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Subject: Learning Strategies / M.A.Studies

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Cognitive strategies part 2

2.1.1 Types of cognitive strategies

Concept Mapping

Concept mapping is a visual organizer to improve the cognitive development of a learner. It is a tool to build up a link between the previous knowledge and new information about the concept. By means of concept mapping, students assemble a model for arranging and integrating the information being learned, understanding the new concept and think it in diverse methods. It can be useful to learners organize new ideas and make meaningful relation between the main thought and other ideas. It can be in the form of maps, diagrams or tables. It is a brainstorming activity to visualize the words and ideas. It improves the memory power of the learner minimize the directional confusion. This strategy has been used to enrich the vocabulary and speaking skills of the learners .

Dump and Clum

Dump and clump is a brainstorming strategy for learners to identify the words from pictures shown to them. It is a step by step activity to enable the cognitive development. Once the learners identify the words, then the learners organize the ideas into a concept and finally summarize it into a paragraph. It can be reproducing to the other learners in the classroom. It is a group activity that allows the learners to discuss the topic and find out the conclusion based on various thinking and reasoning power of the learners. It leads the learners into a good discussion .It initiates a process for complementing the former knowledge and assembling projections .

Visualization

Visualization is a cognitive strategy used for mental rehearsal. The key to this strategy is to always visualize the things that are desired by the learner. It is a mind processing activity. The learner imagines the ideas that are already in the mind. The subconscious mind does not differentiate the real and imaginary ideas. The learners persist the vision confidently and it is successful method. Learners need constant practice to achieve this goal. It gives motivation to the learners and visualization leads to the real world and positive thoughts. It enhances the right brain activity and the organization improves the memory of the person. Simple pictures used in

this method cannot convey the complexity process, at the same time complex diagrams are too modern for many learners. This is the demerit of this method.

Making Associations

The learner remembers things by making associations. Any information in the memory is connected to other related ideas in a same way or other. Associating the new ideas and information, with the knowledge the learner can possess, is a good strategy to learn new things. If memory works by association, the learner will actively work to create an association between the information. The associations may be simple or complex. The learners need continuous practice to reach the ultimate aim.

Chunking

Chunking is an activity to boost up the memory of a learner by categorizing information. The word chunk means small units or small groups. The way of recalling the concept by dividing it into small units or chunks is the chunking process. Recalling information and memorization is a challenging task or the learners in the classroom. Chunking strategy helps the learners to group the ideas and make easy to remember the concept. It helps the learners to have short term memory. Teachers consider this as a useful method of improving cognitive development. Chunking breaks a complex task into simple tasks to handle many difficult tasks in the easiest way to enhance learning.

Questioning

Questioning is a powerful strategy used by the teacher in a classroom to evaluate the learning capability of learners. It is a strategy to involve the students actively in the learning content. It increases motivation and creates interest among the learners. It helps to check the student's preparation and completion of work. Questioning strategy helps to develop critical thinking skills and stimulate independent learning. It makes the classroom live and energetic. When the teachers ask questions, the students get a chance to recall or recollect the ideas in the memory and reproduce it. It is a booming technique to cognitive development. Self-questioning is also a strategy to introspection to the learners .Questioning

is the starting stage for understanding the thinking pattern of the human brain. The involvement of the learners is crucial in the questioning strategy. Teachers allow the students to ask questions and give enough time to understand the questions and explicit answers. Teachers must be aware of learners' cognitive responses, emotional responses and development of questioning power

Rehearsal

Rehearsal is a cognitive strategy used to repeat practice of any idea to learn it. It can be used to learn minimum number of information. It gives a familiarity to the subject matter leading to memorization. Information may be rehearsed for a minimum of three times before it can move from the working memory to long term memory. It is the processing of information which allows the learners to hold the idea in consciousness. Rehearsal helps the learners to have a long term memory. There are two types of memory. They are rote rehearsal and elaborative rehearsal. It needs concentration and regular practice to develop the cognitive memory. Rehearsal is a conscious repetition of thoughts to be remembered.

Accessing Cues

It may be visual or verbal prompts used to remind what has already been learned. It provides an opportunity to learn something new to the learners. For visual cues, the use of pictures and symbols need to be involved in structured or natural environment. It enhances the learner's organizational skill and communication. Visual cues help the learner to become independent and decrease the negative behavior. The learners can get an idea about the environment. These cues are accessed by the learners for the cognitive development .

