AUTHENTIC PEDAGOGY: IMPLICATIONS FOR EDUCATION

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ABSTRACT

Most students enter the world of work hardly able to transfer learning to real life situations. This failure to transfer learning has been largely attributed to the traditional pedagogy that encourages passive learning and regurgitation of content at the expense of profound mastery of content. Some Educationists propagate a paradigm shift from the traditional approach which separates knowing from doing to authentic pedagogy which encourages real life learning. In authentic learning the role of the teacher is to facilitate the learning process and enable learners to take full responsibility of their own learning. The learner's voice must be heard. Students adopt the role of professionals, simulating real life situations to enhance transferability of knowledge. The approach enables learners to think critically, develop problem solving skills and connect learning in the classroom with the real world. Authentic pedagogy places emphasis inter alia on learning tasks that relate to real life situations, use of materials or tools that experts use in their profession, collaborative work (team work), scaffolding of students' effort, the development of critical thinking as well as the use of multidisciplinary approach to teaching.

Keywords: authentic learning, transfer of learning, pedagogy, traditional approach, critical thinking.