Investigation of Optimal Pedagogical Approaches for Generation Z to Develop a High-Caliber Generation

Surya Atmaja¹*, Ibnu Khalid¹
¹Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas Malikussaleh, Aceh, Indonesia

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*Corresponding author:
Surya Atmaja

E-mail address: surya.atmaja@gmail.com
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ABSTRACT

Generation Z is a generation that was raised with the convenient availability of technology devices, including smartphones, tablets, and computers. They are familiar with digital settings and strongly enjoy using technology in the teaching and learning process. Hence, conventional educational approaches that were successful in the past may not adequately meet the needs of Generation Z, who is enthusiastic about embracing a more interconnected and technologically advanced society. The literature search was conducted across multiple databases (PubMed, Web of Sciences, EMBASE, Cochrane Libraries, and Google Scholar) to identify the most efficacious educational approaches for generation Z, with the aim of fostering the development of individuals of high caliber. Granting students autonomy in both subject matter and instructional methods enhances their motivation and involvement. The differentiation learning paradigm enables students to access content that aligns with their individual interests and aptitudes. Engaging in the resolution of practical issues fosters the development of problem-solving and critical thinking abilities. Utilizing cooperation and interaction in both in-person and virtual learning environments aids in the cultivation of social and collaborative abilities for generation Z. Aside from academic content, it is crucial to impart soft skills, such as proficient communication, creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking abilities, to equip individuals to confront practical obstacles. An effective education for generation Z necessitates the integration of these components to establish a learning atmosphere that is pertinent, inspiring, and equips them for triumph in a constantly evolving world. Thus, generation Z can cultivate the essential aptitudes and evolve into individuals who are well-equipped to confront forthcoming obstacles.

1. Introduction

Generation Z, born around the mid-1990s to the mid-2010s, is a group of individuals who grew up in an era of technology that never stops developing. The significant differences between generation Z and previous generations in terms of exposure to technology and social change have given rise to new challenges and opportunities in education. Therefore, it is important for modern education to identify and implement the most effective educational methods to meet the unique needs of generation Z. Generation Z is a group that grew up with easy access to technological devices, such as smartphones, tablets, and computers. They are accustomed to digital environments and have a strong preference for the use of technology in the teaching and learning process. Therefore, traditional educational methods that may have been effective for previous generations may not be sufficient for Generation Z who is eager to live life in an increasingly connected and digital world.¹⁻⁵

This study aims to explore the most effective educational methods for generation Z, focusing on approaches that utilize technology, active engagement, problem-based learning, and adaptation to constant changes in the world of education. Effective educational methods for generation Z are not just about providing information, but also about helping them develop relevant skills, creativity, and the ability to think critically in facing the challenges of an uncertain future.
2. Methods

The literature search process was carried out on various databases (PubMed, Web of Sciences, EMBASE, Cochrane Libraries, and Google Scholar) regarding the most effective educational methods for generation Z in order to create quality humans. The search was performed using the terms: (1) "method" OR "education" OR "effective" OR "learning" AND (2) "generation Z" OR "quality." The literature is limited to studies and published in English. The literature selection criteria are articles published in the form of original articles about the most effective educational methods in generation Z in order to create quality humans, studies were conducted in a timeframe from 2013-2023, and the main outcome was the most effective educational methods in generation Z in order to create quality humans. Meanwhile, the exclusion criteria were studies that were not related to the most effective educational methods in generation Z in order to create quality humans, the absence of a control group, and duplication of publications. This study follows the preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analysis (PRISMA) recommendations.

3. Results and Discussion

Problem-based learning

An approach that allows students to solve real-world problems is one of the important elements in effective educational methods for generation Z. When students feel that their learning has direct relevance to everyday life and are able to solve the problems they face, they tend to be more motivated to study. This helps encourage their interest and interest in the subject matter. Solving real-world problems involves strong critical thinking and problem-solving processes. Students learn to analyze situations, identify problems, and design effective solutions. These skills are very valuable in various aspects of life, including the world of work. When students attempt to solve problems, they tend to understand the subject
matter more deeply because they see the connection between theory and its application in real-world situations. This can increase their understanding and enable continued knowledge. This approach often involves teamwork, where students work together to solve problems. It develops the social, collaboration and communication skills needed in the real world. When students successfully solve real-world problems, they feel successful and satisfied with their achievements. This can increase their confidence and interest in further learning. In generation Z education, it is important to provide sufficient opportunities for students to face real-world problems, whether through projects, simulations, or relevant assignments. This will help them develop important skills and be ready to face the challenges of an ever-changing world.6-10

