

UTILIZING EDUCATIONAL FILMS AS AN INSTRUMENT TO EDUCATE THE STUDENTS

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Abstract

Can films be used as a tool for educating students? Educational films have contributed to a positive way of learning. They also help in increasing our knowledge and skills. Mary & Kumar, (2018) state that films are a tool for entertainment and also have an impact on the audiences in teaching them. Similarly, films can also be used to teach. They help in spreading knowledge and skills while informing and stimulating discussion. They improve the communication between teachers and students and help in conveying information and support learning. Educational films are a good way of communicating the topics to the students. The present generation was not much interested in using films whereas the earlier generation shows a positive attitude towards education. To understand if educational films are educating, a survey method was conducted in this study. Through the survey it is understood that The educational films can be used as medium of education. They also say that films educate the students about any information required by the user more than the regular classes.

Keywords: Educational Films, regular classes,

INTRODUCTION

Educational films were first started with the invention of the motion-picture camera in 1895. These films are used to provide effective learning platforms for students which mostly helped in estimating the amount of time the topic is completed and also help the user to easily understand the topic. (The Great Soviet Encyclopedia, 3rd Edition(1970-1979). Copyright 2010 The Gale Group, Inc. All rights reserved) Michel. et.all in their paper mentioned that there is a positive and negative impacts of educational films and their usefulness. Classroom teaching should not only be restricted to educational films but also need additional sources to understand the depth of the subject and also conduct collaborative interdisciplinary projects so that they are not just limited to historical sciences(Retrieved from Film Education on 30/03/21, 20:47 IST). History education should not only have the nature of giving information but it should also have something for the students to think about. Due to technological development in the information era, formal education is being affected. In the 21st

century, history teachers started to use instructional videos keeping the advancement of technology. The advancements in technology have their pros and cons in having instructional films as a method of teaching. They have concluded that the teachers need to evaluate, question, and also interpret historical facts. The teacher should explain the essential topics which appear in the film and relate them to the subject this can be used as a secondary tool by the teacher to gather and give information. This can be related to various other subjects and not just to history subjects (Yasemin Derelioglu, Evren sar 2010). In Pakistan, the researcher has considered 37 elementary English class students of private educational institutions from Karachi to measure the notion of contemporary film-based teaching arguments and social values. To measure the effect, the film 'children from Heaven' is used and the researcher has found a positive effect (Muhammad Yousuf Sharajeel, Kiran Dadabhoy). Romeo Walker states that the use of Mainstream in Media class can help them in understanding the story telling patterns used in various films. The author

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state that instructional media is very much helpful for spreading knowledge and skills. The former were ignorant of using media in classes but the recent pandemic situation has changed the education system by creating an unforgettable experience that forced them to educate the students through media-based content. This was the reason why media has sustained but now we see that even it is getting affected with media becoming a part of the educational system (Eckhart Fuchs, Anne Bruch, and Micheal Annegann-Glab 2016). In this study, a survey is done with a sample size of 64.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Definition of Educational films

Educational Films can be useful assistance to students to comprehend and get to their reality and envision. The blend of sound and moving pictures in the film gives exceptional methods for getting settings, topics, and styles that may somehow or another demonstrates hard to fathom. (Film Education, Retrieved on 30/03/21, 20:47IST).

History and purpose of educational films

The educational films started increasing with the intervention of the motion-picture camera. They are related to academic discipline and used for instructing the students about the practical procedures in fulfilling the educational goal, where the films are used as short reference aids. Short reference aids are films which deal with the topic related to the academic program helping the viewer, master the production skills and review the same. The academic questions can be taken as educational films and be used in a continuous cycle. The advantage of using educational films is that it reduces the amount of time taken to complete the topic. This type of film is mostly incorporated by the discipline of sciences as a tool to teach as the subject can't be communicated easily and effectively in a regular classroom condition. Through the use of films in the classroom, the things which are not possible to see can be viewed. (The Great Soviet Encyclopaedia, 3rd Edition (1970-1979). Copyright 2010 The Gale Group, Inc. All rights reserved)

Application and experimentation of educational films

Michel.et.all (2007) in a paper mention that educational films are aimed at imparting knowledge about a topic. The study involves information regarding how much the students remember after seeing a particular educational film for the first time and what kind of information is being remembered. The analysis shows that the students remember the important information the first time they see and when they view it continuously the effect was better than in the first case.

