

USING QAR STRATEGY TO ENHANCE STUDENTS' CRITICAL THINKING

SKILLS

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Abstract

This paper purposes to introduce role of critical thinking skills in education and importance of QAR (Question-Answer Relationship) strategy in learning/teaching process.

Keywords: Critical thinking, QAR (Question-Answer Relationship), strategy, study.

It is often emphasized that, aim of education is not only sharing information, give new knowledge and assess but also broad students' outlook , teach how to analyze and estimate knowledge , support their ideas . Additionally, students should be educated what to think : can clarify reason and result in other words it is called critical thinking. according to a survey by the Times Education Supplement, 85% of teachers in the world notice their students don't have the critical thinking ability they should have when they begin university. 93 percent of teachers in 82 countries across the globe approved that it's essential to grow up students' critical thinking skills but only 21% agreed that they have all the materials they need to develop these skills [3]. Also , scholar Wade (in Filsaime, 2008) proposes some elements of critical thinking skills namely: (1) asking questions, (2) identifying problems, (3) testing facts, (4) analyzing assumptions and biases, (5) avoiding emotional reasoning, (6) avoiding excessive simulations, (7) considering interpretation, and (8) tolerating multiple interpretations. Critical thinking skills can be obtained by the students if they are actively engaged in the process that challenges them to use rational thinking to collect, interpret and evaluate information to get a decision.

In Uzbekistan, government has done numerous amendments in national curriculum from pre-school level to higher education .Coursebooks are re-prepared according to standards of European countries which are designed to develop critical and analytical thinking of learners. Additionally , educators in educational establishments use critical thinking -based activities and strategies to motivate students thinking critically .Namely, problem-based strategies, project -based strategies and question based strategies.

One of the questioning strategies that can be implemented is the Question-Answer Relationship (QAR) strategy. Through this strategy, students are educated to digest how to answer questions based on the question types (Raphael & Au, 2005). The fundamental reason behind the name of this strategy is each question requires a various way of answering. For this reason, students are expected to comprehend the types of questions before they give answers. By understanding

the relationship between questions and answers, students can easily give maximum answers to the questions. The Question-Answer Relationship (QAR) strategy has been the subject of numerous prior research, and it has proven to be quite successful in assisting students in improving their reading comprehension. First, a study conducted in Singapore in 1996 by Hoon, et al. (2007) indicated that this method helped students who were trying to understand the text. Additionally, their students responded well to the Question-Answer Relationship technique, stating that it gave them more confidence to respond to the questions on their test papers. Second, in 2012, 4th-grade students from elementary schools in New York participated in an experimental study by Cummins, Streiff, and Ceprano. Finally, Nugroho (2012) studied the Question-Answer Relationship technique and the direct teaching method in Indonesia that same year. According to the findings of his research, students who received instruction using the Question-Answer Relationship technique performed better on their post-test than those who received instruction via direct teaching. It follows that this approach is more successful in assisting pupils in improving their reading comprehension than direct teaching techniques. By the way of conclusion, it should be noted that modern pedagogy focuses on bring up smart generation professionally as well as their critical thinking skills. In order to improve students' thinking critically questioning strategies such as QAR strategy is at the top of the list. Therefore, current educators and instructors highly recommend to exploit it. It can be seen from various investigations which it was discussed.

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