

INTRODUCTION

The information society challenges the education system. In recent years, the speedy, effective and global communication of knowledge has created a new foundation for co-operation and teamwork, both nationally and internationally. The increasing role played by information technology in the development of society calls for an active reaction to the challenges of the information society.



Educational policy in the information society must ensure that:

IT qualifications are developed by means of their integration in all activities in the education sector and the individual citizen must have an active and critical attitude to developments and not passively allow technological development to set the pace.

IT educational policy must ensure:

- Up-to-date qualifications in the information society
- Up-to-date qualifications gained against the background of a high general level of education in the information society. IT skills and IT understanding are thus central prerequisites for the individual, both now and especially in the future.

The advantage of using information technology is that time-consuming work routines can increasingly

be performed by means of this technology and time can thus be devoted instead to communicating and informing, to the processing of information and the production of knowledge.

Need of IT in Education

- Education is a lifelong process therefore anytime anywhere access to it is the need
- Information explosion is an ever increasing phenomena therefore there is need to get access to this information
- Education should meet the needs of variety of learners and therefore IT is important in meeting this need
- It is a requirement of the society that the individuals should posses technological literacy
- We need to increase access and bring down the cost of education to meet the challenges of illiteracy and poverty-IT is the answer



Importance of IT in Education

- access to variety of learning resources
- immediacy to information
- anytime learning

- anywhere learning
- collaborative learning
- multimedia approach to education
- authentic and up to date information
- access to online libraries
- teaching of different subjects made interesting
- educational data storage
- distance education
- access to the source of information
- multiple communication channels-e-mail, chat, forum, blogs, etc.
- access to open courseware
- better accesses to children with disabilities
- reduces time on many routine tasks



Significance of IT in education

Access to variety of learning resources

In the era of technology, IT aids plenty of resources to enhance the teaching skills and learning ability. With the help of IT now it is easy to provide audio visual education. The learning resources are being widens and widen. Now with this vivid and vast technique as part of the IT curriculum, learners are encouraged to regard computers as tools to be used in all aspects of their studies. In particular, they need to make use of the new multimedia technologies to communicate ideas, describe projects, and order information in their work.



Immediacy to information

IT has provided immediacy to education. Now in the year of computers and web networks the pace of imparting knowledge is very very fast and one can be educated anywhere at any time. For example, the traditional office, with secretaries working at keyboards and notes being written on paper and manually exchanged, has remained remarkably stable, even if personal computers have replaced typewriters.



Any time learning

Now in the year of computers and web networks the pace of imparting knowledge is very very fast and one can be educated .One can study whenever he wills irrespective of whether it is day or night because of the boom in IT.



Collaborative learning

Now IT has made it easy to study as well as teach in groups or in clusters. With online we can be unite

together to do the desired task. Efficient postal systems, the telephone (fixed and mobile), and various recording and playback systems based on computer technology all have a part to play in educational broadcasting in the new millennium. The Internet and its Web sites are now familiar to many children in developed countries and among educational elites elsewhere, but it remains of little significance to very many more, who lack the most basic means for subsistence.



Multimedia approach to education

Audio-Visual Education, planning, preparation, and use of devices and materials that involve sight, sound, or both, for educational purposes. Among the devices used are still and motion pictures, filmstrips, television, transparencies, audiotapes, records, teaching machines, computers, and videodiscs. The growth of audio-visual education has reflected developments in both technology and learning theory.



