Effect of Smart Classroom Learning Environment on The Performance of First Grade Students in Urdu

Authors
Dr. Nasreen Bano¹, M.Y Ganaie²
¹Ph.D Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi
²Associate Professor, Faculty of Education University of Kashmir.
E-mail: showkat80ahmad@gmail.com

ABSTRACT
The present study is an experimental one and is conducted in Srinagar district of Kashmir. The investigator has taken 30 first grade students from Govt. High School Bakshipora. This paper investigates the effect of smart classroom learning on the performance of first grade students in Urdu subject. The investigator conducted experiment on the basis of pre-test and post-test. The investigator has used Performance test standardized by the investigator for the collection of data and t-test(correlated groups) was used to analyse the data. The result reveals smart classroom learning positively effects the performance of students in Urdu.

Keywords: Smart classroom learning, Performance, First grade students.

INTRODUCTION
Language is an integral part of most learning and oral language in particular has a key role in teaching and learning. Whole-school approaches to the learning of language, both mother tongue (first language) and a new language, and the processes of teaching and learning are vital to the coherence of children’s experiences during their life in school. The ability to communicate coherently and effectively is increasingly important and children need to be aware of the range of circumstances in which communication is initiated. Access to a range of languages and the motivation to value and use language are key to all pupils. In addition to language being essential to access future learning opportunities, language learning stimulates children’s creativity. Children enjoy taking an active part in language lessons, joining in with singing, reciting rhymes and poems, and responding to stories. They create mimes, sketches and role-play, imitating accurate intonation and pronunciation. They play games, take turns, make things, take the role of the teacher and experiment creatively with language. Discussing language learning strategies and knowledge about language can result in an increase in the motivation to value language development. An important research finding is that pupils will make more rapid progress in learning a new language if the linguistic concepts they are dealing with are already familiar to them from their own language.

Teaching of Urdu at the primary level is an essential phenomenon. In India, the teaching of Urdu and its introduction have received great attention. Many states have already introduced or want to introduce Urdu as a subject in primary classes, often from class I. The level of its introduction has now become a matter of state policy responding to people’s aspirations. The goals of Urdu language learning at primary level are twofold: attainment of a basic proficiency, as is acquired in natural language learning and development of language into an instrument for knowledge acquisition.
Quality education is an essential requisite in today's competitive environment. Technology has affected us in every aspect. This paper discusses the smart classes as a modernized method of education in Indian education scenario which provides quality education to students by helping them in better concept formation, concept elaboration, improvement in reading skills and academic achievement. Technology benefitted us in every aspect of our life right from communication to education. In ancient days students were taught in a gurukul where they were taught by the gurus. But this system was replaced by modernized culture. New methods of teaching have been introduced which is known as smart class. It uses instructional material, 3D animated modules and videos, activity based learning. The concept of smart classroom learning environment has not only made education interesting but a chance to students to enhance their performance. Students learn difficult and abstract curriculum concepts. Watching highly engaging visuals and animations. This makes learning an enjoyable experience of students while improving their overall academic performance in school. Smart class also enables teachers to assess and evaluate the learning achieved by their students in class with an innovative assessment technology smart assessment system design. Smart class is mapped to the curriculum of state boards, CBSE and ICSE. Smart class is a digitized activity based classroom, which is rapidly transforming the way teachers teach and students learn in school with innovative and meaningful use of technology and activities, powered by the world’s largest repository of digital content mapped to Indian school curriculum, smart class brings in technology right next to the blackboard for teachers in the classrooms. Debi (2003) concluded that students performed better when exposed to program teaching material perform learning material was found to be effective compare to the traditional method of teaching. The smart interactive white board is mounted to a wall of the classroom. It is brought into class room it can serve a number of purposes. Natrajan (2004) evaluated technology enhanced learning and future of education. Smart Class Improves teachers effectiveness and productivity in class, brings abstract and difficult curriculum concepts inside classrooms, makes learning an enjoyable experience for students, improves academic performance of students, enables instant formative assessment of learning out comes in class, It also enables teachers to instantly assess and evaluate the student. Bilbano (2006) pointed out that learning through hearing alone proves to be least effective means of learning.90% of learning is acquired by applying three senses i.e, seeing, hearing and doing.

**SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY**

The main purpose of this paper is to provide some guidelines that we hope can be useful to teachers of Urdu as a language in primary schools. We all know how helpful it is to remember something that is taught visually to us rather than the one that is read through pages after pages. Just imagine, how beneficial would it be for students to understand a chapter visually in class. The concept of smart class education is indeed a blessing to the students of the 21st Century. Technology is changing the way life functions and if it’s for the good, then why not go for it!

Smart classes use all interactive modules like videos, presentations and activities and these visually attractive methods of teaching becomes appealing to students who are already struggling with the traditional method of teaching in a classroom. In fact, smart classes are almost like watching movies as sometimes, animated visuals are used to teach a point. This kind of visual is both eye-catching and young students can easily relate with them. This is because the audio-visual senses of students are targeted and it helps the students store the information fast and more effectively. And then, there is the advantage of utilising much of the time wasted earlier in drawing or preparing diagrams on board. Smartboards have all these information and can be presented during the time of class lectures and thus, the time saved can be used in more important things.

Some students and teachers have problems with chalk dust and they tend to suffer from allergic reactions. The smartboards saves you from such distress and won’t let you develop any health issues later. One of the
main reasons behind the constant increase in popularity of smart classes is the fact that this kind of education is perfect for all kinds of students. A classroom has students with varied power of understanding and learning, and studying from notes and other materials becomes difficult for some students. But the use of smart classes and modern technology eases the learning process for all students. Moreover, this kind of education in class promotes more interaction between teacher and student with more participation from both sides.

