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DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

With further development and sustainable improvement of sophisticated technologies, informatization of the educational environment is becoming increasingly important. The present-day social development phase poses a number of fundamentally new challenges for the education system, particularly – the need for improvement of quality and accessibility of education, development of optimal educational systems and creation of greater synergy between different educational levels. The use of computer technologies is one of the most effective approaches to face these issues.

Effectiveness of the use of computer technologies in the educational process, especially the illustrated teaching tools, the realization of their didactic capabilities is undoubtedly the most important requirement. The use of forms of visualization, which not only supplement verbal information, but also act as carriers of information, should contribute to increasing the intellectual activity of students. Tables, charts, diagrams, audio visual aids, etc. are integral elements of printed and electronic educational materials and play an essential role in the development of intellectual and cognitive activity of students.

Computer-aided technologies facilitated establishment of a whole new educational environment as a basis for further development and modernization of the education system. Computer technologies are essential to all levels of the educational system. At each stage of cognitive process and research activities, and in all branches of knowledge, computer technologies perform both as a tool and object of study. Thus, innovations in computer technologies enable revolutionary development of the educational process. Computer-aided technologies are a part of innovative technologies that ensure rapid accumulation of intellectual potential, which guarantees the sustainable development of society.

Appropriateness of the use of computer technologies in the educational process is justified by the fact that is enables effective implementation of such didactic principles as accessibility, visibility, consciousness, activity, etc.

Computer technologies provide the following opportunities for the educational process:

- to organize cognitive activities in a rational way;
- to engage students with different abilities and study habits to active learning process;
- to enhance effectiveness of the learning process by involving all psycho-sensory abilities of students;
- to ensure acquisition and consolidation of professional skills;
- to increase the level of self-education and motivation for learning;
- to provide large amount of knowledge for a student;
- to develop thinking and creative abilities;
- to handle various sources of information;
- to implement global trends in education;
- to gain access to the global information space.

Computer-based technologies offer opportunities for the development of open education system. Methods and techniques used for preparation of the learning content are being improved. Automation of many routine operations delivers additional flexibility to the education system, so it reacts to changes in the surrounding world more rapidly. Modern methods of organizing educational materials increase their effectiveness, and introduction of computer-based technologies makes it possible to select optimal set of technologies for the organization of the educational process, improve responsiveness and adequacy of the management mechanisms of education systems.

Due to computer technologies, the readers can stand down from routine teaching operations intrinsic to traditional learning approaches in favour of smart forms of work. Thus they would no longer have to present a good part of the materials. Through the use of new technologies, the student can both learn the subject better and make use of the skills acquired.

However, no matter how beneficial an innovation might be, one should not forget about the related drawbacks:

- appropriate hardware/software is needed;
- excessive automation impersonates the process, moving its participants apart from each other; the use of computer technologies limits social interaction and personal human communication;
- computer-based educational process does not give students the skill to announce their standpoint, developing a habit of using electronically generated sparknotes;
- develops computer addiction.

Based on all the above, the following conclusions can be drawn:

- computer tools have a number of advantages over traditional teaching aids;
- the learning process shall not be based solely on information and communication technologies.
- computer technologies require appropriate hardware and infrastructure, timely updating of the equipment;
- possible negative effects shall be taken into account.

At the modern stage of legal development of society, in the era of global informatization, significance of computer technologies for the education system shall be neither ignored nor intentionally downplayed. It is important to keep in mind that computer technology is not the only solution, but a useful training tool in hands of a skilled reader, who should have great skills and experience to find a golden mean for the use of computer technologies in the educational process.