

Diagnostic testing and Remedial teaching

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Diagnostic testing and Remedial teaching

- To ensure effective teaching and learning, the teacher has to locate and identify the areas where the learner commits mistakes during the teaching-learning process.
- Here, the teacher has to identify and prepare instructional material for corrective teaching to ensure the desired quality of learning.
- Thus, diagnostic testing and remedial teaching are very essential in improving the quality of education.

Diagnostic testing and Remedial teaching...

A diagnostic test is a useful tool for analyzing difficulties but it is simply a starting point.

Supplementary information concerning the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional development of the pupil is also needed before an effective remedial programme can be initiated.

- Teacher can use remedial teaching after diagnostic test. Without remedial teaching diagnostic test remains meaningless.
- A treatment of patients is start after understanding symptoms of illness. Like this one after understanding the spelling weakness, teacher starts to think on it through remedial teaching.

Diagnostic testing and Remedial teaching...

- While diagnosis is the process of investigating the learners' difficulties and the reasons for this, its follow up leads to actions that may help children make up their deficiencies.
- This step is generally termed **Remedial Teaching**.
- So you have to be skilled in preparing or arranging for such materials which may be used to undertake corrective instruction and thus enhancing the quality of learning.
- The corrective teaching which help the students to make up their learning deficiencies is called as Remedial Teaching.

Diagnostic test

A good diagnostic test

- will permit a pupil to demonstrate all aspects of the skill being measured and
- will pinpoint the types of errors that were made.

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Remedial Teaching

- The teaching done for the student who could not achieve the expected objective is called as remedial teaching.
- The term remedial teaching is the teaching to provide remedial measures for helping the student (or individual student) in getting rid of their common or specific weaknesses some other measures carried out for such diagnosis.
- Diagnosis thus provides a solid base for hypothesizing the general and specific causes underlying the weakness or learning difficulties of the student).
- It is thus true that as the diagnosis so is the remedy for the removal of the difficulty.
- Thus, depending upon the general or specific nature of the weaknesses or learning difficulties of the students, we have to take appropriate steps for the organisation of remedial teaching for the needy students.

Principles for remedial teaching

There are certain guiding principles that apply to all subject areas and provide a framework in which the teacher can operate.

- Remedial teaching should be accompanied by strong motivation.
- Remedial teaching should be individual in terms of the psychology of learning.
- There should be continuous evaluation giving the pupil knowledge of results.
- Remedial teaching programme may not always need a separate time allocation. But there will always need of some extra work for both the teachers and the affected students.

Selecting appropriate teaching material

- i) The corrective material should be designed to correct the students' individual difficulties.
- ii) You have to analyze the work of slow learners by means of observation, interview and Diagnostic Testing. A careful consideration of the three may help decide what kind of corrective material is to be designed and whether material will be adequate to correct the specific difficulties of learners.
- iii) The corrective material should be graded, self-directive and should permit students to work independently. Written directions, which accompany the material, should be easily readable and comprehensible by the students.
- iv) The corrective material must permit individuals to progress according to their pace.
- v) The material should encourage systematic recording of evidence of pupils' progress.

Remedial Teaching

- After identifying the causes of the difficulties, the next stage is planning and applying remedial measures.
- There is however, no set pattern and no cut-and-ried formula for remediation. In some cases, it may be a simple matter of review and re-teaching.
- In others, an extensive effort to improve motivation, correction emotional difficulties and overcome deficiencies in work and study habits may be required.
- The hard fact is that, for the students having the same learning difficulty may have suffered it, because of different causes and may have to be tackled differently.
- Moreover, since each individual in unique, remedial programmes have to be planned accordingly.
- Obviously, the planning of remedial programmes will differ considerably from individual to individual.
- Despite the different methods and techniques needed in remediation,

Remedial Teaching...

- "Remedial teaching means special instruction intended to overcome in part or in whole any particular deficiency of pupil not due to inferior general ability, for example, remedial reading instruction for pupils with reading difficulties". **Carter**
- "Remedial teaching tries to be specific and exact. It attempts to find a procedure which will cause the child to correct his errors of the past and thus in a sense prevents future error." **Yokam**
- "Remedial teaching of course has one of its chief functions the remedying or removal of the effects of originally poor teaching and poor learning. It is thus concerned with the pupil who for one reason or another has formed ineffective methods of handling the tools of education.
- * It is based upon careful diagnosis of defects and causes and aims to correct weaknesses and eliminates bad habits which may be found". **Blair.**

Remedial Teaching -Salient features

- 1) Remedial instruction is a dynamic side of the diagnostic testing. Hence it depends on the educational diagnosis.
- 2) To overcome the difficulties in learning and in acquisition of skills is the main purpose of remedial instruction.
- 3) Remedial instruction is not only useful to cure the shortcomings but also in preventive measures.
- 4) Remedial instruction is a short term treatment.
- 5) Remedial instruction helps the below average students to be with the normal students in acquiring the common level of achievement.

Salient features of diagnostic test

1. A diagnostic test is more elaborate, covering all the minute aspects and will consist of a large number of items of different levels.
2. More than one item is included from each teaching point in order to make sure whether the students know thoroughly.
3. There is no time limit because it is not ability but weakness that is being evaluated.
4. Diagnostic testing may include a battery of tests necessary for a single unit.
5. A diagnostic test undertakes to provide a detailed picture of strengths and weaknesses in an area. It is anticipated that this detailed analysis will suggest causes for deficiencies and provide a guide for remedial procedures.
6. Diagnosis is after all, a matter of degree. The investigator may probe and analyse with varying degrees of thoroughness and detail.

Salient features of diagnostic test...

7. Diagnostic test is concerned with those pupils who are seriously deficient in some skill. The teacher is concerned with specific weaknesses of the weak.
 - Hence the desirable psychometric properties of a diagnostic test are quite different from those sought in a survey test. It is not cared whether the test will make differentiations among the top and bottom pupils.
7. Since all the subtests of a diagnostic test battery are related to some or one general area of skill, it is natural that the subtests show sizable inter-correlations. The pupil who is deficient in one skill is likely to be deficient in others.
8. The psychometric attributes desired in a survey test and in a diagnostic test are so contradictory that a test that serves well for one purpose will almost certainly be poor for the other.

Remedial Teaching -Principles

Blair has given following principles in remedial instruction

- i) Begin where the pupil is.
- ii) The pupil should be frequently informed of his progress.
- iii) The work must be real and vital to the pupil.
- iv) Definite satisfaction on the part of the pupil should accompany the work.
- v) Abundant and varied exercises and be provided.

Suggestions about remedial teaching

Following are some suggestions about remedial teaching :

- Do not think that the student requiring remedial teaching is a dull one.
- Do not assume that brilliant students need not require remedial teaching.
- Never start remediating without diagnosing the difficulties.
- Remedial teaching is not only essential in cognitive domain but also in affective and psychomotor domain.

Preparation of Remedial teaching materials

Preparation of remedial teaching materials for a crucial aspect. Remedial teaching material prepared should meet the following criteria.

The remedial teaching materials

- should be tackle to the child's readiness and maturity in the subject or skill to be improved.
- should provide a wide range of difficulty, covering several grades.
- should be designed to correct the students individual difficulties.
- Should be in adequate amount to correct the specific difficulties identified.
- should be self-directive.
- must permit individual rates of progress.
- A method should be provided for recording individual progress.

Thank You!