

MODERN PHILOSOPHIES

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EXISTENTIALISM

- It is mainly European philosophy that originated years before the turn of the century but became popular after World War II.



CONCEPTS OF EXISTENTIALISM

- According to existentialist philosophy, people are thrust into a number of choice-making situations.
- A person creates his or her own definition and in doing so makes his or her own essence.
- We are what we choose to be
- The essence we create is a product of our choices, it may vary with individuals.



EXISTENTIALISM AND EDUCATION

- Existentialism believes that the most important kind of knowledge is about human condition and the choices that each person has to make.
- Education is a process of developing consciousness about the freedom to choose and the meaning of and responsibility for one's choices.



EXISTENTIALISM AND CURRICULUM

- The curriculum would avoid systematic knowledge on structured discipline and students are free to select from many available learning situations.



EXISTENTIALISM AND TEACHER

- Teacher cultivates personal choice and individual self-definition



EXISTENTIALISM AND METHOD OF TEACHING

- Experimentation
- Self-expressive activities
- Method and media that illustrates emotions, feelings and insight.



PROGRESSIVISM

- Progressivism is developed from pragmatic philosophy and as a protest against perennialist thinking in education.



CONCEPT OF PROGRESSIVISM

- Progressivism is considered a contemporary reform movement in educational, social and political affairs.
- Dewey viewed the school as a miniature democratic society in which students could learn and practice the skills and tools necessary for democratic living.



PROGRESSIVISM AND EDUCATION

- According to the progressive thought, the skills and tools of learning include problem solving methods and scientific inquiry.
- This philosophy places emphasis on how to think and not what to think.
- Progressive education focused on the child as the learner rather than on subject, emphasized activities and experiences rather than verbal and literary skills and encouraged cooperative group learning activities rather than competitive individualized lesson learning.
- This philosophy also cultivated cultural relativism that critically appraised and often rejected traditional value commitments.



PROGRESSIVISM AND AIM OF EDUCATION

- To promote democratic social living.



PROGRESSIVISM AND CURRICULUM

- The curriculum is interdisciplinary in nature.
- Curriculum is based on student's interests, involves the application of human problems and affairs.



PROGRESSIVISM AND TEACHER

- The role of teacher:
 - Serves as a guide for students in problem solving and scientific projects.
 - Leader of group activities.
 - Involves students in planning activities.



ECLECTICISM

- The fusion or synthesis of different philosophies of education is known as 'eclectic tendency' in education.
- According to Munroe, "The eclectic tendency is that which seeks the harmonization of principles, underlying various tendencies and rationalization of educational practices."



Features of Eclecticism

- The aim of education is to prepare good citizens.
- Recommends broad and flexible curriculum.
- Emphasises coordination of various subjects.
- Importance given to co-curricular activities.
- Ensures availability of subject experts and better teachers.
- Importance of self discipline.
- Suggests scientific teaching methods based on principles of learning by doing.



RECONSTRUCTIONISM

- The reconstructionist philosophy is based on early socialistic and utopian ideas of the 19th century.
- It is society-centered philosophy.
- Exponents:
 - Theodore Brameld is often considered the originator of the term reconstructionism in 1950.



CONCEPT OF RECONSTRUCTIONISM

- The social issues of the 1930s according to George Counts involved racial and class discrimination, poverty and unemployment which are similar to present issues.
- This is a crisis philosophy appropriate for a society in crisis, which is the essence of our society today.



RECONSTRUCTIONISM AND EDUCATION

- The reconstructionists seek a curriculum that emphasizes cultural pluralism, equality and futurism.
 - Critically examines the cultural heritage of a society as well as entire civilization.
 - Is not afraid to examine controversial issues.
 - Is deliberately committed to bring about social and constructive change.
 - Cultivate a future planning attitude that considers the realities of the world.
 - Enlists students and teachers in a definite program to enhance cultural renewal and interculturalism.



RECONSTRUCTIONISM AND AIMS OF EDUCATION

- Strengthen control of the schools by and for goal-seeking interests of the overwhelming majority of mankind.



RECONSTRUCTIONISM AND CURRICULUM

- For reconstructionism analysis, interpretation and evaluation of problems are insufficient commitment and action by students and teachers are needed.



RECONSTRUCTIONISM AND TEACHER

- Teacher should measure upto their social responsibilities.



THANK YOU

