Technology and Pedagogy

Chapter Outline
Introduction
What is pedagogy?
The link between pedagogy and culture
Affordances and ICTs
Constraints of ICTs
New technology, new pedagogy?
Interactive whiteboards and pedagogy
Interactive whiteboards in action
Conclusions
Technology and Pedagogy

Activity

The computer and Internet might be used as core technologies in series of lessons on the daily lives of people in different parts of the world. They could be employed to allow pupils to gather information and even engage in direct communication with those in other locations. How would the roles of the learner and the teacher be changed, given the same educational context, if these technologies were unavailable?

Activity

Read the extract below from the High School Journal and try to determine when it was written.

In order to teach successfully, one must be extremely careful in the selection and use of texts. It is always inadvisable to make the pupils believe a thing because a book says it is so. He will, in this way, acquire the pernicious habit of believing all that is printed and this will gradually but surely put an end to his own independent thinking and reasoning. Textbooks, like everything else, may be useful or harmful, depending entirely upon the way they are used. . . . The texts, however, in all subjects should merely be a guide to the pupil’s own thinking and the successful teacher will see to it that too much dependence is not laid upon the text. (See Marshall, I. V. in the Reference section for the date when the extract was written.)

Does this represent a positivists or a constructivists approach to pedagogy?

Activity

Discuss whether the transition from traditional to new pedagogies is solely dependent on the introduction of ICTs into the classroom? List any other factors that might influence this change.
Activity
Goethe et al. (2006: 6) contend that CHC males have more influence in group discussions than females do. What implications do you think this has for the educational use of social networking technology in these countries?

Activity
Conole et al. (2004) wanted to develop a checklist which practitioners could use to help them make informed decisions about how to map specific pedagogical approaches to learning design. What is missing from it if anything? Upon what do you base your conclusions?

Activity
Can you remember the first time you saw an Interactive Whiteboard being used in an educational context? What were you studying at the time and was it a tool dominated by the teacher or by those being taught?
Big Question

Resta (2002) contends that the most important aspect of infusing technology in the curriculum is pedagogy. Is this true and upon what do you base your answer?