

Role of ICT in Teaching English Drama

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Abstract

ICT is very effective and useful device of teaching English literature in the classes. It makes audio-visual impacts on the students so it is the more effective than traditional methods of teaching. ICT also makes the job of the teacher easy. It also saves the time and labour of the teacher.

Keywords: *ICT, Audio-visual aid, English, literature, drama etc.*

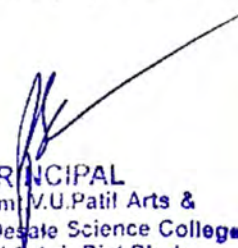
Introduction:

The term ICT is used to refer the convergence of audio visual and telephone networks with computer network through a various linking system. Teaching through ICT is need of an hour. ICT plays important role in today's education system. It is an effective way to educate the students. ICT makes permanent impact on the minds of students. It increases thinking abilities of the students. The drama can be effectively taught by using ICT in the literature classes.

Analysis:

The present research paper is an attempt to study the role of ICT in teaching literature in the classes. The researcher has tried to present in his researcher paper how ICT plays crucial role in teaching literature in the classes. The researcher has selected the play 'Arms and the Man' of G.B.Shaw and taught with the help of audio-visual aid. By using audio-visual aid the researcher has focused on the elements like plot, characters, setting and multiple themes of the play *Arms and the Man*.




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In the beginning researcher has planned to teach the play *Arms and the Man* by using traditional method of teaching English literature. The teacher followed lecture method for teaching the play. He acquainted the students the genre drama, historical background of the play and writing style of G. B. Shaw. The teacher commented on the characters, dialogue, themes and setting of the play with the use of traditional method. In the beginning students responded positively. After the end of the play when questions were asked the students the response was not as per the expectation of the teacher. They were unable to remember dialogues, characterization and basic concept of the play. The students intermingled the different aspects of the play in confusing way. They found it difficult to make comment on the various elements of the play. Some dialogues which are important from the point of understanding play, they fail to relate with the proper situation. The traditional lecture method was not found much fruitful in such situation. The teacher decided to use some innovative technique for the teaching of play. He tried to emphasize on the ICT. When the students were informed about the use of ICT for teaching drama they were very eager to learn drama through it. They requested teacher to teach them through the innovative method. The interest of the students in the classes is also an important factor for the effective learning and it can be developed through such innovative technique of ICT. ICT is really great source for the effective learning of any form of English literature.

The teacher has decided to use audio-visual aid for the play *Arms and the Man*. He has focused various elements of the play with the help of audio-visual aid. He effectively and skillfully presented the dialogues, characters and themes of the play. The complex and lengthy dialogues of the Bluntschli, Raina and Sergius can be remembered to students due to the use of audio-video aid. Bluntschli dialogue like,

Ah, perhaps not- of course! Well, it's a funny sight.

It's like a slinging a handful of peas against a window pane:

first one comes; then two or three close behind him; and

all the rest in a lump. (Shaw, *Arms and the Man* 20)

Raina, Says to Bluntschli,



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Thank you. And now I will do a soldiering thing.
You cannot stay here after what you have just said
about my future husband; but I will
go out on the balcony and see whether it is safe for
You to climb down in the street. (She turns to the
widow). (Shaw, *Arms and the Man* 24)

When Sergius assure his love to Raina and praises her by telling you are the source of
inspiration for whatever I have done in the battlefield. He says her,

Dearest: all my deeds have yours. You inspired me
I have gone through the war like a knight in a tournament
With his lady looking down at him! (Shaw, *Arms and the Man* 50)

The dialogues used by these characters in the play are very interesting and enhance the beauty
of the play. When students were taught these dialogues by the using lecture method they found
it inconvenient to understand and could not keep in their mind for long time. But the use of ICT
means audio- visual aids make it very simple. By learning through audio-visual they were able
to recite these dialogues easily and for long time. It means the critical part like the dialogues
can easily be kept in the minds of the students through the use of ICT.

Audio-visual aid is also useful to acquaint students with the various themes of the play. It is
Herculean labour to find out themes from the literary text and drama is not exception it. The
play *Arms and the Man* has themes like war, higher rank love and marriage. When students
have shown the play with the help of audio-visual aid they were able to analyze themes. They
made comment on the anti romantic aspects of war and love. They also understood realistic
nature of the play and condition of soldiers. Through the dialogues of the characters they came
across themes. Bluntschli replies to Raina when she asks "Load it by all means". He says that
"I've no ammunition. What use of cartridges in battle? I always carry chocolate instead; and



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finished the last cake of that hour ago." (Shaw, *Arms and the Man* 50). It focuses on the anti-romantic views on theme of war and love.

The characterization of the play is better understood through the use of audio-visual. In the play there are characters like Raina, Bluntschli, Sergius, Major Petkoff, Catherine Petkoff, Nicola and Louka. These characters properly analyzed by the use of audio-visual. The direct presentation of the play on the screen shows the clear effect of the movement, behaviour, nature, attitude, tendencies and way of love making. When we read the play in the classes that doesn't make that much effect which is required. But when it is displayed on the screen, students properly analyzed the characters. They came to know, who is real hero? Who is coward? Who afraid more to war? Who is true lover and who is cheater? What are the qualities of Raina? What are the shortcomings of the characters? What are the strong points of the characters? Why these characters' behaviour is particular on the specific occasion? These questions exactly answered due to proper presentation of the play by the use of audio-visual aid. It has made possible to understand because of live presentation of the play. It clearly indicates that use of audio-visual aid is effective for teaching drama in the classes.


Conclusion:

ICT is very useful and fruitful device to study or teach drama in the classes. Of course, it is not substitute to the teachers but it is very much useful for them for effective learning. ICT is really great source for the effective learning of any form of English literature. The students actively concentrated and on the drama which was presented through audio-visual aid. ICT makes learning interesting and entertaining. Reading of drama takes much time to understand drama but audio-visual aid help students to acquaint various aspects of drama very rapidly and effectively.

Work Cited:

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