The Guiding Function of Dialectical Materialism Theory to Education and Teaching

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Abstract: Dialectical materialism, is a systematic and theoretical world outlook, and a general overview of the methodology. It is a powerful ideological weapon to guide human beings to correctly understand and transform the objective world. In the process of learning the theoretical knowledge, including dialectical materialism in the education system will be a great advantage. Further, by using dialectical materialism to analyze, and to solve the existing problems in the teaching and learning process will be helpful for students to master and apply their professional knowledge, further may guide the students to establish a correct world outlook, outlook on life and values.

Keywords: Dialectical materialism; Mode; Cultivation; The theory of necessity

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1. The main ways to cultivate the viewpoint of dialectical materialism

Dialectical materialism, is constructed from three theoretical systems, which are the unity of the world materials, the contradictory movement of things, and the initiative of consciousness. Dialectical materialism reflects the law of the nature development, human society, and thinking. Additionally, the development and change of the knowledge, cognitive process, and solutions are inseparable from the dialectical thinking. Including the dialectical materialism education in the teaching by using few methods, such as vivid methods, integrating the world outlook, methodology of dialectical materialism in the whole process of education and teaching, and lastly, by infiltrating students’ ideological cognition will further help in enhancing and promoting the smooth completion of the education system [1].

2. The main ways to cultivate the viewpoint of dialectical materialism

There are few ways to cultivate the dialectical materialism in the education system as stated below:

(1) Analyzing problems with contradictory views and methods: The viewpoint of ‘The world, is a material world’, is the core viewpoint of dialectical materialism which has been fully accepted and used in the long-term development of natural science, philosophy and society education [2]. Based on the development of the society, at present people can grasp the contradiction aspects, especially in the existing concept between the education and the society development. Therefore, understanding and analyzing education and teaching knowledge from the contradiction perspective, can help the students to master the basic theory of contradiction, subsequently, learn to use this method of contradiction analysis to understand, and performing
corresponding work. Additionally, this may also help one in a specific work, where they could see many angles of the unity in the opposite things, be good at grasping the main contradiction from all contradictions, and grasp the main aspects of contradiction when dealing with the corresponding problems.

(2) Analyze the problem with a connection point of view: The connection point of view, is follow a specific concept, where all the things in the world have a mutual influence, connection, and interaction relationship. Additionally, materialist dialectics hold to a concept, where there are no isolated things in the world, which are not affected by other things, and the world is a universal organic as a whole \(^{[3]}\). One of the general characteristics of materialist dialectics, is it provides an important method to correctly to understand and analyze things. Meanwhile, to help the students to understand the corresponding teaching views, it is essential to guide the students to use the connection view to further understand the impact of world politics, economy and culture at present day, subsequently learn the successful examples from ancient to modern times. By clarifying the relationship between mutual influence, promotion, and restriction, only then one can understand that they complement each other, interrelated and inseparable. Additionally, students should not study in the isolation with limited understanding, but they should fully understand the connection between knowledge in the term of universal connection. One should be good at integrating the knowledge into a network knowledge system, improve overall understanding, and macro grasp, leading to improve on the students’ comprehensive quality.

(3) Analyzing problems with a development view: Development view is another basic view of materialist dialectics, where it holds to a concept, that the world is a process of infinite development. Based on this concept, it requires people to look at problems from the perspective of change and development, by fully grasp on the objective reality in the movement and development of things, subsequently, make their thoughts to adapt to the objective situation of change and development. In this aspect, development is described as a process of the evolution of new things, with the modification of the old things \(^{[4]}\). Additionally, when people judge if a thing is new or old, the judgement is usually being made based on the time of creating, and if the creation is parallel with the development law of things. A new thing, is described as a thing which follows the law of development, and has a bright prospect in the future, in contrast, old things are referring to the things that are gradually declining, further have no value in the process of change or development \(^{[5]}\). The perspective and vision of development should not stay at the original level, but should see that the environment and the foundation of the development are changing. In order to enable students to correctly understand the corresponding views, teacher should guide the students to learn to use the term of development point of view, to look from the social impact of the continuous changes of world politics, economy and culture.

(4) Analyzing problems with a comprehensive view: Comprehensive view, is a concept to adhere to the two-point theory. Dialectical materialism believed, that all aspects of things, including the past, present and the future of a thing is interrelated and restrict to each other. When investigating certain things, one should observe them from a comprehensive perspective \(^{[6]}\). From the comprehensive view point, when looking at the development of politics, economy, culture and other aspects, one should see both the positive and the negative, both the advantages and disadvantages, both the present and the past and the future, where a one-sided view of problems can only lead to a one-sided idea \(^{[7]}\). For example, in the course of teaching, one can take network fortune telling as a study case, further elaborate and analyze it from the two-point theory. In summary, materialist dialectics teach us when analyzing a problem, one should not only see the thing itself, but also see its connection with the surrounding.

(5) See the essence through the phenomenon to analyze the problem: See the essence through the phenomenon, requires the use of scientific method in eliminating and selection of the rough essence, by eliminating the false, while retaining the true, observing from the outside to the inside, clarifying from one to the other, and further to focus the essence of the problem, while observing and analyzing the problem \(^{[8]}\).
The expression of seeing the essence through the phenomenon implies, that the phenomenon is firstly be processed, followed by analyzing of the essence behind the phenomenon \(^9\). However, in the reality, a person has their own essential methodology, further used it to explain certain things, therefore, when looking at problems, one first sees the essence, and then only analyzes the appearance. In the daily teaching practice, the viewpoint and method of dialectical materialism to analyze, study and analyze the specific teaching content should be used, by considering a scientific and feasible way to conduct a theoretical education for students \(^{10}\). The key problems, is to consciously, often and pertinently, rather than passively, accidentally and blindly. One should stay on the surface of the material, and only talk about the matter, by reflecting the views and methods of dialectical materialism.

