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New Approaches in Modern Education and the Psychopedagogical Issues of Their Directions

Abstract

The main purpose of this article is to examine new approaches in modern education and the psychopedagogical issues related to their development and implementation. The study highlights innovative educational practices and methodologies that enhance the effectiveness and interactivity of the learning process through the integration of modern technologies. The paper broadly discusses the main contemporary directions of education, including STEM and STEAM Education, Digital Education, Global Education Research, Self-Mathematics and Innovative Thinking Education, Social and Emotional Learning, and Personalized and Individualized Teaching. Furthermore, the methods underpinning these approaches—such as Blended Learning, Active Learning, Problem-Based Learning, Peer Learning, and the Flipped Classroom—are analyzed in detail. In addition, the article explores the strategic importance of these modern educational approaches for the state, addressing their role in promoting innovative teaching methods, supporting employment development, and influencing the advancement of art and literature.

Keywords: Education, Student, Personality, Training, STEM, Bloom's Taxonomy

Yeni Nesil Eğitimde Yaklaşımlar ve Yönlerinin Psikopedagojik Sorunları

Öz

Bu makalenin temel amacı, modern eğitimdeki yeni yaklaşımları ve bunların gelişimi ile uygulanmasına ilişkin psikopedagojik sorunları incelemektir. Çalışma, modern teknolojilerin entegrasyonu yoluyla öğrenme sürecinin etkililiğini ve etkileşim düzeyini artıran yenilikçi eğitim uygulamaları ile yöntemlerini vurgulamaktadır. Makale, çağdaş eğitimin başlıca yönelimlerini geniş

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bir biçimde ele almaktadır. Bunlar arasında STEM ve STEAM Eğitimi, Dijital Eğitim, Küresel Eğitim Araştırmaları, Öz-Matematik ve Yenilikçi Düşünme Eğitimi, Sosyal ve Duygusal Öğrenme ile Kişiselleştirilmiş ve Bireyselleştirilmiş Öğretim yer almaktadır. Ayrıca bu yaklaşımların temelini oluşturan yöntemler — Harmanlanmış (Blended) Öğrenme, Etkin (Active) Öğrenme, Probleme Dayalı Öğrenme, Akran (Peer) Öğrenmesi ve Ters Yüz (Flipped Classroom) Sınıf modeli — ayrıntılı biçimde analiz edilmiştir. Ek olarak, makalede bu modern eğitim yaklaşımlarının devlet düzeyindeki stratejik önemi incelenmiş; yenilikçi öğretim yöntemlerinin teşvik edilmesi, istihdamın geliştirilmesine yönelik eğitimin desteklenmesi ve sanat ile edebiyatın ilerlemesine katkısı gibi hususlar ele alınmıştır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Eğitim, Öğrenci, Kişilik, Eğitim-Öğretim, STEM, Bloom'un Taksonomisi

Introduction

New approaches in modern education refer to methodologies and practices based on advanced research and experiences in the educational process, making the learning process more effective and more interactive with the help of modern technologies. Many schools and universities in various parts of the world use these new approaches. For example, blended learning is applied. This methodology involves the combination of traditional classroom instruction and online content.

One of the special attention areas in the modern period of the Republic of Azerbaijan is the education system. For this, the recent decisions made by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan were based on the development of the education system, the application of new innovative methods and projects in higher education institutions, and the improvement of the social situation of the teaching staff and the promotion of higher education in Azerbaijan to the international level (directions of the reforms had been determined due to the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated May 22nd, 2009, No. 295) (Mammadov et al., 2018). It is stated that the interaction between psychology and education, which is the basis for the formation of educational psychology, especially in the USA and continental Europe, has developed in two dimensions (Isgandar et al., 2024). Developments in the first dimension first began with the publication of the work titled *Outlines of Psychology with Specific References to Educational Theory*, written by the British author James Sully in 1885. This work, which is a primary reference source for teacher training programs, focuses on genetic psychology and child research (Slavin, 2018). This dimension of interaction marked the beginning of courses on educational psychology offered in teacher-training institutions. In the second dimension created by the interaction between education and psychology, the foundations of the field later known as “school psychology” were laid. In particular, the psychology clinic established by Lightner Witmer (1867–1956) at the University of Pennsylvania in 1896 to prepare psychologists to assist educators in solving children’s learning problems is a first step.

