



The geography teacher's set of appliances – 'GEOGRAPHY nEtQUIPMENT' – Self improved school equipment used in teaching geography

I Pajtok-Tari

Department of Geography, Eszterházy College, 3300 Eger, Eszterházy tér 1. Hungary. pajtokil@ektf.hu

The multimedia application and the use of Internet are becoming more and more common at schools and at homes due to the widespread of computers. The multimedia programs offer a great help for geography teachers because with their use all the visual aids are not needed in the classroom. They mix the advantages of blackboards, slides, displays, overhead projectors and VCR-s. At the same time offering other opportunities which could not be provided by the aids mentioned above because of their limits. Using a projector connected to a computer students can see the visual aids prepared by the teacher projected. Their use is justified because student's books cannot contain all the increasing amount of knowledge. Success is guaranteed because students are sensitive to new approaches.

Digitalizing the material and finding it on the internet that way preparing a colourful, varied geography lesson is a time-consuming process.

Being the methodologist and didactic information technologist at the Geography Department of Eszterházy Károly College I have been working for years on facilitating the work of my students, colleagues and my own activity using varied visual aids and types of equipment as preparation for the geography lesson. I have created an electronic set of appliances using the Dreamweaver MX program ('GEOGRAPHY nEtQUIPMENT', from the 1st September 2006 on the Internet), it can be a real help for the teacher in each teaching situation. The 'GEOGRAPHY nEtQUIPMENT' is a multimedia, Internet service which can be loaded free, the teacher gets into a virtual office clicking to the different pieces (drawer, shelf, wall map, globe, laptop, Tv set etc.) the teacher can continue with the necessary school equipment. Such equipment like: lesson plans for the lessons using digital technology, photos, video clips, animation, illustrations, pieces of music, maps, collection of minerals, database, diagrams, charts, bibliography, student's books, geography lexicons, magazines, geography games, important web pages (SDT, Google Earth) etc.

Multimedia offers a new and efficient procedure of spreading information. It creates new possibilities in forming the teaching – learning environment. It integrates more mediums that way providing more efficient visualized possibilities for the teacher. The use of multimedia systems is advantageous because at the same time they have effect on more senses. The presentation of the content is more interesting, pleasing, so it is motivating.

The renewal of schools can be achieved by those teachers who are able to recognize and use the modern technics, technology, for this reason teachers should integrate them in their activities. Hopefully the Net set of appliances makes this easier. The Net set of appliances can be shaped by the teacher. It can be loaded with his own materials (photos, videos, tests, charts, drafts, etc.).

This way teachers may help their students to be familiar with the faster and faster developing information society so satisfying one of the most common goals of teaching geography, according to it: giving a coherent, comprehensive image of our world on a scientific basis, systematic knowledge, so creating a firm base for their further self- studies and the clever reception and appreciation of information.