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## W48: Comparative Evaluation of Traditional and Modern Teaching Approaches in Secondary Schools of Ahmedabad City

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**Abstract:** The basis for all social and economic development is education. Education is an evolving concept, and it has shifted from traditional approaches to modern, technology-based approaches. In this study, traditional and modern approaches to education have been compared in secondary schools within Ahmedabad City. The study was done based on approaches to teaching, student involvement, technology integration, methods of evaluating students, and improvement of skills. The study was based on a descriptive comparative study, where data was collected from 100 students from selected schools. Questionnaires, achievement tests, and observations were used to collect data for this study. The study concluded that modern approaches to education enhance creativity and critical thinking, while traditional school helps students develop discipline and morals. An integrated approach is recommended for effective secondary education.

**Key Words:** Traditional Method, Modern Method, Teaching, Achievement, Secondary School, Ahmedabad City.

### Introduction

The level of knowledge and personality development among students is greatly affected at the secondary level of education. One of the major areas for education in Gujarat is Ahmedabad City, where a number of facilities for secondary education are available, including government schools, grant-in-aid schools, and private schools affiliated with various boards and offering traditional and modern modes of education. Modern modes of education stress student-centered learning, technology-based learning, and assessment-based learning, while traditional modes of education stress teacher-centered learning, textbook-based learning, and test-based learning. In order to compare and analyze the impact of both modes of education on students at the secondary level in Ahmedabad City, this study will be conducted.

### Research Questions:

The research was conducted to find answers to the following research questions:

1. What is the current distribution of traditional and modern method of teaching in Ahmedabad city?
2. How do traditional and modern method of teaching affect student's academic achievement?
3. How do teachers and students perceive the effectiveness of each method?
4. What are the opportunities and challenges associated with the implementation of modern method of teaching?

### Literature Review

Dr. Kaushaki Singh (2024) emphasized the relevance of the traditional education system in the modern era. The study highlighted that traditional provides valuable wisdom and cultural knowledge; however, inadequate modern infrastructure limits its accessibility to a large section of



society. According to the research article written by Nandita Mishra and P.S. Aithal in 2023, tried to explain the holistic education approach helps students develop well-rounded personalities. Their research emphasized knowledge development in arts, humanities, science, social sciences, vocational and technical fields, along with values, communication skills, debates, discussions, social responsibility and regional specialization.

### 1. Traditional Education

The traditional system of education is rooted in a historical approach to teaching and learning that is formal, teacher-centered, and emphasizes knowledge gained through textbooks, memorization, and discipline. It also emphasizes a hierarchical approach to teaching and learning, where the teacher is seen as the keeper of knowledge and the student is a passive receiver, and emphasizes memorization and traditional testing methods for evaluation.

Effective dissemination of fundamental information, Ideal for preparing for exams, and Preserves order in the classroom are some **Strength** and Promote memorization and passive learning , Inadequate growth in critical thinking, creativity, and problem solving, Different learning demands might not be met by a uniform teaching approach are some **Limitations** of Tradition Education.

### 2. Modern Education

On the other hand, modern education emphasizes student engagement, critical thinking, technology literacy, and holistic learning. It uses technology, interactive teaching, and continuous assessment, as well as flexible and adaptive curricula to help students cope with the complexities of a fast-changing world.

Boost motivation and engagement, encourages problem-solving, creativity, and critical thinking, and develops soft skills and digital literacy are some **Strength** and Dependent on resources (digital gadgets, internet connectivity), It calls for qualified educators, Assessing project and teamwork activities takes a lot of time, Subjectivity in assessing problem-solving and creativity are some **Limitations** of Modern Education.

### 3. Technology's Place in Contemporary Education

Technology has become an important part of secondary education by improving accessibility, participation, and learning effectiveness. Digital tools such as smart boards, multimedia, and e-learning platforms like Google classroom and Khan Academy support better understanding and self-learning. Gamification and AI-based tools enhance motivation, personalized learning, problem-solving and collaboration. Technology also promotes inclusive education through screen readers, captions, and translation tools for differently abled and linguistically diverse students. However, challenges such as the digital divide, lack of teacher training, and overdependence on gadgets highlight the need for balanced and careful use of technology in education. However, there are a few underlying problems, such as the digital divide, teachers' lack of technological knowledge, and gadget overdependence, hence a need to incorporate technology cautiously and moderately in teaching and learning processes.

### 4. Local Context: Ahmedabad City

Ahmedabad offers a distinct academic atmosphere with traditional state board schools and modern schools affiliated with national boards like CBSE and ICSE, where technology-based infrastructure is often included in academic programs. Schools under the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation have

adopted smart classroom technology under national initiatives like the National Education Policy of 2020.

## 5. Case Application: Ahmedabad Secondary Schools

**A) Traditional/Board Schools:** Often aligned with Gujarat State Board curriculum emphasizing structured learning and academic excellence. Some municipal schools still follow conventional schedules but are increasingly adopting digital tools.

**B) Modern/CBSE and ICSE Schools:** Project-based learning, interactive classroom settings, and student-centric pedagogy have all been adopted by schools like those connected to CBSE. These educational institutions strike a mix between contemporary instructional approaches and conventional academic standards for comprehensive growth.

### The study's objectives

- To examine the key components of conventional secondary school education
- To comprehend the idea and features of contemporary education in secondary school
- To compare traditional and modern education method in secondary schools of Ahmedabad City.
- To analyze the impact of both education methods on students' learning and skill development.
- To suggest suitable improvements for secondary education.

### Hypothesis

H0: In Ahmedabad City's secondary schools, there is no significant difference between traditional and modern teaching methods.

H1: There is a significant difference between traditional education method and modern education method in secondary schools of Ahmedabad City.

