



**BTE-C-101: PHILOSOPHY AND
EDUCATION**

UNIT-I: BASICS OF EDUCATION

Dr. S.M. Gawande
Assistant Professor
School of Education
Central University of Kashmir
Campus-I, Nowgam, Srinagar -190015
Ph: +917006405943
E-mail: sunilgawande99@gmail.com

E-Content

Course Code: BTC-E 101, Title: Philosophy and Education

1. Meaning Nature and Scope of Education
2. Mode of Education: Formal, Informal, Non formal, MOOCs
3. Aims of Education

Dear students, after reading this lesson, you should be able to:

- Discuss the concept and meaning of Education
- Discuss the Nature of Education
- Discuss the scope of Education
- Discuss the Mode of Education
- Discuss the meaning, and characteristics of Formal Education
- Discuss the meaning, and characteristics of In-Formal Education
- Discuss the meaning, and characteristics of Non-Formal Education
 - Discuss the meaning, and characteristics of In-Formal Education
 - Discuss the aims of Education

1. Meaning of Education

Education, like philosophy is also closely related to human life. Therefore, being an important life activity education is also greatly influenced by philosophy. Various fields of philosophy like the political philosophy, social philosophy and economic philosophy have great influence on the various aspects of education like educational procedures, processes, policies, planning and its implementation, from both the theoretical and practical aspects.

Etymologically, the word education is derived from Latin

- a) **‘educare’** which means **‘to bring out’** or **‘to nourish’**.
 - b) **‘educere’** which means **‘to lead out’** or **‘to draw out’**.
 - c) **‘educatum’** which means **‘act of teaching’** or **‘training’**.
 - d) **‘educatus’** which means **‘to bring up, rear, educate’**.
 - e) The Greek word **‘pedagogy’** is sometimes used for education.
- The most common Indian word **‘Shiksha’** is derived from the Sanskrit verbal root **‘shas’** which means **‘to discipline’**, **‘to control’**, **‘to instruct’** and **‘to teach’**.

· Similarly the word '**vidya**' is derived from Sanskrit verbal root '**vid**' which means '**to know**'. Vidya is thus the subject matter of knowledge. This shows that disciplining the mind and imparting knowledge were the foremost considerations in India.

Webster defines *education* **As the Process of Educating or Teaching**. *Educate* is further defined as "to develop the knowledge, skill, or character of..." Thus, from these definitions, we might assume that the purpose of education is to develop the knowledge, skill, or character of students.

2. Definitions of Education

Concepts of Education as defined by Western philosophers.

a) Socrates: "Education means the bringing out of the ideas of universal validity which are latent in the mind of every man".

b) Plato: "Education is the capacity to feel pleasure and pain at the right moment. It develops in the body and in the soul of the pupil all the beauty and all the perfection which he is capable of."

c). Aristotle: "Education is the creation of a sound mind in a sound body. It develops man's faculty, especially his mind so that he may be able to enjoy the contemplation of supreme truth, goodness and beauty of which perfect happiness essentially consists.

d). Rousseau: "Education of man commences at his birth; before he can speak, before he can understand he is already instructed. Experience is the forerunner of the perfect".

e) Herbert Spencer: "Education is complete living".

f) Heinrich Pestalozzi: "Education is natural harmonious and progressive development of man's innate powers".

g) Friedrich Willian Froebel: "Education is unfoldment of what is already enfolded in the germ. It is the process through which the child makes internal external".

Concepts of Education as defined by Indian philosophers.

- a) Rigved: "Education is something which makes man self-reliant and selfless".
 - b) Upanishad: "Education is for liberation".
 - c) Bhagavad Gita: "Nothing is more purifying on earth than wisdom."
 - d) Shankaracharya: "Education is the realization of self".
 - e) Gunrunner: "Education is self-realization and service to people".
6. Kautilya: "Education means training of the country and love of the nation".
7. Panini: "Human education means the training which one gets from nature".
8. Vivekanand: "Education is the manifestation of the divine perfection, already existing in man."
9. Gandhi: "By education, I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in the Child and man body, mind and spirit."
10. Tagore: "The widest road leading to the solution of all our problems is education."

3. Nature of Education:

As the meaning of education, so its nature which is very complex. The natures of Education are:

- (a) Education is life-long process- Education is life long process because every stage of life of an individual is important from educational point.
- (b) Education is a systematic process- It refers to transact its activities through a systematic institution and regulation.
- (c) Education is development of individual and the society- It is called a force for social development, which brings improvement in every aspect in the society.
- (d) Education is modification of behavior- Human behavior is modified and improved through educational process.

(e) Education is a training- Human senses, mind, behavior, activities; skills are trained in a constructive and socially desirable way.