Authentic and up to date information

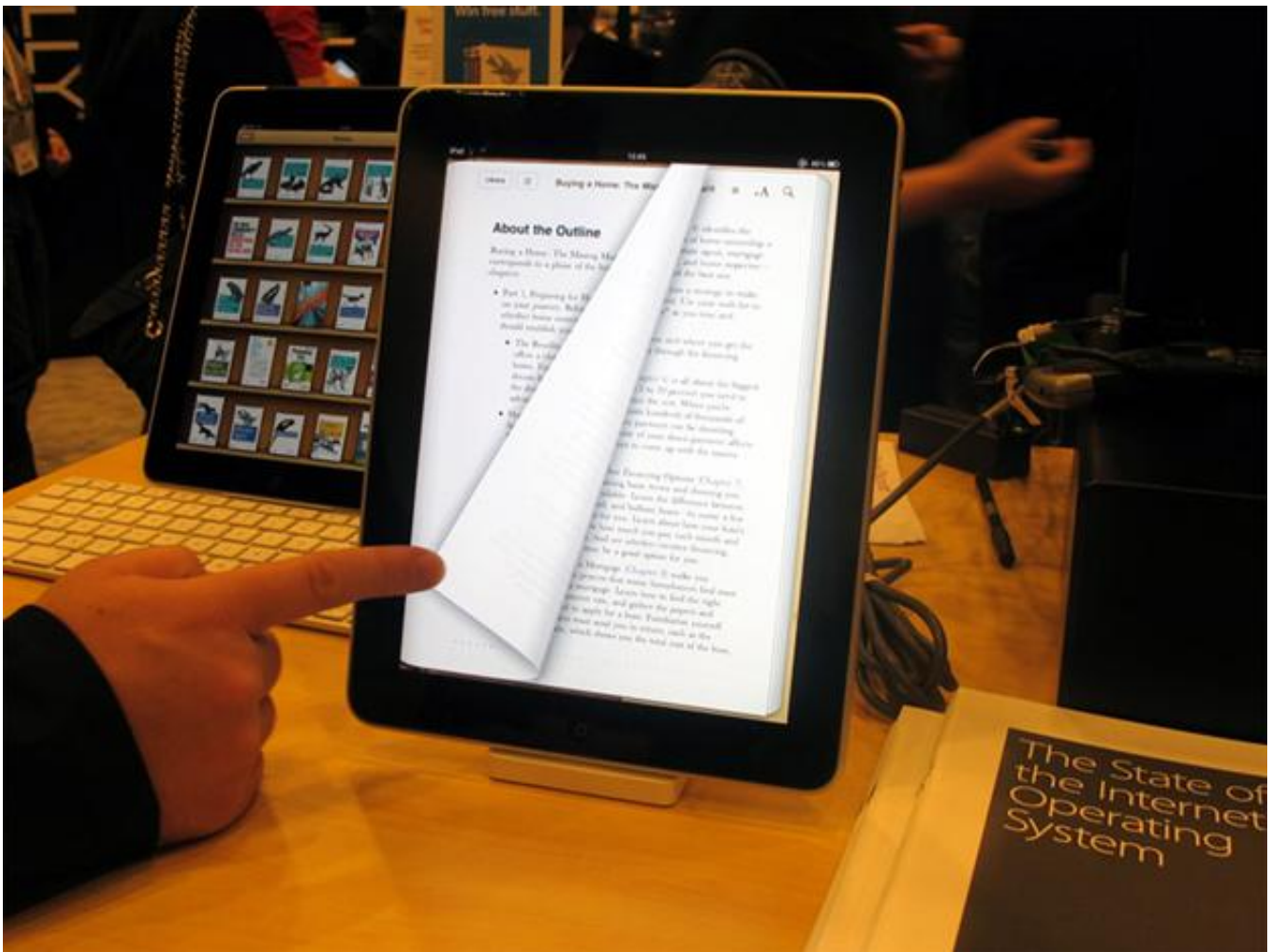
The information and data which are available on the net is purely correct and up to date. Internet, a collection of computer networks that operate to common standards and enable the computers and the programs they run to communicate directly provides true and correct information.



Online library

Internets support thousands of different kinds of operational and experimental services one of which is online library. We can get plenty of data on this online library.

As part of the IT curriculum, learners are encouraged to regard computers as tools to be used in all aspects of their studies. In particular, they need to make use of the new multimedia technologies to communicate ideas, describe projects, and order information in their work. This requires them to select the medium best suited to conveying their message, to structure information in a hierarchical manner, and to link together information to produce a multidimensional document.



Distance learning

Distance Learning, method of learning at a distance rather than in a classroom. Late 20th-century communications technologies, in their most recent phases multimedia and interactive, open up new possibilities, both individual and institutional, for an unprecedented expansion of home-based learning, much of it part-time. The term distance learning was coined within the context of a continuing communications revolution, largely replacing a hitherto confusing mixed nomenclature—home study, independent study, external study, and, most common, though restricted in pedagogic means, correspondence study.



Better accesses to children with disabilities

Information technology has brought drastic changes in the life of disabled children. IT provides various software and technique to educate these poor peoples. Unless provided early with special training, people profoundly deaf from birth are incapable of learning to speak. Deafness from birth causes severe sensory deprivation, which can seriously affect a person's intellectual capacity or ability to learn. A child who sustains a hearing loss early in life may lack the language stimulation experienced by children who can hear.

