

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN METHOD AND APPROACH

When an instructional design includes a specific level of application in terms of objectives, teacher and learner roles and classroom activities, it is referred to as a method. With a method, there are prescribed objectives, roles for teacher and learners and guidelines for activities, and, consequently, little flexibility for teachers in how the method is used. The teacher's role is to implement the method. Audio lingualism, Total Physical Response and Silent Way are examples of methods. Approach is a broad view. In an approach several methods may be used. Method has a clear pathway, very obvious step passing through which we reach at a definite answer like we use in math's. On the other hand approach deals with the subject matter. It is the way in which one will approach the piece of literature while teaching. It may centre on the diction, or the theme, or the structure, or the romantic (or modern, etc.) nature of the piece; whatever one choose to teach. Approach is the level at which assumptions and beliefs about language and language learning are specified; whereas, method is the level at which theory is put into practice and at which choices are made about the particular skills to be taught, and the order in which the content will be presented

After going through meaning and importance of methods and approaches we could easily

S.No	Method	Approach
1	It is specific	It is general.
2	It deals with how to teach. Lecture, small-group work, PowerPoint, worksheet, class discussion, etc	It deals with what should be taught, why should be taught and how it should be presented

3	It is a step by step description of tasks to be performed for performing a work	It does not identify all the steps involved. Instead it just indicates the direction to proceed in or ways of handling some major or important tasks
4	Method is procedural. It is an overall plan of action	Approach is an axiomatic. It is a set of correlative assumptions.
5	Method has a clear pathway, very obvious step passing through which we reach at a definite answer.	Approach is a broad view. In an approach several methods may be used.
6	Method is specific and short-term.	Approach is holistic and long-term.
7	Methods for performing different kind of works are often formally designed and specified.	Approach is a general guideline on ways of performing a work. It does not identify all the steps involved.

In this unit we discussed about the meaning, importance and difference between method and approach. Teaching learning process to be effective and successful must be based on particular approach, which is well knitted with methods. Use of approaches makes content transaction systematic and simple, with the help of which students are benefitted and the aims and objectives are attained by the teacher. Therefore teacher should be well versed with the use of method and approaches.