



Movie, Literature and Teaching

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ABSTRACT

In this research paper, the researcher has explained about the idea of showing creative movies in the college as a part of teaching language and literature. As the content of movie is very much close to that of language and literature, therefore it can be a wonderful medium, a supporting tool of teaching for the language teacher. The researcher has explained in this research paper that there are numerous advantages of showing creative movies in the educational institution at least once in a week. Many technical aspects of language teaching can be covered through this process. In this research paper, the researcher has also discussed finer points of literature teaching by showing movie.

KEY WORDS

Movies, Language and Literature Teaching, Students.

INTRODUCTION

With the passage of time and invention of technology many new methods have been introduced in the teaching methodology. The very purpose of this is teaching the subject in systematic and effective way so that the students' understanding of the subject could increase. In the light of these thoughts, the researcher has discussed in detail how by showing movies once in a week, the language teacher can make his teaching effective, impressive and interesting.

Interest

Creating interest among students in their subject very much depends upon the teacher's quality of teaching. In addition to it the quality of content and style of presentation are two major factors responsible for creating interest among students. In the light of these thoughts the researcher specially wants to point

out that movie is something which has the every potential of creating interest among students and general people provided it is made in a proper manner. One of the challenges before every teacher for teaching their subject is creating interest in the subject which can definitely be achieved if the medium of movie is handled in a creative way by the teacher. In an era of google and artificial intelligence, the students already have loads of information about different subjects but how to apply and inculcate the essence for the betterment of self and thereby society is the greatest challenge before the teacher, especially language teacher for which movies can definitely be great assistance. It is no secret that man has made enormous improvement in the field of digital movies and making different types of digital contents. In the era of google and you-tube, the smart students find it extremely easy to search the content of their choice on these platforms. But the major lacuna in this process is that it is not necessary that all the material is valid and trustworthy. Under such situation only a teacher can be a great help to the students. The students of current generation are very much fascinated by the movies. Therefore the same energies can be utilized in a constructive and creative way to increase interest and attention of the students.

Language & Literature Teachers and Movies

In Undergraduate colleges in India, barring a few exceptions, language teachers have to teach both language and literature in colleges. For example, the teachers of Hindi, English and Marathi have to teach Hindi Literature, English Literature and Marathi Literature. The aim of teaching before a language teacher is the improvement in four fundamental skills- reading, writing, listening and speaking. Similarly, while teaching literature, the teacher has to impart knowledge about various genres of literature and their technical components. If we study the components of making a movie, we come to know that there are so many factors which are very much similar and required while teaching language and literature. For example- Poetry, Drama or Novels are the modes of expression where multiple techniques like stream of consciousness are used. In the similar way, movie is a wonderful medium before the Director who with the help of writer, producer, actors, music director and crew members delivers a story in his own style and vision to the audience. The treatment of the subject, delivery of an idea differs with every director. The teacher also has to share stories, make a dialogue and involve students in this process. The concept of plot, which means arrangement of incidences, can be best described by showing different scenes of a movie in the classroom and discussing it with students. Wonderful interaction can be made with the students on the different components of movie in the classroom. The students in the classroom can learn the art of storytelling, importance of dialogues, script writing through movies. The music director provides new dimension to the movie through his background music. In poetry the teacher of language and literature has to teach rhythm, rhyme scheme, meter etc. while teaching lyrics. Generally every Bollywood movie contain some songs which is nothing but lyrics. A teacher can tactically explain it to his students. It can also be a wonderful motivational tool to the creative talents to choose the field of acting because through movies some active students can learn the art of acting. A teacher can share his knowledge about various components of music and tell students that there is enough scope in film line for creative people. A movie can also be a wonderful tool to teach drama. A drama also has nearly same components like that of a movie. Therefore, a creative teacher can very easily and tactfully make his teaching interesting and effective by showing certain portions of the movie, asking some basic questions to the students and after that making the whole concept clear before them. It will definitely enhance the understanding of the students regarding drama. Power of imagination is the greatest gift given by the existence to human beings. This is the central force of creativity and the major reason why people are so creative. A movie is the best medium to teach creativity. For example: A story has a beginning, centre and end, every director starts his movie in a different way. One major factor which differentiates novel and movie is the element of silence in addition to the background music. All these finer points can be very beautifully explained by the teacher. Comparative analysis between a novel and a movie can also be made in the classroom. For example- how the famous novel 'look back in anger' and Amitabh Bachchan's Janjir are correlated and how the tremendous anger in the subconscious of public paves its way can be explained by showing certain dialogues and scenes of the movie. It is not only