In modern society, history education should not only include informing but also providing people with the means to think out important issues (O'Connor, 1988, S. 1209) which means that not only journal education but also informal education can be added. Today, schools and informal education cannot be separated from the cultural environment, which is mainly affected by technological developments in the information era.

A study by Rusell(2010) state that the average time spent by adolescent is more than three hours a day watching television and Videos, keeping this in mind history teachers started using instructional films in the 21st century while doing so the students were having the freedom to see the theories and concepts in action. The researcher states that the new idea of using films for improving education is not good and the applicability was not tested till 2008. There are both advantages and disadvantages of using films as a source of teaching. Films are taken in different countries, and cultures and have a broad area of comparison in their nature. These are being written and directed, so they have control over the script as they are fictional films. Even though historical education is factual in documentaries, and historical films is that the students do not try to understand the in-depth information but/ rather they are treating them as popular films. These films help the students in developing with the use of primary sources and it is the same as reading a historical book by themselves instead, the films need to be told by the teachers. So it may not be useful in these circumstances the films are as an instructional filmmaker it's more useful for the students in getting the knowledge and understanding the instructions easily. It is easily understood that a history teacher cannot just rely on films but they need to set higher goals for their students which will help the students to use them for the goodwill of the public. Historical film literacy is the skill that is being inherited from instructional films as a tool to educate the students and make them understand the film and interpret it critically without this the students will see the scenes and hear the dialogues as historical facts. The students were questioned, evaluated, and able to compare different interpretations of historical facts from the film used as a tool. These films help in getting more knowledge and applying them in various areas possible for the good of the public than memorizing the topics taught in the classes (Vella 2001). The use of educational film need not be limited only to the subjects related to history but it can also be used in various fields of education. Marcus, (2006) states that in reality children and adolescents also gain their knowledge from popular movies (Derelioglu & Sar, 2010)

Instructional media is helpful in many ways such as spreading knowledge and skills while also informing and stimulating discussion. They improve the communication between teachers and students and help in conveying information and also support learning. Even though the media is being ignored by historians and followed by the textbooks in the classroom. The current revolution has created an unforgettable experience. The word “NEW MEDIA” is clearly understood to refer to all electronic, digital, and interactive media. New media will not replace old media they are complemented that they are integrated into existing teaching and learning structures education is one aspect that sustained the “media revolution” that is now affecting schools and education (Fuchs, E.et.all, 2016).

The technological advancements in educating students in Pakistan are considered as an informal/ causal way of teaching elementary English classes. In this study, 37 elementary English class students at private educational institutions are considered from Karachi to measure the philosophical state/notion of contemporary film-based teaching arguments and social values. The film “Children from Heaven” Iranian Oscar nominee, was used to see the effect it has on the students in promoting and understanding the culture of the society. The researchers had a close relationship with the students to understand the effects it has on the students to understand if films can be used as a tool/source of teaching social values in elementary classes as they are useful to the students. They state that these films also should be of the liking of the students so that the student has an interest in the film being shown and the duration of the film is another important factor to be considered so that the students don't get bored and spoil the reason for using the video (Muhammed Yousuf Sharajeel & Kiran Dadabhoy)

Cinema in medical education is experienced by the minority. Those that have experience have mostly positive ones & tend to be more experienced educators. The wide range of positive attributes seems to overshadow the negatives, which are mainly technical. The researcher has surveyed all the consultants at the district general hospital, all associate deans, and foundation program directors from the postgraduate deanery. The survey consisted of four open questions and was emailed to all recipients, 119 responses were received from 81 consultants, 13 associate deans, 25 foundation directors(FPDs) and 96 participants who had no experience using cinema in medical education. Senior doctors think of using cinema to educate is not known (Darbyshire.et.all 2011).

