

LEARNING: ITS MEANING , NATURE AND FACTORS

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Introduction

- ▣ One of the most important characteristics of human beings is their capacity to learn.
- ▣ An individual starts learning immediately after his birth.
- ▣ Our personality, our habits, skills, knowledge, attitude and interest is largely the result of learning.
- ▣ All our adaptive as well as maladaptive , and cognitive as well as affective behavior formed by learning process.
- ▣ These are the vital important in helping the individual to adapt to his environment.

Definitions

- ❑ “ Learning is the modification of behaviour through experience and learning.” Gates
- ❑ “Learning is the acquisition of habits, knowledge and attitudes. It involves new ways of doing things, and it operates in an individual’s attempt to overcome obstacles or to adjust to new situations”. Crow and Crow
- ❑ “Learning is changes in behaviour resulting from behaviour”. Guildford
- ❑ “Learning is a matter of making a response to a situation, or modifying a previous response in order to bring about an improvement”. Ryburn
- ❑ “Learning is the acquisition of new behaviour or the strengthening or weakening of old behaviour as the result of experience”. H.P Smith

Nature of Learning

- ▣ Learning is a process.
- ▣ Learning is adaptation or adjustment.
- ▣ Learning brings behavioural changes.
- ▣ Learning is modification of behaviour.
- ▣ Learning is a progressive change of behaviour.
- ▣ Learning is a process of acquisition of habit.
- ▣ Learning is a comprehensive process.
- ▣ Learning is a process of problem solving.
- ▣ Learning is a continuous and never-ending process that goes from womb to tomb.

PROCESS OF LEARNING

- ▣ Steps in learning process
- ▣ It is carried over through various steps according to H.P smith
 - a) A motive or a drive
 - b) An attractive goal
 - c) A block to the attainment of the goal

MOTIVE

- ▣ Motive are the dynamic force that compel the individual to act.
- ▣ The direction of the motive depends upon the relative strength of motives.
- ▣ Unsatisfied motives or needs compel the individual to satisfy them, which initiate the learners to learn something.

ATTRACTIVE GOAL

- ▣ For the satisfaction of the needs the individual sets definite goals for achievement.
- ▣ The setting of the goal helps in making the learning purposeful interesting

A Block to the Attainment of the Goal:

- If the individual faces no difficulty in attending the goal he will not change his present behavior, this means there is no necessity to learn.
- If block or barrier obstruct the individual to reach a goal then the individual will try to change his behavior.
- Means something to change his behavior to reach the goal.

Some Other Steps

- ▣ **Reinforcement:** if the responses is successful in action and satisfied the needs, on the subsequent occasions the individual will tend to repeat it.
- ▣ **Integration:** the individual integrate the successful responses with individual previous learning, so that it becomes a part of new functional whole.
- ▣ **Learning Situation:** learning depends much upon the kind of learning situation and environment available the learners.

FACTORS AFFECTING LEARNING

- ▣ Subjective factors or factors within the learner – such as his capacities, motivation, age, sex, previous experience
- ▣ Objective factors or factors related to the subject matter---such as length, difficulty and meaningfulness of the materials
- ▣ Factors related to the method of teaching– such as review or recall, over learning, practice etc.

Some Important Factors of Learning

1. Hereditary Factors
2. Age as a factor of learning
3. Sex difference as a factor of learning
4. Physical conditions of learner
5. Goals set before the pupils
6. Interest and attitude
7. Motivation
8. Knowledge of the result
9. Reward and punishment
10. Previous learning
11. Meaningfulness of materials
12. Difficulty of materials
13. Whole and part method
14. Distribution of practice
15. Learning by doing
16. Review and recall
17. Applying what is learned

THANK YOU