Using Mnemonic

Mnemonic strategies are used as an effective way to enhance the memory power of the learners. Teachers use various mnemonic for the cognitive development. Keyword mnemonic is a strategy used to recall the ideas in second language. With that keyword the learners thought of the interlinking word to be demonstrated from the learners perspective. Organizing the information into easily memorable ways like groups,

words or phrases are called chunking mnemonics .Music mnemonic strategy encodes the information directly to the brain of the learners. Acronyms and formulae are used in the letter and word mnemonic strategy to stimulate the mental activities of the learner. Making connections and rhymes are considered mnemonic strategies to recall and strengthen memory power .

Sounding out words

New words can be easily remembered by speaking them loudly. It improves the pronunciation of words. Teachers use this strategy to correct the vocabulary of the learners and stimulate the brain to remember things easily. Speaking, reading and listening skills are improved by this strategy. Reading is the best way to enrich vocabulary in second language. It gives words, phrases and words in combination with other words. There is a large requirement of vocabulary suitable for situation. Reading aloud gives a chance to focus on pronunciation and pacing without disturbing about coming up with words. By reading the scripts, the learners can check the pronunciation. It is the easiest strategy used by the teachers in the classroom. It creates cognitive development of the learners .

Elaboration

Elaboration strategy connects information to be learned with the knowledge that the learners already know. This connection leads to working memory because; connections create efficiency of learning and memory. The learners expand the ideas in connection with the ideas in their brain. The learners gather a lot of information to expand the thoughts given by the teachers. Teachers provide an opportunity to develop confidence among the learners .

Self-Checking and Monitoring

Self-checking is a skill used to keep track of one's own actions and performance. It is a basic skill to recognize the strengths and weaknesses of a learner. It is a conscious and deliberate action by the learners. Learners can be aware of the present situation of their learning. It focuses on the task and creates positive attitudes towards the learners. Cognitive development strategies improve the mental ability of the learners.

Learners know more about themselves and monitor the actions done by them. Teachers help them to assess the character of their own. Self-monitoring of the learners lead to

1- Trusting the minds of the learners

Knowing that there's more than one right way to do -2 things .

3- Acknowledging them is takes and try to rectify the mistakes .

4- Evaluating the products and behavior

2.1.2 The benefit of cognitive strategies

Cognitive strategies are mental processes and techniques that individuals use to enhance their learning and thinking abilities. These strategies involve various methods of processing information, organizing knowledge, and problem-solving. Here are some of the benefits of using cognitive strategies in learning:

1.Improved comprehension: Cognitive strategies help learners actively engage with the material and enhance their understanding. Techniques such as summarizing, questioning, and making connections between new and existing knowledge can deepen comprehension and retention of information.(Pressley, M.& Harris, K.R (2006).

2.Enhanced memory: Cognitive strategies employ memory-enhancing techniques like repetition, visualization, and mnemonic devices. These strategies help learners encode information effectively, store it in long-term memory, and retrieve it when needed.(Flavell , J. H. (1979)

3.Increased critical thinking skills: Cognitive strategies encourage learners to think critically and analytically. Techniques such as analyzing information, evaluating evidence, and identifying biases promote higher-order thinking and problem-solving abilities.(Abrami, P. C., et al. (2008)

4.Metacognitive awareness: Cognitive strategies foster metacognition, which is the awareness and regulation of one's own thinking processes. Learners become more conscious of their learning strengths and weaknesses, monitor their comprehension, and adjust their strategies accordingly. This metacognitive awareness leads to more effective

learning and self-directed learning habits.(Dunlosky, J., et al. (2013)

5.Time management and efficiency: Cognitive strategies help learners manage their time effectively. Techniques like setting goals, prioritizing tasks, and breaking down complex information into manageable chunks contribute to efficient learning and improved productivity.(Paris, S. G., et al. (1983)

6.Transferability of skills: Cognitive strategies are not limited to specific subjects or domains. Once learners acquire and practice these strategies, they can apply them across different contexts and disciplines. This transferability of skills allows learners to become lifelong, independent learners. Hattie, J., & Donoghue, G. M. (2016)

7.Increased motivation and engagement: By utilizing cognitive strategies, learners become actively involved in the learning process. They experience a sense of control, ownership, and accomplishment, which boosts motivation and engagement with the material.