According to research by Mary & Kumar, (2018) state that films are a tool for entertainment and also have an impact on the audiences in teaching them the sociocultural values of society.

The study by Romero Walker, (2022) analyzes the film “To all the boys. P.S. I still love” (2020) to teach the filming techniques. This study concludes that using films in classroom teaching for making the recipients think more critically is not only restricted but will also communicate to minority students that they matter and their perspective is important for storytelling practices.

Education has become instrument for economic progress moving away from its original role to provide context for human development. The article suggests that the current policy focuses on labour market-driven policies in higher education have led to an ever-growing competition transforming this social institution into an ordinary marketplace, where attainment and degrees are seen as a currency that can be converted to a labour market value. As result, higher education becomes very expensive and even if policies are directed towards openness, in practice, just a few have the money to afford it (Kromydas, 2017).

METHOD

The method used in this study is a survey analysis using a questionnaire was conducted, The questionnaire was sent to students pursuing their graduation and post-graduation of different age groups and different geographical areas as a link was created using google forms and sent through WhatsApp to, but received replies from 79 out of which 64 have answered all the asked questions. The software used for analysing the questionnaire is SPSS 16.0, the data was entered and each response in the questionnaire was a given numerical value. The statistical techniques used in this study are frequency test and correlation analysis. The Independent variables in this study are age, gender and Income, whereas the Dependent variables are changes in the education system. The study is based on how much films can be used to educate students who are pursuing their higher education. The frequency test was used to understand the distribution of samples. A Pearson correlation test was used to understand the relationship between the variables.

Research Questions

1. Can educational film be a medium of education?
2. Are educational films giving more information than regular classes?

ANALYSIS

FREQUENCIES

The age group of the respondents who answered the questionnaire are almost from the age of 19 to 27 and above are equal in number. 60% of respondents state that the awareness about educational films. 96.2% of respondents state that watching educational films is useful to them. 82.8% of the respondents state that educational films give them in-depth knowledge.

78.1% of the respondents state that through online videos they can be educated. 82.8% of the respondents state that they need additional information from the teacher apart from online videos. 82.8% say that online education is not effective when compared with classroom teaching. 90.6% say that educational films are helping them in learning about social happenings. 82.8% of the respondents say that films can be considered a medium of education.

CORRELATION

Categories	Films can be a medium of education
Watching educational films is useful for you	0.291*

Table 1: Correlation of Watching educational films is useful for you

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 1, there is less significance and a positive correlation of 0.291 between watching educational films being useful for you and films can be a medium of education respectively.

Categories	Watching educational films is useful for you	Films give more information than the regular classes
Educational films give you in-depth knowledge	0.291*	0.251*

Table 2: Correlation of Educational films gives you in-depth knowledge

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 2, there is less significance and a positive correlation of 0.291 and 0.251 between educational films giving you in-depth knowledge and watching educational films being useful for you, films giving more information than the regular classes respectively.

Categories	Age	Educational films give you in-depth knowledge	Online videos can be used for education	Online videos can be used for supporting classroom teaching
Films give more information than the regular classes	0.251*	0.251*	0.278*	-0.248*

Table 3: Correlation of Films giving more information than the regular classes

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 3, there is a less significant and negative correlation of 0.248 between films giving more information than the regular classes with online videos that can be used for supporting classroom teaching. There is less significance and a positive correlation of 0.251, 0.251, 0.278 between films giving more information than the regular classes with age, educational films give you in-depth knowledge, and online videos can be used for education respectively.

