the output is concerned.

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