It is also important to follow Bloom's Taxonomy in education. Bloom's Taxonomy was created in 1956 under the leadership of educational psychologist Dr. Benjamin Bloom in order to promote higher forms of thinking in education, such as analyzing and evaluating concepts, processes, procedures, and principles, rather than just remembering facts (rote learning). It is most often used when designing educational, training, and learning processes (Mammadova & Huseynov, 2019).

Thus, the new directions of modern education are those that have emerged in recent years in response to the rapidly changing demands and the fast development of technologies. Some of the main new directions are as follows:

***STEM and STEAM Education:** STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) and STEAM (STEM + Arts) education are in the spotlight. These directions promote practical and research-oriented teaching and make education in various fields possible.

***Digital Education:** Learning processes integrated with technology, wide application of online content, virtual classrooms, and other online education platforms ensure the development of digital education.

***Global Education Research:** Research built around global perspectives in education and the experiences of different cultures makes learning more diverse and meaningful.

***Self-Mathematics and Innovative Thinking Education:** Self-mathematics education focuses on the development of students' analytical and creative skills through problem-solving and the encouragement of innovative thinking.

***Social and Emotional Learning:** It is directed toward methodologies that focus on the development of social and emotional strengths in the educational process. This helps students become more interested in different cultures and various viewpoints (CASEL, 2020).

***Personalization and Individualized Teaching:** This direction in education offers teaching experiences adjusted to the individual learning needs and pace of each student. It ensures that students learn at their own pace and allows for the development of personal experiences. These new directions ensure that education offers students more nurturing and worthy experiences and prepares them better for modern work and life conditions. These directions are expanded through certain practices and experiences and are developing within educational systems.

Main Discussion

The methods of the new approach in modern education consist of a number of methodologies that make the teaching and learning process more effective and more interactive

with the help of modern technologies. Some of the main methods we have mentioned are as follows:

***Blended Learning:** This methodology combines traditional and online learning experiences. While students actively participate in classroom activities, they can also learn through online platforms and content. This method provides students with more flexibility and helps make learning more efficient.

***Active Learning:** In this methodology, students actively organize their own learning experiences. Teaching and research methods aimed at solving, discussing, conducting research, and engaging in dialogue are used. This helps students with comprehension and processing of information.

***Problem-Based Learning:** This method encourages students to solve specific problems. Students try to solve various issues through discussions, investigations, research, and collaboration. This method promotes students' critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills.

***Peer Learning:** This method is based on cooperation and experience sharing among students. Students give presentations to each other, exchange information, and provide mutual support. This method enables students to connect more with their own learning experiences and receive support.

***Flipped Classroom:** This method is an educational model in which the content is provided through online platforms before the classroom sessions. During class time, students discuss the content, analyze the information, and conduct detailed research about it.

As a part of the new approach in modern education, the reflection of national content aims at regulating the education system in accordance with the cultural and historical heritage of the country and strengthening the learners' national values. National content refers to the content and sources based on the specific cultural, historical, social, and ideological values of a country or a culture. The reflection of this content in education systems is essential for students to understand, protect, and develop their national values. Let us now consider these ideas:

***Support of Content to National Culture:** Educational content is enriched with materials supporting the country's own history, literature, music, art, and other cultural values. This helps students become more familiar with their national culture and values and appreciate this culture.

***Protection and Development of the National Language:** Education systems support the protection, development, and learning of the national language. This ensures that students learn

more effectively in their native language and strengthens the content related to their national identity.

*Promotion of Historical Perspectives: Education systems offer materials and lessons that cover the country's historical perspectives and historical events. This helps students gain a broader understanding of their own history and cultural differences.

*National Research and Trainings: Education systems support areas of national research and development and offer national trainings. This helps the development of the country's research base and the strengthening of national fields of specialization.

*Cultural Comparisons and Multicultural Trainings: The education system offers national content by comparing it with multicultural experiences. This allows students to look at different cultures specifically through their values and to learn from these cultures.

