

What is a Modern Education?

We have all been educated in a teacher-centric classroom, a system where the teacher is upfront and the students are seated in nice neat rows, listening to the lecture and taking notes. This system has been, and to some extent, still forms the core of our education system. Schools have relied on it for decades, and have only recently undergone major changes. Living in the 21st century, technology has become an integral part of our everyday lives. None of us can deny that it has brought about nothing short of an overhaul of our world, and more importantly of our educational system. From chalkboards to whiteboards and now to smart boards, technology has become our main source of research, knowledge, and teaching. This blog is going to shed some light on the modern education system and how it is replacing the traditional methods of teaching.

Modern Education in India

The Indian education system has its deep roots in ancient oral learning as well as the Gurukul education system which later was transformed as per formal education by the British. Here are the salient features of modern education in India:

- Modern education in India was brought by the British colonisers in the 1830s along with the English language which is credited to have been introduced in India by Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay.
- While metaphysics and philosophy were earlier studied at Nalanda University, the new modern education system brought by the British focused on academic disciplines like Science and Mathematics.
- As India became free from British, basic education was made compulsory especially for 6-14 years of age with schools constructed all across the country.
- The modern-age education system of India in the 21st century is constituted of a new approach to learning from online education to skill-development courses, digital learning platforms, grading system as well as the use of educational technology in the classrooms and a newly introduced New Education Policy!

Traditional Education and Modern Education

Traditional Education vs Modern Education

- Teacher-centred
- Subject-specific Knowledge
- One-way Transfer of Knowledge
- Passive & Limited
- Theoretical



- Learner-centred
- Subject-specific & Skill-based Knowledge
- Multi-way Transfer of Knowledge
- Interactive & Engaging
- Conceptual & Practical



Traditional Education vs Modern Education

Teaching styles have changed significantly over the years. The traditional way of imparting education primarily employs recitation and memorization techniques whereas modern education involves interactive methods for effective learning. The following paragraphs elaborate more on both the approaches.

Traditional Education: Tried and Tested

The conventional education method focuses more on teaching and passing on information and knowledge to learners. It focuses more on recitation than on anything else. For example, students are made to sit in silence while one student after another would take in turn to recite a lesson until each one had been called upon. The teacher will listen to each student's recitation who are expected to learn and memorise the assignments to the word. Traditional education methods rely heavily on replication-based assessment in practical and written exams as well. However, the way in which traditional teaching methods were utilized more than ensured that students were rewarded for their efforts, used class periods efficiently and exercised clear rules to manage student behaviour. Traditional methods are based on established customs that had been used successfully in schools over many years.

Modern Education: A Welcome Change

Why is modern education important? Modern education significantly differs from the traditional methods of teaching and is widely practised in schools today emphasising more on science and technology. Progressive modern education focuses more on the student's needs rather than assuming that all students are at the same level of understanding. It is activity-based comprising of questioning, explaining, demonstration and collaboration techniques. Embodied in the [BEd Syllabus](#), this form of education teaches imaginative, [creative thinking](#) and visualization.

Smart Education: The Advent of Online Learning

Amongst the core features of Modern Education, Online Education has become a quintessential part of the learning process and pedagogy in the contemporary age. Offering an immense scope of learning anything, anytime and anywhere, the Internet has become a vast pool of knowledge welcoming people of all ages to furnish their skills and expand their expertise in different fields of study. Further, [online learning](#) is just a constituent of Smart Education which utilised technology to facilitate an interactive process of teaching and learning. The importance of technology in education is imperative today and you can learn anything and anywhere just with the help of a functioning network connection and a smartphone, tablet or computer.

Grading & Assessment in Modern Education

Apart from the approach to teaching and learning, another unique aspect of modern education is the introduction of a grading system that focuses on providing students with certain grades rather than marks to eliminate the quantification of a student's knowledge about a subject. While marks were the major element of assessment in traditional education, modern education has brought forward a grading system which is a better way to provide students with an overview of their knowledge and understanding of different subjects. With this advanced marking pattern, students are relieved from the scoring pressure and teachers also able to highlight the areas where a student needs to work more on and where they can focus on helping the student perform better.

Modern Education: A Sample Study

Modern education comprises of various learning and teaching methods including the popular 'space learning' wherein students are encouraged to quickly switch through activities. It is a learning method in which the condensed learning content is provided with a 10-minutes break for physical activities. For example, students would be provided with 15 minutes of powerpoint presentation and then allotted 10 minutes of sport. The aim of this method is to improve their learning abilities. It is claimed that physical exercises help brain cells to create a connection that they need to remember the course. Furthermore, it has the additional benefit of allowing people to relax.

Modern education is aided with a variety of computer technologies, internet, projector presentations to make studies interesting and interactive for students. It encourages students to engage with the real world, analyse everything that happens in different life spheres. Students are taken to respective sectors and industries where they witness practical application of concepts they learned learned theoretically. These methods helps improve the quality of education and improve the engagement of students effectively.

Benefits of Modern Education

In particular, the advantages of modern education can be summarised as:

- Modern education is a dynamic way of learning enabling students to learn a lot faster. The interaction between student and teacher helps students understand better.
- Enabling students to participate in physical activities in order to improve their efficiency is another advantage. Modern education allows students to do a lot more than just learning and help them become more social and interactive.
- Cocurricular activities, recreational activities, drama and art in education help students to become creative, industrious as well as patient. This is one of the factors that make students look forward to schooling.
- Modern education comprises screening classes and lectures which are scheduled at specific timings, this helps to make students punctual and consistent.