Categories	Gender	Films give an idea about being educated	Films give more in-formation than the regular class	Online videos need sup-ported informa-tion	Films help you in learning about the social hap-penings
Online videos can be used for education	0.377**	0.278*	0.278*	0.260*	0.348**

Table 4: Correlation of Online videos can be used for education

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 4, there is a more significant and positive correlation of 0.377, 0.348 between online videos that can be used for education with the gender with films help you in learning about social happenings respectively. There is less and a positive correlation of 0.278, 0.278, 0.260 between online videos that can be used for education with films giving an idea about being educated, films giving more information than the regular class, and Online videos needing supporting information respectively.

Categories	Films give us more information than the regular class	Online videos can be used to educate
Online videos need any supporting information	-0.248*	0.260*

Table 5: Correlation of Online videos need any supporting information

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 5, there is less significance and a negative correlation of 0.248 between online videos need any supporting information with films giving us more information than a regular class. There is less significance and a positive correlation of 0.260 between online videos needing any supporting information with online videos that can be used to educate.

Categories	Online videos can educate	Films can be considered a medium of education
Films help you to learn about the social happenings	0.348**	0.335**

Table 6: Correlation of Films help you to learn about the social happenings

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 6, there is more significance and positive significance of 0.348, 0.335 between films help you to learn about the social happenings and Online videos can educate, Films can be considered as a medium of education respectively.

Categories	Watching educational films is useful for you	Films give an idea about being educated	Films help you to learn about the social happening
Films can be considered as a medium of education	0.291*	0.251*	0.564**

Table 7: Correlation of Films can be considered as a medium of education

Note: “*” resembles less significant whereas “**” resembles more significant.

As shown in table 7, There is a more significant and a positive correlation of 0.564 between films that can be considered as a medium of education with films helps us learn about the social happenings. There is less significance and positive correlation of 0.291 and 0.251 between films that can be considered as medium of education with watching educational films is useful for you and films give an idea about being educated.

The Gender of the respondents has a relationship with the online videos being used for education. There exists a relationship between films help the respondents understand about the social happenings and can be used as a medium of education.

THE PRESENT STUDY

The academic questions can be taken as educational films and be used in a continuous cycle as the respondents tell that educational films can be used as a reference aids in teaching. The studies mentioned in this paper are from different fields/areas of education like History, English and Medicine.

The advancements of technological advancements are considered as an informal way of teaching which is affecting the formal way of teaching. Muhammad Yousuf Sharajeel & Kiran Dadabhoy states that there is a positive effect with a shift toward a hybrid model of education on students when used films for

teaching. According to the survey conducted in this study, the participants state that they are imbibing more knowledge from educational films and online videos for learning the social and cultural values of the situated social location. Furthermore, the participants also state that they need additional information from the teacher for more effective information about the subject they are studying.

The essential topics that need explanation should be explained by the teacher which is the formal way of informing and also communicating through supported educational films, this was accepted by 82.8% of the respondents in the context of understanding the social and cultural values of the situated social location.

The educational films can help in spreading knowledge and skills while informing and stimulating discussion and the participants have also expressed that educational films create awareness about the topics.

Educational films are used to imbibe the students with preferable education but through the survey conducted 60.9% of the participants agree that good quality of education is given through educational films.

Education through educational films will provide us with information, but it is with us whether we learn from it or not so the students need to be assessed through some means by the teacher to understand the level of learning of each student.

As said by Yasemin Derelioglu and Evren Sar, 2010 that students spend more time watching television and videos, so, they can be educated more efficiently using television and videos as tool.

CONCLUSION

Educational films can be used a medium to communicate any subjects as the respondents belong to various streams of education. The students need to be questioned and evaluated to know their level of understanding from the review. Educational films are useful for educational and they education for gathering and collecting knowledge. The respondents are aware of educational films. They give more knowledge than regular classes, but they also at the sametime need a regular classroom teaching environment for a clear understanding of the topic. Gender plays an important role about viewing online videos for education.

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