(f) Education is instruction and direction- It directs and instructs an individual to fulfill his desires and needs for exaltation of his whole personality.

(g) Education is life- Life without education is meaningless and like the life of a beast. Every aspect and incident needs education for its sound development.

(h) Education is continuous reconstruction of our experiences- As per the definition of John Dewey education reconstructs and remodels our experiences towards socially desirable way.

(i) Education is a power and treasure in human being through which he is entitled as the supreme master on the earth.

Therefore, the role of education is countless for a perfect society and man. It is necessary for every society and nation to bring holistic happiness and prosperity to its individuals.

4. Scope of Education

Scope means range of view outlook field or opportunity of activity operation and application. Education has a wider meaning and application.

i. Educational philosophy

Philosophy of education covers aims of education, nature of education, importance of education, and function of education its very old and essential part of education.

ii. Educational psychology

Main aim of education is the development of child. Psychology helps to understand the child better and development of child with respect of physical, mental, emotional, social adjustment, individual difference, personality, thinking, reasoning, problem solving.

iii. Educational sociology

A child lives in the society so it's important for him to know about the society the nature of society, type of society, interdependence between culture and society.

iv. History of education

It is also important to know background, origin, development, growth and aspect of the subjects and also education system method of teaching during ancient period, medieval period, British period and modern period.

v. Economics of education

For the growth of business and market the world class economical education is important for each and important.

vi. Method of teaching

In ancient time the pupil were passive listeners but now they actively participate with the teacher in the process of education. So the skill and proficiency of difference teaching methods needs to be developed.

vii. Educational administration and supervision

The educational institution and the system has to be supervised and administrated smoothly so that the process of education goes well. Regulation of fund, democratic administration, autonomy, personnel management etc.

viii. Problems of education

This scope includes problems of teaching management of education and also suggestion and remedies for it.

ix. Population education

Viewing at the undesirable growth of population, an awareness is created through population education.

x. Environmental education

Ecological in balances have drown the attentions of intelligence today.

So looking at the environmental problems study of environment education has great importance.

5. Modes of Education

Education goes beyond what takes places within the four walls of the classroom. A child gets the education from his experiences outside the school as well as from those within on the basis of these factors.

There are three main types of education, namely, Formal, Informal and Non-formal

5.1. Formal Education

Formal education or formal learning usually takes place in the premises of school, where a person may learn basic, academic, or trade skills. Small children often attend a nursery or kindergarten but often formal education begins in elementary school and continues with secondary school. Post-secondary education (or higher education) is usually at a college or university which may grant an academic degree. It is associated with a specific or stage and is provided under the certain set of rules and regulations. The formal education is given by specially qualified teachers they are supposed to be efficient in the art of instruction. It also observes strict discipline. The student and the teacher both are aware of the facts and engage themselves in the process of education.

Examples of Formal Education

- Learning in a classroom
- School grading/certification, college, and university degrees
- Planned education of different subjects having a proper syllabus acquired by attending the institution.

5.1.1. Characteristics of formal education

- Formal education is structured hierarchically.
- It is planned and deliberate.
- Scheduled fees are paid regularly.
- It has a chronological grading system.
- It has a syllabus and subject oriented. The syllabus has to be covered within a specific time period.
- The child is taught by the teachers

5.2. Informal Education

Informal education may be a parent teaching a child how to prepare a meal or ride a bicycle. People can also get an informal education by reading many books from a library or educational websites. Informal education is when you are not studying in a school and do not use any particular learning method. In this type of education, conscious efforts are not involved. It is neither pre-planned nor deliberate. It may be learned at some marketplace, hotel or at home. Unlike formal education, informal education is not imparted by an institution such as school or college. Informal education is not given according to any fixed timetable. There is no set curriculum required. Informal education consists of experiences and actually living in the family or community.

Examples of Informal Education

- Teaching the child some basics such as numeric characters.
- Someone learning his/her mother tongue
- A spontaneous type of learning, “if a person standing in a bank learns about opening and maintaining the account at the bank from someone.”

5.2.1. Characteristics of Informal Education

- It is independent of boundary walls.
- It has no definite syllabus.
- It is not pre-planned and has no timetable.
- No fees are required as we get the informal education through daily experience and by learning new things.
- It is a lifelong process in a natural way.
- The certificates/degrees are not involved and one has no stress for learning the new things.
- You can get from any source such as media, life experiences, friends, family etc.

5.3. Non-formal Education

Non-formal education includes adult basic education, adult literacy education or school equivalency preparation. In nonformal education, someone (who is not in school) can learn literacy, other basic skills or job skills. Home education, individualized instruction (such as programmed learning), distance learning and computer-assisted instruction are other possibilities. Non-formal education is imparted consciously and deliberately and systematically implemented. It should be organized for a homogeneous group. Non-form, education should be programmed to serve the needs of the identified group. This will necessitate flexibility in the design of the curriculum and the scheme of evaluation.

