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Question 1

Based on the research conducted, one of the most important skills is being well-versed in technology. An Educational Technology degree prepares students to integrate technology with education in the classrooms through online learning and computer assisted-instructions to improve learning and teaching. These technological programs for the school allow students to explore and interact with digital tools for their schooling (Foulger et al., 2017). Therefore an Ed Tech graduate must be up to date on the current technology to facilitate digital learning. For instance, an Educational Technology Specialist should be able to design, identify, and incorporate technology programs and tools in a school learning environment. In addition, the developed educational software needs to be user-friendly for the teaching faculty and students.

Second, the ability to train is a vital skill in Educational Technology. The teachers and students need to understand how to operate the digital learning tools; therefore, they need to have the ability to teach them step-by-step and also provide technical support. They also need to assist faculty in evaluating new instructional hardware and software while incorporating new strategies into teaching materials (Foulger et al., 2017). For example, an Educational Technology Consultant will have to initiate, develop, and lead training sessions and workshops for both faculty and students. They can conduct these sessions one-on-one or in groups depending on the intensity of the learning programs and schedules. Additionally, aside from training, teachers need to have the skills to teach students using technological aids like the internet or LCD projectors in a classroom. They need to know how to upload assignments online and readings using web boards, using presentation software during teaching, and video conferencing.

¹ Hard skills are acquired through learning and practical work, while soft skills can be achieved through self-development. One of the hard skills in educational technology is

developing educational software for digital learning. This is a challenging skill because one has to practice building the software from scratch to be user friendly for the students and faculty members. The second hard skill is learning how to operate the developed digital tools before teaching them (Pezer, 2015). For instance, teachers need to familiarize themselves or undergo training on how to use digital programs, tools, and software to facilitate digital learning in class. The soft skill in educational technology is problem-solving skills. This skill is essential because it helps the teacher solve issues that may arise during teaching, such as a technical glitch. They should be able to settle the issue for learning to continue. The second soft skill is teamwork. Teamwork is essential in every aspect because it helps to make work easier, especially during software development.

Question 2

To manage a culturally diverse classroom, teachers need to build a relationship with each student. This strategy helps teachers to understand their student's behavior and how it connects to their studies. It also ensures that every student feels valued and respected by their teachers regardless of their culture. Recognizing their students' differences by building a relationship with them allows teachers to implement culturally responsive teaching practices in the classroom that ensure they are academically successful (Berg, 2020). Students can also create a harmonious learning environment in the classroom because they are treated as equals, and it allows them to be who they are and still have support from classmates and teachers. Also, during this time, teachers can adapt their teaching methods to suit their students to help them learn best. For instance, shy students can start asking questions in class and participating in group discussions. This shows that embracing the students' culture and building a relationship with them instill courage.

Teachers need to consider their students' language skills and culture when developing instructional activities and learning objectives. Teachers can achieve this by including their students' cultural backgrounds in the curriculum, such as literature, arts, and historical events. Most students will take pride in this because of inclusivity; this would encourage other students to respect and understand the unique contributions and experiences different cultures have made throughout the years (Samuels, 2018). Also, teachers must ensure that the school is committed to providing a curriculum that focuses on cognitive skills and cultural diversity. The curriculum should be current by depicting the different social dynamics that affect people from different cultures. Students who can learn and understand their classmates' cultures can face the world as it is now due to its diversity. Teachers must have skills and knowledge to make their classroom an effective learning environment by being committed to achieving equity among their students because they are capable of succeeding.

Third, teachers should demonstrate and maintain high expectations for every culturally, linguistically, and ethnically students in their classrooms (Taylor et al., 2016). When students know that their teachers have set high expectations for them, they will study extra hard not to disappoint them. Teachers who set these expectations on their students shows that they believe in their ability to succeed. Having such an environment in the classroom creates teamwork because students will work effectively to complete a project on time. This environment also allows students to form opinions using activities that would enable them to analyze and evaluate the situation.

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