The possibilities or advantages of smart classrooms are endless. Although adopting such a new concept might be a tough decision for many, but the technology can create a new opening for the education sector. Its indeed a blessing, all you need to do is to give it a try!

**OBJECTIVE OF STUDY**

- To study the effect of smart class room learning environment on the performance of first grade students in Urdu.

**Hypothesis**

- Smart classroom learning will positively effect the performance of first grade students in Urdu.

**OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF VARIABLES**

1. **Smart classroom Learning**: Smart classroom refers for the present study shall refer the learning gained through experimentation. Experimentation further refers using various innovative techniques.

2. **Performance**: Performance refers the students score gained by the student in Urdu

3. **First grade students**: First grade students refers to the students who are reading in class first and whose age is 5+

**DESIGN OF THE STUDY**

Pre-test and post-test was used to determine the effect of smart classroom learning on performance of first grade students.

1. **Sample**: The sample for the present study consists of 30 first grade students taken from Govt. High School Bakshipora, district Srinagar.

2. **Tools used**: For collecting data the investigator has used Performance test constructed by herself.

3. **Construction of Performance test**

   Following steps were followed to make Performance test:

   **(a) Planning of the test**: The construction of tests were carried out by consideration of limitation under which the tests were developed. The expert opinions were taken for the construction of the tests. The items of both tests were prepared in Urdu language and covered the “basic concepts of urdu”. 15 questions were planned to conduct the test. students were asked to complete this in 30 minutes.

   **(b) Validity of the test**: To final out what the test measures, it was decided to determine its face validity. For this, the experts opinion had been considered.

   **Phase I** :- After the construction of test it was administered to sample subjects in the pre test. After the conduct of the test the scoring was done as per the manual of the test. The pre-test scores of the sample subjects were recorded.

   **Phase II**: The investigator conducted the experiment for 15 days in the experimental lab. In the beginning the investigator gave the instruction about teaching and learning through smart classroom learning. After that students were involved in stress free environment to learn the basic concepts of urdu with the help of using various T.L.M like smart board of urdu, small toys, real fruits and familiar articles, I phones, activities like word antrakshri, mind mapping, role play/dramatization etc. After completion of the experiment, Post-test
was conducted and the scoring was done as per the manual of the test. After that post-test scores of the sample subjects were recorded.

**Statistical technique used**

The collected data were analyzed by applying t-test inorder to find the difference between pre test and post test.

**ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA**

Table 1. Mean difference of Pre test and Post test scores of first grade students in Urdu.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>S.D</th>
<th>Correlation</th>
<th>t-ratio</th>
<th>Level of significance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pre test</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>2.58</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>Significant at 0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>post test</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 depicts the mean on the pre test is 6.6, S.D has been found 2.58 while as mean on post test conducted after providing smart classroom learning environment to first grade students in urdu has been found 10.8, S.D has been found 3.40 and the t-ratio has been found 7.0 which is found significant at 0.01 level.

Therefore, the result analysed and interpreted clarifies that the smart class room environment positively affects the performance of first grade students in urdu. On the basis of the above mentioned result the objective of the study which reads as, “To study the effect of smart classroom learning on the performance of first grade students in urdu” has been accomplished.

In view of above empirical evidence, the hypothesis which reads as, “Smart classroom learning will positively effect the performance of first grade students in urdu” stands accepted.

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION**

On the basis of analysis and interpretation of data, the following conclusion can be drawn. There exists a significant difference in the effect of smart class room learning environment on performance of first grade students in Urdu. The results shows that the students taught through smart class have scored better than when do not taught through smart class. The reasons of performing well by students taught through smart class are:

- Smart class learning helped to develop cognitive dimension.
- Smart class learning helped to develop power of communication among the students.
- Smart class leaning encounter a range of situations, audiences and activities designed to develop competence, accuracy
- Smart class learning helped to develop confidence in speaking listening, reading and writing.
- Smart class learning helped to develop their oral abilities and vocabulary at their own levels
- Smart class learning develop listening and comprehension skills through a range of activities
- Smart class learning helped to develop cognitive dimension.
- Reinforcement given to all students on every improvement.
- Organization of the corrective activities
- Formative tests conducted to find out the progress.
- Supplementary material provided to students.
- Stress free tests conducted to find out the progress.
- Creation of enjoyable environment in class.
Suggestions
The researcher by virtue of her experience in conducting this study, would like to put forward the following suggestions:

1. Sample size can enlarged to more concrete results.
   1. A similar study can be carried on middle level, secondary level.
   2. Comparison can be made between boys and girls.
   3. The same study can be conducted on other subjects also.
   4. The effectiveness of the methods can be seen by giving a longer duration of teaching.

RECOMMENDATIONS
Based on the finding and conclusions of the study the following recommendations are put forward.

1. Smart class room learning help to increase the learning abilities.
2. Smart class may use as a experimental learning tool to teaching students.
3. The curriculum should be framed keeping in view the application of smart classes of teaching.
4. This strategy helps the learner to move at his own pace as it helps the learners to provide individual attention.
5. Although students generally work together in small groups in hands on urdu classes, there are times when all class discussions are valuable. Dramatization, role-playing, summarizing, comparing, observation, interpreting and discussions often involves the whole class. Teachers can use both small group and whole class approaches to teaching urdu, and discuss when each may be appropriate.

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