Examples of Non-formal Education

- Boy Scouts and Girls Guides develop some sports program such as swimming comes under the Non-formal education.
- Fitness programs
- Community-based adult education courses
- Free courses for adult education developed by some organization

5.3.1. Characteristics of Non-formal Education

- The Non-formal education is planned and takes place apart from the school system.
- The timetable and syllabus can be adjustable.
- Unlike the theoretical formal education, it is practical and vocational education.

- Non-formal education has no age limit.
- Fees are certificates may or may not be necessary.
- It may be full time or part-time learning and one can earn and learn together.
- It involves learning of professional skills.

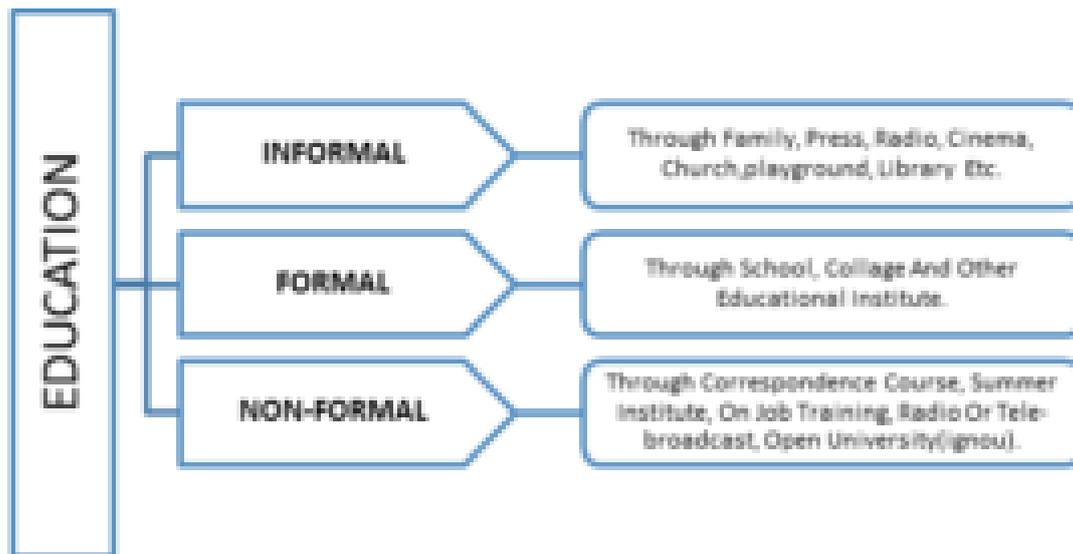


Fig-1. Mode of Education with examples

5.4.MOOCs

A **Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)** is an **online course** aimed at unlimited participation and open access via the **web**. In addition to traditional course materials such as filmed lectures, readings, and **problem sets**, many MOOCs provide **interactive courses** with user forums to support community interactions among students, professors, and **teaching assistants(TAs)** as well as immediate feedback to quick quizzes and assignments. MOOCs are a recent and widely researched development in **distance education** which were first introduced in 2006 and emerged as a popular mode of learning in 2012.

