Resident’s Assignment

Resident’s name: Ramneet Kaur Taneja

Course Name: Perspectives in Education - Philosophy

Faculty: Dr Deepti P Mehrotra

Assignment No.: POE (Phil) - 1

Date of giving Assignment: 13th July

Date of submission of Assignment: 17th July

**Assignment based on the readings by Aurobindo; and the Mother**

Please answer any one of the following. Your answer should be within 750-850 words

1. Which of the following aspects yourself -- physical, vital, mental and psychic/spiritual -- do you think your own schooling addressed, and how well was it done? Based on your reflections, in what ways would you ensure that you address all these aspects when you work as a school teacher? (Please provide concrete examples from your own experience and observations.)
2. Imagine that you are a school teacher. In what ways do you think you would incorporate `the three principles of true teaching’ in your daily practice? You may imagine a day in your life as a teacher, as you write this answer, and try to make it as detailed as possible. (Please provide concrete examples from your own experience and observations.)

Your Answer 1: I have done my schooling from Government school, so my learning experience from my early childhood till my adolescent years was Terrible☹. When I talk about my development areas during my education, was only vital (I am not sure whether was vital or not). As I never used to be good in academics, I used to enjoy music activities. My music teacher was Mrs. Das, she recognized my hidden talent in music. She always used to select me for musicals events and competitions, earlier I used to perform just as per her instructions or sayings, later on my interest towards music increased, then I started participated in competitions not only in singing also in dance. I have lots of certificates for the same, which really make feel happy even now when I look at them. So that was the time where realized there is something special in me, and started enjoying that phase of my life (from 8th standard to 10th standard). I also participated in Republic day parade in 1998 which is one of my favorite event. Although I was in 10th standard still I convinced my parents for this, it was really a proud phase of my life. In 10th I didn’t had good percentage so I took vocational subjects – Beauty culture and hair dressing. There also my vital development took place, I got good percentage in 12th standard, and reason behind my performance was Practicality, as in beauty culture and hairdressing we used to learn by practically without textbooks. As my education was never in interesting way, so didn’t enjoyed my education at all. As my father used to believe that teaching profession is suitable for girls, so I also didn’t put my choice forward to learn more about beauty culture, so I got enrolled in NNT. There also I realized I am having good hand in drawings and I used to enjoy coloring and making projects. Till then I understood well that I couldn’t do anything big in academics so I have to perform best here. There one of my teachers Mrs. Tully used to appreciate my work and used to encourage me for rhymes recitation helped me to understand voice modulation. Here I did well in academics as well because there activities and syllabus used to be interested.

With my personal experience I believe I couldn’t understand the concepts of my study well, so my motive would be to make those type of lesson plans where kids take interests on them well, such as to introduce any topic will ask relevant questions first and then slowly introduce the concept in interesting way with the help of props and teaching tools. My preference would be introducing the concepts from Near to Far (Inspired by Aurobindo’s 3rd principle) things which are around and home grown, will for sure not introduce alien things to them, as we used to learn, in first period – fractions, in second – day and night, in third – world history and so and so…all irrelevant. I believe subjects if teaching differently should have some interconnection in between, so that child don’t get confuse between. For physical growth I will prefer to help them to understand their own body by developing good habits in them. For mental growth will try to motivate them to ask question or will try to dig them with interesting questions. For vital will try to give them opportunities where they can decide and take their own decisions, will try not to impose my idea will ask them to help me with their ideas. Will not differentiate between genders and motivate each child equally to grow and learn together. Will for sure help the child to respect his individuality but not egoism, which will help them to lead spiritual life, such as by not pointing out their mistakes openly but discussing their mistakes separately and help them to accept their mistakes and apologies with their peers.

Now as a student here in IAAT I am getting exposure in all the aspect. As teacher for sure my hidden music talent and my good hand in drawing and coloring will help me to make interesting lesson plans and activities for the little ones. However I didn’t got exposure in all the aspects, I would like to help my students to grow in all the areas and blossom beautifully.

**Feedback from Faculty**

Ramneet,

You write quite well so I am a bit surprised to learn that you were not good at academics when you were in school! There is a spontaneity and flow to your writing. Of course there is scope for improvement too!

Your answer is interesting – the overall emphasis on vital education in your case led you to recognize your talents in music and art, and you have learnt to appreciate these. You have won appreciation from others too, and you can see how these will be of great use to you as a teacher.

It is heartening that you are determined to see to it that in your teaching, you will try to address each aspect of the child.