Guidance in Education

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Meaning of Guidance

- Guidance literally means, 'to show the path', 'to direct' or 'to point out'.
- It means help or assistance rendered to those in need b an experienced person.
- It helps in solving certain major problems of individuals such as educational, vocational, personal etc.

Definition of Guidance

- Ruth Strang defines it as, "Guidance is a process of helping every individual, through his own efforts, to discover and develop his potentialities for his personal happiness and social usefulness."
- Jones defines it as, "Guidance involves personal help given to someone: it is designed to assist the individual to decide, where he wants to go, what he wants to do and how best he can accomplish his purpose."

Nature or Characteristics of Guidance

- It is a process: It is such a process which helps ever individual to solve their problems, set goals and to make plans for their future.
- It is a continuous process: It is required by ever individual right from their childhood to the old age.
- It is a service meant for all: It is such a process which is meant to each and every individual at ever stages of their lives.

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- Choices and problem areas are distinctive concerns of guidance: Guidance helps in channelizing the various concerns related to individual choices and problems.
- It is a generalized service: It is a generalized service as it involves the teachers, tutors, parents, advisers and them as integral part of this process.

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It is a specialized service: It is considered to be a specialized service as special educators, psychologists, psychiatrists, counsellors who are specially qualified to help those in need.

Scope of Guidance

- It helps in the all-round development of the individuals.
- It helps in the proper choices of courses to be studied.
- It also helps in the proper career choice of every individuals.
- It also helps the individuals/pupils in their vocational development.

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- It develops confidence and readiness in the students for facing new challenges in their lives.
- It helps in the proper and efficient use of manpower.
- It motivates the youth for self-employment.
- It also helps the students belonging to the weaker sections of society to identify and motivate them for better opportunities in their lives.
- It also helps in minimizing the stagnation and wastage of human resources by preventing student drop-outs, pushed out etc.

Principles of Guidance

- Guidance is a life long process.
- It lays emphasis on individualization.
- It gives importance to self-direction.
- It is based on cooperation.
- It involves all.
- It is an organised activity
- It is flexible.
- It also emphasizes on code of ethics.

Types of Guidance

There are various types of Guidance:

- 1. Educational Guidance: It involves helping the individuals to plan wisely regarding their career prospects, choice of courses etc.
- 2. Vocational Guidance: It is a process of assisting the individual to choose an occupation career, prepare for it, enter upon and progress in it.
- 3. Personal Guidance: It involves individuals social, emotional and leisure-time guidance.

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 Apart from the above mentioned types, there are other types of guidance such as Recreational guidance, Community guidance etc.