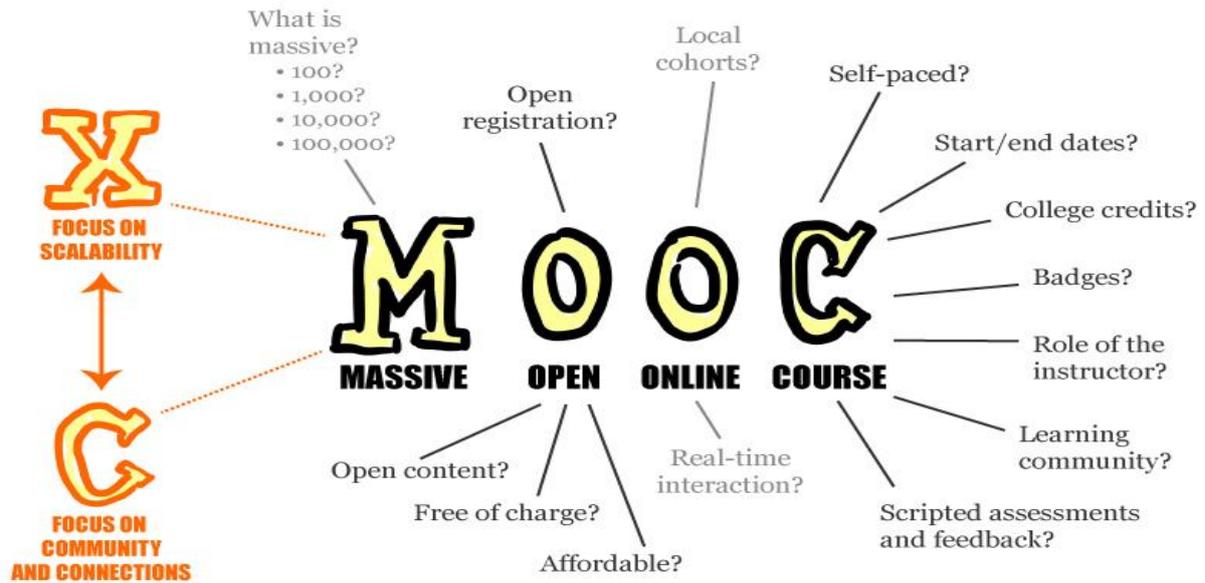


Fig-2 Characteristics of MOOCs

5.4.1. Features of a MOOC

All MOOC having the following characteristics

a) Autonomy

The structure is conceived to promote autonomous learning with a number of resources in the form of videos, links, documents, etc. and spaces for debate and communication.

b) Massive

The number of places on courses is unlimited, the scope is global and the courses are aimed at people with different interests and aspirations.

c) On line

To take these courses all you need is a computer, smartphone or tablet with internet connections and the use of a global web server.

d) Open and Free

Course materials are available on internet and are all completely free (some courses, few, offer free access to contents, but the assessments submission is possible only after buying a certificate).

e) Blended learning

Blended Learning may well be the future of the MOOC movement. Courses could feature online elements such as quizzes and discussions of an assigned text, and then students can meet in a physical classroom to discuss topics in more depth.

5.4.2. MOOCs in India

SWAYAM is a programme initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., access, equity and quality. The objective of this effort is to take the best teaching learning resources to all, including the most disadvantaged. SWAYAM seeks to bridge the digital divide for students who have hitherto remained untouched by the digital revolution and have not been able to join the mainstream of the knowledge economy.

Courses delivered through SWAYAM are available free of cost to the learners, however students wanting certifications shall be registered, shall be offered a certificate on successful completion of the course, with a little fee. At the end of each course, there will be an assessment of the student through proctored examination and the marks/grades secured in this exam could be transferred to the academic record of the students. UGC has already issued the UGC (Credit Framework for online learning courses through SWAYAM) Regulation 2016 advising the Universities to identify courses where credits can be transferred on to the academic record of the students for courses done on SWAYAM.

6. AIMS OF EDUCATION

Aims give direction to activities. Aims of education are formulated keeping in view the needs of situation. Human nature is multisided with multiple needs, which are related to life. Educational aims are correlated to ideals of life. .Aims of Education as follows-

1. Vocational Efficiency-
2. Knowledge-
3. Complete Living
4. Harmonious Personality Development
5. Self-realization
6. Cultural Development
7. Citizenship
8. Utilize leisure
9. Development of Leadership
10. Initiating to student the art of Living

11. Increased Productivity
12. Social and National Integration
13. Modernization
14. Social ,Moral and Spiritual Values
15. For Scientific Temper
16. National cohesion, Socialism, Secularism and Democracy
17. Education for Equity
18. Fostering research in all areas of development

7. AIMS OF EDUCATION: THE PRESENT SCENARIO

- Disappearance of childhood rote memory replaces joyful learning.
- Exam oriented study.
- Schools have turned into agencies that provide guidance only for exams.
- Commercialization of Education.
- Disparity between aims and methodology.
- Vagueness on expectations and abilities.
- Assumption of confining education to classroom.
- Lack of coordination between society, school and administration, not catering to the needs of the society.
- Development of passivity.
- No scope for the enrichment of cognitive resources of the child such as questioning, observation, inquisitiveness and expression.
- Diminishing of values, cooperation collaboration patience, self-confidence, discretion and rational thinking.
- Absence of human values, individual values and social values.
- Mechanization of the child's mind by the current education system.
- Focus only on enrolment.
- No stress on quality education.
- Inequality, lack of freedom, negligence and irresponsibility.
- Inferior training programmed, monotonous teaching training, training institutes and universities far away from the real world and lack of psychological element in education.
- School is just information centre and exam centre.

- Laborious Learning and intolerable schools.
- Dumping of monotonous syllabus into lower levels in the name of curriculum revision.
- Education promoting dependability, not self-confidence.
- Children of the poor engaged in physical work whereas children of the rich capture power and administration.
- Satisfying the officials and lack of decision making.
- Disbelief among the teachers, the management and the society.
- Lack of resources and lack of utilizing the resources available.
- Completing the syllabus in time is the ultimate goal.
- Lack of awareness of the aims of education.
- The consequences of the present system.
- The role of the school, the teachers and the society.

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