*Culture and History: National content covers a country's traditions, history, cultural development, literature, music, art, folklore, and other fields of culture. The education system presents extensive content in these areas to students, introduces them to their cultural heritage, and encourages them to treat the values of this culture with respect.

*Language and Literature: One of the main parts of national content is the national language and literature. Education systems ensure the protection and development of the national language, strengthen students' language skills, and organize the learning of national literature. This eliminates students' doubts related to their connection with their national culture (Adıgözalova & Quliyeva, 2021). The reflection of such national content ensures that students feel a stronger connection with their national and cultural identities.

In the new approach in modern education, the position of teachers should be directed toward teaching modern approaches to respond to various aspects of education in a changing world and toward developing students' own potential and creativity (Darling-Hammond et al., 2020). Let us now look at how teachers evaluate and apply this position:

*Personalized Teaching: It is important to understand that each student is not the same and has different needs, strengths, and weaknesses. Teachers should try to establish close contact with students in order to understand their individual needs and learning styles. The personalized teaching method allows teachers to provide support and guidance that aligns with students' learning goals (Tomlinson, 2014).

*Research-Based Teaching: Research-based teaching teaches students to actively conduct research, collect data, and solve problems. Teachers should encourage students to engage in the research process by asking interesting and debatable questions. This method helps develop

students' analytical and critical thinking and assists them in finding their own solutions (Prince & Felder, 2006).

***Use of Modern Technologies:** In modern education, the use of technologies already plays a key role. Teachers should enrich the learning process by benefiting from new technologies such as online platforms, interactive teaching tools, augmented reality, and virtual reality technologies (Johnson et al., 2016). This makes the learning content more interesting and interactive for students and provides teachers with the opportunity to capture students' attention and give motivation.

***Student-Centered Education:** Teachers should create an environment where students are more actively involved in their own learning process, have broader opportunities for discussions, and are able to express their own ideas. Student-centered education helps students develop their own self-advocacy and allows them to manage their learning process independently (Weimer, 2013).

***Social and Emotional Support:** Teachers should act to support students' social and emotional development. This creates an environment to teach students to accept cultural differences, establish effective relationships with others, and manage certain powers (CASEL, 2020). These points help teachers adapt to modern teaching methods in education and support students in developing their full potential. This is essential for organizing education in a more effective, engaging, and modern way that meets the demands of the contemporary world. A new approach in modern education holds strategic importance for the state, and this can be associated with several main goals and benefits:

***Application of Innovative Teaching Methods and Technologies:** New educational approaches support the implementation of innovative teaching methods and technologies. This helps students to be better prepared and to develop knowledge and skills in line with the demands of various professional fields and industries (Redecker et al., 2011).

***Preservation and Development of Cultural and National Content:** New approaches also support the preservation and development of national culture and language. This ensures the protection of national identity, the support for national culture, and the regulation of national content in educational programs (UNESCO, 2017).

***Support of Education for Employment Development:** New approaches help prepare students in accordance with modern occupations and development programs, and to meet the demands of institutions, the business world, and social organizations. This ensures that training is aligned with the demands of the labor market (OECD, 2018).

*Impact of Education on the Development of Art and Literature: New approaches support students' development in the fields of art and literature and ensure the preservation of national and cultural content in these areas.

*Ensuring Social and Political Development: New approaches ensure social and political development through education. This supports the development of a democratic and civil society and teaches students fundamental values such as democracy, human rights, and civic responsibility (Banks, 2008).

Conclusion

To sum up, the new approaches applied in modern education fundamentally change the role of teachers, turning them not just into transmitters of knowledge but into guides and motivators who support the individual development of students. Through methods such as personalized and research-based teaching, effective use of technology, student-centered approaches, and emotional-social support, teachers strive to develop students' creative and analytical thinking skills. The new approaches hold strategic importance at the state level. They provide a wide spectrum of benefits, ranging from the protection of national identity to accelerating economic development, preparing the workforce in line with labor market demands, and forming civil society. Thus, the application of modern approaches in education lays the foundation for positive changes both on an individual and societal level.

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