beneficial for the teacher of language and literature, but also for the teachers of other subjects too. Many historical movies are available which can be shown to students of history so that their interest in their subject could increase. One major plus point associated with the movies is that a very long story can be shown in little time by using various techniques of making movie. With the invention of superior technology, high quality VFX can be shown which appears extremely real to the people watching movie. A creative teacher can edit certain portions or scenes from different movies depending upon the kind of content he wants to teach his students. That content can be shown in the classroom and a wonderful correlation between particular portion of the literature and the content of the movie can be made in order to maximize the understanding of the students about the subject. As the potential of every student is different in classroom, therefore same methodology cannot be applied to every student. Hence technology can never replace a teacher. After showing movie, and highlighting certain portions, very creative kind of assignments can be given by the teacher. If we observe the syllabus of various universities, we hardly find any element which could boost the element of creativity and paves way for the exploration of creative talent hidden in the students. This depends absolutely on the teaching methodology and the creative thought process of a quality teacher. Showing selected movies in the classroom can surely be a good way through which creative thought process of the students could be channelized. The teacher of language and literature can very nicely play a role of catalyst in this process.

One thing is sure that movies cannot replace duster and chalk method. A teacher will always maintain his importance. But the point here is that it is not necessary to show movies every day in the college and discuss language and literature through it. It can be shown once in a week so that vibrant presence of the teacher in classroom will also not get disturbed. One of the fundamental methods of teaching is novelty. Showing movie once a week definitely adds the element of novelty and interest. In the present era of digital education, it is expected from the teacher that he should make maximum use of information technology applications and software. A movie can be a wonderful content in the hands of the teacher of language and literature who can very easily and effectively blend these two elements and make his teaching effective and creative. When a student is shown selected English movies, then his comprehension of English language also increases. Also the tonal ups and downs in a movie while delivering dialogues catch the attention of the students who are very much interested in drama and anchoring. The teacher can very creatively hone this skill present in some students in the class. One major advantage of showing selected English movies is the development of listening skill among students. The students, especially residing in rural area hardly listen English language except from their teacher. To such students when a Chinese movie dubbed in English language with proper subtitles is shown, then it is observed that there is a remarkable improvement in listening skills of the students. In this way the components of language teaching can be very creatively with generating interest among the students can be covered. The researcher has systematically explained that showing movies once in a week can be a wonderful way of teaching language and particularly literature which helps in developing the creative thought process of the students and increase their interest in the subject.

Movie and Thought Process of Students

Movie can be an interesting tool of teaching as it involves three sensory organs – eye, ear and speech, therefore the grasping of the students increase manifold times. The thought process of a student is directly proportional to the quality of input. It is a wonderful medium to connect with the students in empathetic and sympathetic way. When a student reads a wonderful poem, he is instantly connected with the feelings of the poet. However, when the student watches the same content in a movie, the impact is much higher as compared to reading. The dialogue delivery of a good actor, background music and appropriate setting in accordance with the scene enhances the overall effect as a result of which student find it easier to connect with the message that the director wants to convey. The most important point is that the music has enormous power to connect with the audience. In this manner when all these components work together, then the impact is very subtle and the feelings of the students are awake to obtain the desired output. Thinking is a very complicated process.

Observation, perception and feelings are the important components which play a crucial role in channelizing the thought process of the students. In the line of this thought, movie plays a remarkable role by connecting to the head and hearts of the students. In a way, the teacher of language and literature has to perform the same role. When the teacher shows very creative movies to the students, he is able to perform his role in a better way. The most important point is that the teacher can direct the thought process of the students towards a proper direction to achieve the desired objective of teaching. In order to understand different components of literature, a certain thought process is required. For example if a teacher wants to teach finer aspects of critical theory then critical thinking is must for the holistic understanding of the concept. By showing such kinds of scenes in a movie which involves the application of a particular critical theory, the teacher can make students understand the subtle connection of that theory. In this way he can improve the critical thinking of the students. Similarly by deeply associating with the characters of the movie, the inner tendencies of every character, the student can try his level best to understand the thought process of every character of the movie shown by the teacher. Hence the student, with the appropriate direction of the teacher, can develop the ability to think from multiple perspectives. By this he can hone his empathetic abilities.

CONCLUSION

In this manner, the researcher has discussed his primary argument in detail and also he has substantiated his argument with appropriate logic and justification. The movie is a great tool in the hands of a language teacher who can do wonders with this tool by blending creative element in his teaching. As every language teacher has a great deal of understanding of the philosophical and psychological aspects of literature, the language teacher can apply his knowledge and skills to improve thought process of the students and their fundamental four skills of language learning. A good teacher is one who always update himself in tune with the upcoming technological innovations. In the light of this thought the researcher has emphasized his thought that showing movie once in a week is a creative idea which helps to enhance interest of the students, channelize their thought process, develop empathetic and sympathetic abilities to connect with the text and thereby human beings. And thus it is a wonderful tool in the hands of language teacher to create multidimensional thought process and thereby maintaining harmony in the life of students. It promotes learning with fun which is an absolute requirement in present times as the students now a days are very much fascinated by the social media and internet. Therefore the teacher has to come up with the new ideas. From this point of view also the researcher has appropriately discussed his argument.

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