ACTIVITY MODIFICATION: FROM TRADITIONAL APPROACH TO THE UPDATED METHODS

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Abstract. This article explores the evolution of teaching practices from traditional methods to computer-assisted (CALL) activities, emphasizing the benefits and challenges of this transformation. It examines activity modification principles, focusing on engagement, accessibility, and personalized learning. The article provides practical examples of how traditional activities like quizzes, group projects, and field trips can be transformed into computer-assisted equivalents. It explores the positive impacts of this shift on student engagement, learning outcomes, and collaboration, while also addressing potential challenges like equity of access and teacher training needs. The conclusion emphasizes balancing traditional and computer-assisted methods to create a holistic and effective learning environment.

Keywords: computer-assisted (CALL), modification, traditional methods, transformation, relevance, engagement, assessment, feedback, flexibility, accessibility.

INTRODUCTION. The landscape of education is constantly shifting, driven by technological advancements and evolving pedagogical approaches. While traditional teaching methods have served us well for centuries, the digital age demands a more dynamic and engaging learning environment. Activity modification, a process of transforming traditional activities into computer-assisted ones, offers a powerful solution for educators seeking to enhance student engagement, personalize learning, and cater to the needs of a diverse classroom (Cinkara, 2016).

METHODS. This article examines the transition from traditional activities to computer-assisted ones, analyzing the benefits and challenges of this shift. It delves into the following key aspects:

1. Identifying Traditional Activities. Traditional teaching methods, while valuable, often face limitations in engaging students fully, providing immediate feedback, or catering to diverse learning needs (Brown & Lee, 2015). Some examples include:

• **Classroom Discussions.** While fostering verbal communication, discussions can be dominated by a few students, leaving others disengaged (Hall & Verplaetse, 2000).

• **Group Work.** While encouraging collaboration, group work can be hindered by uneven participation or reliance on a single student.

• **Quizzes.** Traditional quizzes can be time-consuming to grade, providing feedback only after a delay.

2. Principles of Activity Modification. Transforming traditional activities into computer-assisted ones requires adherence to key principles:

• **Relevance and Engagement. Studies, like those by Hanson-Smith (2003), point to the importance of activities aligning with students' interests and lives to foster motivation and a sense of purpose in learning.**

• **Accessibility and Flexibility.** The technology used should be accessible to all students, regardless of their technological background, and offer flexible learning options to accommodate diverse learning styles and needs (Tomlinson, 2013).

• **Assessment and Feedback.** Computer-assisted activities should provide immediate and constructive feedback, enabling students to monitor their progress and adjust their learning strategies (Hubbard, 2014).

3. Specific Examples of Activity Modification. In the following, we will look at practical examples of how traditional activities can be modified for the digital environment:

• **Interactive Quizzes and Games.** Transforming paper-based multiple-choice quizzes into engaging online games can test knowledge, provide immediate feedback, and

enhance engagement through gamification. Platforms like Kahoot, and Quizizz, Quizlet offer pre-made and customizable games that make learning fun.

- **Collaborative Projects and Online Forums.** Utilizing online platforms like Google Docs, Miro or Padlet allows students to collaborate on projects, share ideas, and engage in meaningful discussions, fostering a sense of community and peer learning (Hanson-Smith, 2018).

- **Virtual Field Trips and Immersive Experiences.** Creating virtual field trips using platforms like Google Earth or VR technology enables students to explore historical sites, museums, or scientific labs remotely, offering immersive experiences and expanding learning beyond the classroom walls.

- **Personalized Learning Pathways.** Utilizing adaptive learning platforms such as Khan Academy or Duolingo allows students to learn at their own pace, focusing on areas they need extra support. This personalized approach caters to individual needs and learning preferences.

RESULTS. Studies and evidence suggest that computer-assisted activity modification can yield positive results:

- **Increased Student Engagement.** Interactive and engaging activities hold student attention, fostering active participation and deeper learning.

- **Improved Learning Outcomes.** Immediate feedback and personalized learning pathways lead to a better understanding of concepts and improved performance.

- **Enhanced Collaboration and Communication.** Online platforms promote collaboration and communication among students, facilitating teamwork and peer learning.

- **Greater Accessibility and Flexibility.** Technology provides learning opportunities for students who might not be able to participate in traditional activities due to physical limitations or other barriers.

DISCUSSION. While activity modification offers numerous benefits, it's crucial to address potential challenges:

- **Equity of Access:** Ensuring that all students have access to necessary technology and internet connectivity is essential. Schools and communities must prioritize digital equity initiatives to bridge the digital divide.

- **Teacher Training and Support:** Providing teachers with the necessary training and support to effectively implement computer-assisted activities is vital. Professional development programs and ongoing mentorship can help educators navigate this technological shift.

- **Maintaining a Balance:** Finding the right balance between traditional and computer-assisted methods is key to fostering a holistic learning experience. Both methods offer unique advantages, and their integration can create a more dynamic and engaging learning environment.

CONCLUSION. Activity modification is a powerful tool for educators seeking to modernize their teaching practices and create more engaging and effective learning environments. By embracing technology and adapting traditional activities to the digital age, we can empower students to become active learners, critical thinkers, and successful contributors to a rapidly changing world. However, it is essential to approach this transformation with careful planning, ensuring equity of access and providing teachers with the necessary support to navigate this exciting new landscape.

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