**Learning customization**

Giving students choice in what they learn and how they learn is one effective strategy in generation Z education. When students feel they have control over their learning process, they tend to be more engaged in the subject matter. They feel they have an understanding of what they are learning and feel given greater responsibility for their education. Each student has different interests, talents and ability levels. By providing choices, teachers can accommodate this diversity and ensure that each student can learn in the way that is most effective for them. Allowing students to choose helps them feel empowered and in control of their own learning. This can help them develop decision-making skills and a sense of responsibility. When students have the ability to choose what they learn, they are more likely to feel motivated. They can choose topics that suit their interests, which can increase their enthusiasm in the learning process. Allowing students to make choices about what they learn helps them develop critical thinking skills. They must consider their options and identify effective strategies. To implement this approach, teachers can utilize the differentiation learning model. This involves adapting materials, methods, and assessments to suit individual student needs and characteristics. By focusing on each student’s interests and ability levels, teachers can create more relevant and meaningful learning experiences. It is important to create an environment where students feel heard and valued, where they can participate in the learning process, and where their decisions are respected. Thus, this approach can help increase the motivation, engagement and learning outcomes of generation Z.11-13

**Collaborative learning**

Collaboration is an important aspect of generation Z education because they are growing up in an era where online communication and teamwork are very common. Collaboration allows students to interact with their peers. This helps them develop social skills, such as communication, cooperation, and conflict resolution. It also allows them to learn how to interact positively in a variety of contexts. The ability to work in a team is an important skill in the modern world of work. Through collaboration in learning, students learn to divide tasks, plan projects together, and complete assignments as a group. This teaches them about roles and responsibilities in a team. In collaborative situations, students often have to explain, discuss, and teach material to their peers. This allows them to understand the material in more depth because they have to master the concepts to explain to others. Collaboration allows students to provide emotional support to each other. They can share experiences, worries and difficulties in learning. This creates a supportive environment and builds solidarity among students. Online collaboration also provides opportunities for students to develop technology skills, such as using collaborative platforms, communicating via social media, and utilizing digital tools in learning. It is important to integrate collaborative learning methods in the curriculum, whether in the form of group projects, online discussions, or joint projects. This will help generation Z understand the importance of collaboration and prepare them to participate in an increasingly connected and global society. Apart from that, this method can also increase student motivation and involvement in the learning process.14-16
Emphasis on soft skills

Apart from academic material, teaching relevant soft skills is the key to preparing generation Z for success in the real world. These soft skills are important because they often play a critical role in personal and professional success. The ability to communicate clearly, both orally and in writing, is an invaluable skill. This helps students interact well in a variety of contexts, including in presentations, discussions, and collaboration. Creativity is the ability to think outside the box, find innovative solutions, and see problems from different points of view. These skills enable students to become more effective problem solvers and powerful innovators. Problem-solving skills involve the ability to identify problems, gather necessary information, analyze situations, and develop effective solutions. Students who are adept at problem-solving can face challenges with confidence. Critical thinking skills involve critical evaluation of information, arguments, and ideas. Students who have critical thinking skills can make informed decisions and avoid superficial thinking. In a world that is constantly changing, the ability to adapt quickly is critical. Students need to learn to accept change, innovate, and move out of their comfort zones. Managing time efficiently is an invaluable skill in everyday life and career. Students need to understand how to manage their time, set priorities, and avoid procrastination. The ability to work in a team, collaborate with a variety of people, and respect differences of opinion are important skills in the modern world of work. Effective education must include the development of these soft skills as an integral part of the curriculum. Additionally, engaging students in situations that encourage them to develop these skills in real-world contexts, such as collaborative projects, presentations, and discussions, is also critical. Thus, generation Z will have a strong foundation for success in various aspects of their lives.17-20

4. Conclusion

Giving students a choice in what they learn and how they learn helps increase motivation and engagement. The differentiation learning model allows students to get material that suits their interests and ability level. Solving real-world problems develops problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Leveraging collaboration and communication in learning, both physical and online, helps generation Z develop social and collaboration skills. In addition to academic material, teaching soft skills such as effective communication, creativity, problem solving, and critical thinking skills is important to prepare them to face real-world challenges. Effective education for generation Z must combine these elements to create a learning environment that is relevant, motivating, and prepares them for success in an ever-changing world. In this way, generation Z can develop the necessary skills and become individuals who are ready to face future challenges.

5. References