(6) The viewpoint of specific problem specific analysis: It is to specifically analyze the contradictions, and characteristics of certain things, to find a way to solve the special contradictions. From the perspective of philosophy, the specific problem, is the sum of facts and the integrity that are formed by the interrelationship between things \(^{11}\). It should be noted, that the objective and the real situation is not a simple isolated phenomenon, therefore it cannot be explained by simple examples. The interrelationship between phenomena and the organic composition of interrelationship should be grasped initially. The philosophical approach of concrete analysis of specific problems has become a common routine in our daily study and life. In order to make a concrete analysis of specific problems, one should scientifically follow the theoretical guidance, subsequently, make a correct and in-depth analysis of the problems with a scientific world outlook and methodology, further be good at summing up experience in practical work, grasp the law, and strive to have a thorough grasp of the problem \(^{12}\). In the daily teaching, the teacher should guide the students to analyze specific problems, seek differences, seek common ground between the differences, while grasping their own characteristics.

3. Cultivation of dialectical materialist world outlook

There are few ways of cultivating the dialectical materialist world outlook as described below:

(1) The content of classroom teaching infiltrates philosophical thought: Dialectical materialist philosophy, is a powerful ideological weapon to guide the development of natural science, where the study, research and application of knowledge, will be inevitably restricted by the dialectical materialism \(^{13}\). In teaching, the teachers should design the teaching contents, and properly guide the students to gradually establish the viewpoint of dialectical materialism through the study of specific knowledge. In additional, it will be helpful for students to have a deeper understanding and grasp of the applied knowledge, that is, learned at the philosophical level, further, promote the learning process, and improve the learning effect. Further, it is also conducive to cultivating students’ dialectical materialism, the strengthening scientific spirit and philosophical consciousness, subsequently helping students to form the world outlook and methodology of dialectical materialism \(^{14}\).

(2) The practice link transmits philosophical thoughts: The epistemology of dialectical materialism describes, that people’s cognition comes from the practice, thereby, it is correct or not, needs to be tested through practical training \(^{15}\). The teaching practice of philosophy course is essential in its function in the ideological and political education \(^{16}\). Teaching practice can be effectively integrating the classroom teaching theory learning, strengthen the understanding, and grasp of philosophical theory, which can help the students to firmly establish a correct world outlook, outlook on life and values, further master the corresponding methodology, subsequently, improve the level of using philosophical theory knowledge. Only by including in the teaching practice, it can give full support to the educational function.

4. The necessity of cultivating the viewpoint of dialectical materialism

Described below the importance of cultivating the viewpoint of dialectical materialism:
(1) Establish a scientific world outlook, outlook on life and values: In the youth stage, people’s psychological mechanism gradually develops and matures, adhere to the viewpoint of materialist dialectics to analyze, and solve various problems [17], by understanding the philosophical truth contained thereby, applying it to the practical work, further learning materialist dialectics will help the students form a correct dialectical materialist world outlook. This is not only related to the improvement of the students’ own quality, but also related to the talent training level of the school, further related to the development of the social civilization. Contemporary youth should learn on how to grasp a relationship between objective laws, and subjective initiative of things, by dialectically understand the dialectical relationship on the development path of things on the basis of comprehensive, and carefully study the application of dialectical materialist world outlook and methodology, thereby, establishing a scientific world outlook, outlook on life and values, to cultivate excellent talents consistent with social development [18].

(2) Establish a correct value orientation: The value orientation of young people determines the value orientation of the whole society in the future, and young people is in the period of value formation and establishment. It is very important to focus on the cultivation of values in this period. With the continuous popularization of Internet technology, the chances for the college students to accept consumption ideas are also gradually increasing. With the increase of online shopping, live broadcasting, purchasing, and other platforms, it also brings more convenient conditions for college the students’ consumption. The online shopping platform attracts the college students’ consumption through the ‘double 11’ promotion activities. The shopping process shows the irrational shopping behavior of the college students,’ where the symbolic consumption, comparable consumption, excessive consumption and over consumption behavior in shopping reflect the penetration and popularity of consumerism among college students from the side [19]. The study, and living expenses of college students is usually borne by their families, therefore some college students meet their vanity by purchasing branded clothing and cosmetics. When the economy cannot meet the needs, they begin to use external platforms to meet their personal needs, which provides a preliminary basis for the prevalence of software such as Huabei, Jingdong Baitiao and phased music, which often accompanied by campus loans, usury, naked loans and other risks. Facing the bad tendency of social value, therefore, it is important to train the young people to learn to use the principles and methods of dialectical materialism to make a correct choice between value contradictions, and psychological contradictions in the society.

(3) To improve the ability of dialectical thinking: Forming a scientific dialectical materialist world outlook, is to form a world outlook that guides the fundamental point of view of one’s own thought and behavior [20]. The world outlook of dialectical materialism is a philosophical thought. Dialectical materialism, believe that the world is material, and the material world develops and changes according to its own laws, where the human activities, need to follow the objectives of the law, and understand and transform the nature of human beings through practice, with the students being the valuable human resources. We must cultivate the students’ dialectical materialist world outlook, analyze the new contradictions, and new characteristics in the development of the times with a dialectical attitude, and use the methodology of scientific dialectical materialism to guide in practical work, to successfully solve the problems that are encountered in the life.

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References


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