USE OF DRAMA IN SANSKRIT TEACHING

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Abstract

Sanskrit is one of the ancient languages in the world. It has varied literature like science, maths, Poetry etc. It has a large amount of words. Through Sanskrit it is possible to express wide content in short. Because it has structures of the words like Samasa etc.

The above conceptual paper includes following points majorly:

What is the nature of drama and music in education ?
Which are the special features of Sanskrit language?
How Drama and music is useful in Sanskrit teaching?

Conclusion:

Current Sanskrit’s syllabus of S.S.C. & C.B.S.E. boards have many topics based on Sanskrit drama, stories, poems in the syllabus has a scientific base of rhythm so if Sanskrit teacher will use drama and music then the teaching-learning process will become more attractive and student will understand the concepts clearly.

Keywords: Sanskrit, Drama.

Introduction:

Language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbol used for human communication. In the world there are number of languages. India is one of the most linguistically diverse countries in the world. Most languages in India belong to one of the four language families: Indo-Aryan, Dravidian, Tibeto-Burmese and Austro-Asiatic. According to the 2001 Indian Census there are a total of 122 languages and 234 mother tongues. However, these figures cannot be accepted as final as the Census does not report languages spoken by fewer than 10,000 speakers (for instance, in 1961 around 1652 mother tongues were returned in the Census but only 193 languages were classified).

Sanskrit Language: About Sanskrit Language, Mr. Dubois said that Sanskrit is the origin of modern language of Europe. Mr. Will Durant also made his points of view as India was motherland of our race and Sanskrit is the mother of Europe’s languages. …………….. Mother of India is in many ways the mother of us all. Prof. Bopp mentioned that Sanskrit was
at one time the only language of the world. It is more perfect and copious than Greek and Latin.

**Drama as a Teaching Tool**

Drama is a performing art, an outlet for self-expression, and a way of learning. Drama is an effective learning tool because it involves the student intellectually, physically, socially, and emotionally. Activities in improvisation, pantomime, play-making, and scene reenactment serve to develop the creative potential in the participants and help to develop critical thinking skills.

**Classroom Applications of Drama in Sanskrit Education**

Drama has many practical classroom applications for teaching Sanskrit curricular material. Important concepts, ideas, events, and people can be dramatized through improvisation, pantomime, and playwriting to stimulate interest, convey knowledge, gain comprehension, and improve retention.

**Drama can be the vehicle for the following applications in Sanskrit teaching:**

1. Role play situations to model/observe new skills or behaviors.
2. Develop scenarios to introduce new concepts.
3. Dramatize a meeting between characters or historical figures.
4. Reenact a real event.
5. Dramatize a scene that might have happened in a story.
6. Improvise a scene that expresses the topic or theme.
7. Act out scenarios as a way to approach writing dialogue.
8. Create literary sketches.
9. Stimulate ideas for composing essays, poetry, or fiction.

**Benefits of use of Drama in Sanskrit Teaching:**

Drama is a teaching tool that allows students to participate, demonstrate, and observe in a "controlled," or non-threatening, environment. In other words, it provides another "non-traditional" opportunity for students to learn and to demonstrate learning. At the same time, drama helps students get in touch with their creativity and spontaneity as well as to develop confidence in the expression of their ideas. Finally, it teaches self-discipline, acceptance of and positive response to criticism, and cooperation with others.
Conclusion:

Current Sanskrit’s syllabus of S.S.C. & C.B.S.E. boards have many topics based on Sanskrit drama, stories, poems in the syllabus has a scientific base of rhythm so if Sanskrit teacher will use drama and music then the teaching-learning process will become more attractive and student will understand the concepts clearly. So teacher Should use Drama as well as music while teaching Sanskrit story, poetry (subhashitas) for better understanding of students.

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