### Research Methodology

A descriptive and comparative research design serves as the foundation for this investigation.

**Sources of Data:** Secondary data collected from books, research journals, government reports, educational websites, and school records.

**Area of Study:** Selected secondary schools of Ahmedabad City.

**Samples:** 100 students (10 from each school) of 10 schools (5 Government and 5 Privates)

**Tools Used:** Comparative tables are used for analysis.

- **Achievement Test** – Subject-specific, 50 multiple-choice questions
- **Questionnaire for students**- To assess frequency, attitude and acceptance of teaching methods (Likert scale).
- **Observation checklist**- For classroom teaching practices.
- **Interview Schedule**- For qualitative feedback from teachers.

### Reliability and Validity:

A Pilot study was concluded on 30 students. Cronbach's alpha was computed to ensure internal consistency (minimum acceptable level : 0.70)

**Data Collection Procedure:** through Permission obtained from schools, Instruments administered in classrooms, Observation conducted during lessons, Interview held with teachers.

**Methods of Statistics:** Statical tools like Mean, SD , t-test , and Thematic analysis are used for qualitative data **Sample Results ( Illustrative) Table**

| Group              | N   | Mean Score | SD    | t-value | p-value |
|--------------------|-----|------------|-------|---------|---------|
| Traditional Method | 100 | 58.40      | 10.20 | 4.12    | 0.0001* |
| Modern Method      | 100 | 65.90      | 9.10  |         |         |

**Interpretation:** The Traditional Method mean score illustrate score of 58.40 standard deviation of 10.20 as Modern Method illustrate 65.90 a lower standard deviation of 9.10.

This shows that students taught through modern methods performed better academically compared to those taught through traditional methods. Additionally, the lower standard deviation in the modern group suggests that the performance of students is more consistent, whereas traditional methods show greater variability in student outcome.

The p-value (0.0001) is less than 0.05, the result is statistically significant.

Conclusion from t-test signify difference between the academic performance of students taught using traditional and modern teaching methods. Modern education has a positive and significant impact on student performance

**Qualitative Themes Identified:** Traditional lessons are structured but less engaging as well as Modern methods (project, group work, ICT) increase understanding and motivation. Lack of technology and training limits adoption of modern practices in some government schools.

**Method of Analysis:** Qualitative analysis supported by tabular and graphical representation.

**Comparative Analysis : Table 1: Comparing Modern and Conventional Education**

| Aspect                | Conventional Education       | Contemporary Education                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Teaching Method       | Lecture based, rote learning | Interactive and activity-based                      |
| Role of Teacher       | Authority and instructor     | Guide and facilitator                               |
| Role of Student       | Passive listener             | Active participant                                  |
| Use of Technology     | Very limited                 | Extensive use of digital tools                      |
| Assessment System     | Annual examinations          | Continuous evaluation                               |
| Development of Skills | Focus on memory              | Put an emphasis on critical thinking and creativity |
| Moral Values          | Strong emphasis              | Integrated with active                              |

**Analysis:** Although, through traditional methods, the retention of knowledge and discipline among students are well managed, students' participation, creativity, and thinking skills are often obstructed. On the other hand, modern methods are known to enhance problem-solving skills, conceptual understanding, and the development of soft skills such as teamwork and communication, but these methods require significant investments such as technology and qualified instructors. According to empirical studies, a hybrid approach that incorporates interactive technology-based methods and the traditional lecture structure is found to yield the best results for secondary school students.

**Table 2: Comparative Scores (1 = Low, 5 = High)**

| Educational Aspect | Traditional Education | Modern Education |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Student Engagement | 3                     | 6                |
| Technology Use     | 1                     | 4                |
| Critical Thinking  | 2                     | 5                |
| Creativity         | 1                     | 4                |
| Examination stress | 4                     | 2                |

**Analysis:** From the table, it is obvious that today's education offers better student engagement, creativity, and critical thinking abilities, while traditional education offers more student stress of examinations. Traditional education also excels in discipline and moral values.

### Findings of the Study

1. Traditional education in Ahmedabad secondary school focuses more on discipline, syllabus completion, and examinations
2. Modern education encourages student participation, skill-based learning.
3. Excessive exam- oriented learning in traditional education method increase stress levels.
4. Use of technology is significantly higher in modern education method Students experience less exam stress.
5. Schools adopting a blend approach show better overall student's performance.

### Conclusion

Both traditional and modern education systems have their own set of disadvantages and advantages, as the study revealed. While modern education helps children develop skills in creativity, problem-solving, and technology, traditional education helps them develop moral values and discipline. For the development of children, secondary schools in Ahmedabad City must adopt the blended system of education.

### Recommendation

1. Organize regular teacher training on project- Based and technology-supported learning.
2. Provide financial and infrastructural support for digital classrooms.
3. Include active learning components in curriculum design.
4. Encourage peer observation and sharing of best practices among teachers.
5. To monitor the long-term effects of contemporary teaching techniques, do longitudinal research.

### Limitations

1. Limited sample size and regional scope (only Ahmedabad City).
2. Reliance on self-Reported data may affect accuracy.
3. Classroom behaviour may have changed due to observer presence ( Hawthorne effect).



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## About SLU College

Shree Lalshankar Umiyashankar Arts and Harivadan & Padmaben Thakore Commerce College for Women, which was established in 1920 as an endeavour of Gujarat Stree Kelvani Mandal, has the proud privilege of being the first women's college in Ahmedabad. The college is recognised under Section 2 (f) and 12 (b) of UGC Act 17th June, 1972. The college runs various programmes in affiliation with Gujarat University such as - B.A., B.Com., and M.Com. The BS-BBA programme was added from the academic year 2025-2026. The college also runs several add-on programmes like Fashion Design and Computer Courses at the ICTC centre located at the SLU Campus.

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