

Table of Contents

| Unit | Title | Page |
|------|---|------|
| | Introduction | 1 |
| 1. | Reading one: Educational Technology | 3 |
| | Reading Two: The Growth of e-Learning and Blended Learning | 11 |
| 2. | Reading one: Benefits of Educational Technology | 16 |
| | Reading Two: Digital Divide | 23 |
| 3. | Reading one: Educational technology and Learning Perspectives | 28 |
| | Reading Two: How Do We Define Learning? | 37 |
| 4. | Reading one: Theoretical Approaches to Educational Technology | 43 |
| | Reading Two: Educational Technology as Strategy | 50 |
| 5. | Reading one: Three Concepts of Educational Technology | 55 |
| | Reading Two: Judging the Success of an Educational Technology | 62 |
| 6. | Reading one: Instructional Media and Technologies for Learning | 69 |
| | Reading Two: The Role of Media in Instruction | 78 |
| 7. | Reading one: Systematic Planning for Media Use: The ASSURE Model | 83 |
| | Reading Two: The ABCD's of Well-Stated Objectives | 91 |
| 8. | Reading one: Computers in Education | 98 |
| | Reading Two: Educational Radio and Television | 104 |
| 9. | Reading one: What Is the Prognosis for Computers in Education in the Future? (Part I) | 109 |
| | Reading Two: What Is the Prognosis for Computers in Education in the Future? (Part II) | 116 |
| 10. | Reading one: The Internet and its Educational Possibilities | 122 |
| | Reading Two: Guarding against the Misuses of the Internet | 130 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 11. Reading one: Incorporating the Internet into the Classroom | 134 |
| Reading Two: The Internet and the Teacher’s Responsibility | 142 |
| 12. Reading one: The Textbook | 147 |
| Reading Two: Third World Textbooks in International Context | 154 |
| 13. Reading one: Still Visual Media | 162 |
| Reading Two: Types of Filmstrips | 168 |
| 14. Reading one: Photography | 174 |
| Reading Two: Taking Pictures | 180 |
| 15. Reading one: Videodiscs | 187 |
| Reading Two: Electronic Learning Aids | 193 |
| 16. Reading one: Television | 198 |
| Reading Two: Broadcast Media, Individual Learning Styles, and Learning Goals | 205 |
| 17. Reading one: Radio (Part I) | 211 |
| Reading Two: Radio (Part II) | 217 |
| Referenced..... | 222 |

Introduction

This book is written for the students of educational technology who wish to pursue their studies in English in order to benefit from and contribute to what is available in their areas of interest worldwide. It consists of 17 units, each concentrating on a particular theme or topic relevant to the needs and aspirations of these students. To develop or select appropriate materials, care was taken to consult subject matter professors and also authentic materials which appear on the web or in current textbooks and scholarly articles.

For the purposes of this edition, two new units discussing recent developments in educational technology, including the growth of e-learning and the pros and cons of the web, have helped enrich the previous edition. To make room for the new topics, a limited number of language tasks and activities were omitted from each unit.

Concerning the main features of the units, attempt has been made to include tasks and activities following each reading text to ensure better comprehension, vocabulary development, and also the consolidation of materials previously covered. Some of these activities include comprehension checks, word parts, word families, words in context, written and oral production of language, and also translation activities.

It must be admitted that since the web technology today is

expanding at a pace not so easy to keep up with, no textbook can cover all that is invented or developed on almost a daily basis, especially considering cost and time limitations. This book is no exception. I hope that students of educational technology will find the content, language and tasks provided in this book relevant to their expectations.

I am sure that this book, like many others, has its own shortcomings. Therefore, your criticisms, comments and suggestions for further improvement of the next edition will be greatly appreciated.

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