

## Abstract

The research was conducted in order to study the usage of teaching techniques of trainee teachers who are undergoing the internship program of the Primary Diploma Course of National Colleges of Education. There were four specific objectives to make this study successfully. To identify how do the trainees select teaching techniques at the planning stage of the lessons, to identify the way the teacher trainees use the teaching techniques in lessons during their internship period to find out the challenges they face in selecting those techniques, also to provide new suggestions in selecting the teaching techniques and to use them in the teaching learning process effectively are the objectives in conducting this research.

Two samples were used for the purpose of achieving the objectives of the research. From the total numbers of 92 interns of the Primary Diploma Course, 45% of the trainees that is 41 in number and from total number of 36 of the lecturing staff, 30% of lectures that is 11 in number were selected for the sample based on random selection.

In order to collect data for the research questionnaires were the basic tool used and two types of questionnaires were implemented for the two separate samples. As the second method of data collecting, interviews were conducted for 25% of interns and 45% of lectures in the sample groups. There 11 teacher trainees and 5 lectures underwent the interview processes. For the confirmation of the data collected through questionnaires, interviewing method was proved a success. In collecting data for data triangulation the method of observation also implemented in the research. There the researcher being the observer used and observation schedule to observe 6 classroom lessons of each intern. For this purpose 4 teacher trainees were involved and all together 24 classroom lessons were observed to make the research a successful one. In order to analyze through different methods implemented such as by questionnaires, interviews and observation schedules quantitative and qualitative analyzing methods were used in the research process. In quantitative data analysis method data was analyzed through percentages and tables and in qualitative data analysis method, summary content analysis was implemented

Through this research, the researcher could find out very significant facts which can be implemented in teaching, learning process of the practical classroom to make the learning a success. It was clearly proved that the interns pay careful attention in selecting the teaching techniques at different stages of the lesson, the researcher further found the way that the interns tend to use different teaching techniques to suit different levels and stages in the lesson procedure. There the results revealed that the techniques of questioning was prominently used in the classroom and the techniques of storytelling, modeling were also used mostly. Simulations and role play also abundantly used. Also the major challenges they face in implementing those techniques in the practical classroom identify through the research. When using the technique of questioning most of the students in the class tend to answer at the same time was a challenge for most of the interns. Time management in techniques of modeling, focusing attention in storytelling, remaining unachievable objectives in role play and presenting the simulation successfully were found as several other challenging situations they encountered during the teaching learning process. The research clearly proved that there's a huge need in selecting the right techniques at the right stage of the lessons and their understanding on the area must be widened and taught carefully. It is suggestive that to use the teaching techniques effectively, they need to get the help of the technology in the practical classroom environment.

Further researcher has suggested several solutions that can be used to overcome the problematic situation and challenges faced by the teacher trainees during the research. The suggestions were categorized under the themes; How to select the best technique to suit the lesson in the planning stage, How do the techniques can be implemented in the teaching learning process, the challenges they face implementing the technique, The selecting and using techniques effectively in the class room lessons.