

Preface

In this Internet era, many traditional concepts and theories need to be revised. Education theories especially need reexamination. This is necessary because, in this Internet era, information technology typified by computer and network communication has exerted increasing influence and has brought about alterations to our ways of production, work, learning and even life. Typified by computer and network communication, information technology is not just ordinary technology, but is today's greatest and most dynamic concrete manifestation of productivity. As the "big two" of information technology, computer and network communication combine perfectly to produce the Internet. Ever since its birth, the Internet has been in rapid expansion both in its technical connotations and in its field of application, and these two continue to be in a stage of rapid development even now.

Dialectical thinking means observing and analysing matters from the perspective of dialectic. That is, respecting objective laws, valuing researches and investigations, as well as being realistic and seeking truth from facts. A basic tenet of dialectical approach is that development should cope with time. Thus, in the Internet Era, "Innovative Theory, Advancing Concept" is the vital requirement for social development. We will fall behind, and even be abandoned by time, if we stick with conventional theory. But if constant breakthroughs in thinking and concept are made, we will be the trend setters, walking in the forefront of time and will promote progress in accelerated development in different areas, including education. Since 2000, real-life proof of this has been provided by innovative experiment on the leapfrogging development approach in language teaching that has been carried out in a large number of schools across the country.

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