

### Different features and application of Smart/interactive Board

**Objectives:** At the end of this lesson you shall be able to

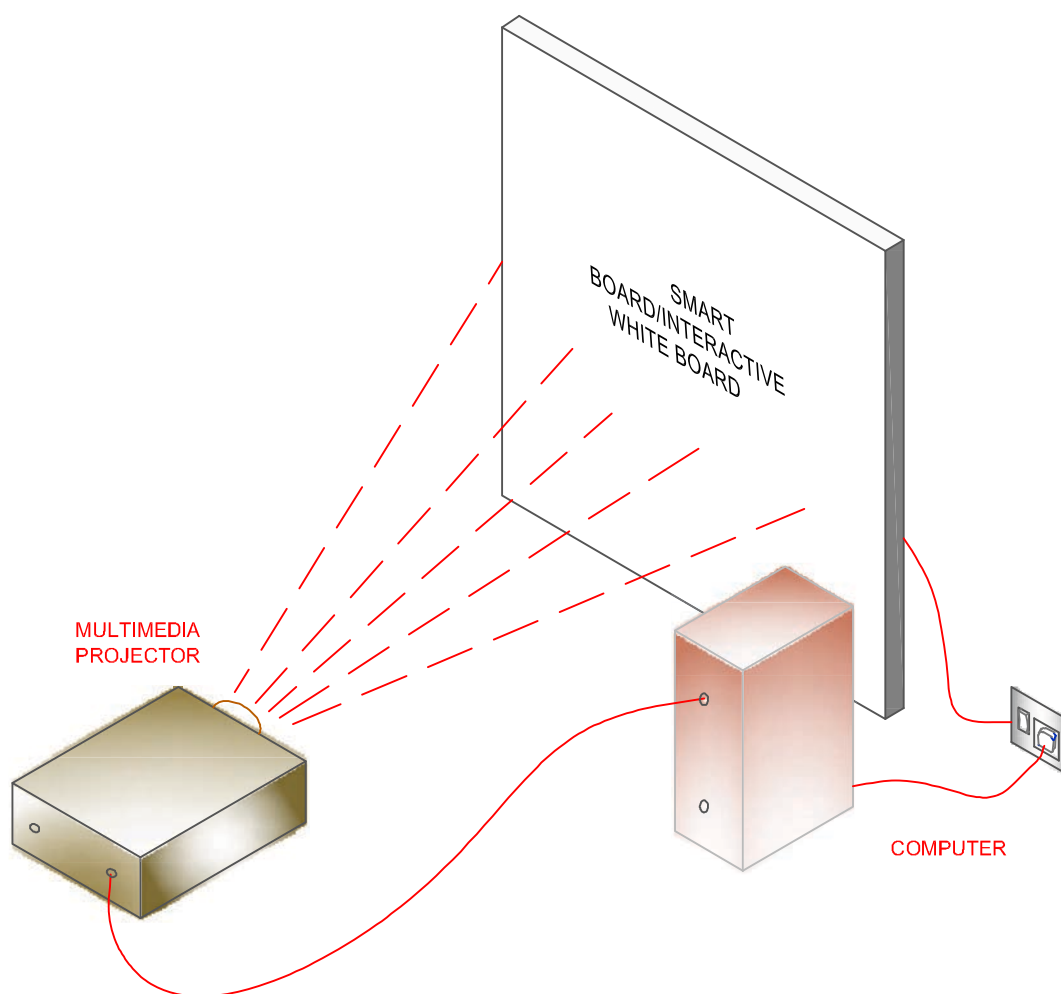
- explain what is smart board and its features
- describe the uses of smart board in classroom.

Technological developments have replaced almost all conventional gadgets into modern state-of-the-art sophisticated electronic systems. In this context, today the chalk board in classrooms are replaced with smart boards coming under projected visual aid category. Smart boards are electronic white boards working with electromagnetic technology. These boards are also called as Interactive board or interactive white board. These electronic boards requires a computer and a multimedia projector for its working as shown in Fig 1. The setup of interactive board is shown in Fig 2.

Fig 1



Fig 2



## Features of the Interactive board

- These interactive boards are working with preparatory software, supplied by the manufacturer. The user installs this software into the computer.
- Interactive board is fixed on wall and multimedia projector is fitted and positioned correctly to fill the image within the boundary marked on the board.
- By USB cable the computer and Interactive board are interconnected for its functioning.
- This smart board also works without wire connection to the computer i.e., by bluetooth connectivity.
- Rechargeable magnetic pen is used to generate any desired colour to be selected from the colour pellet and line thickness is selected from tool bar.
- Mouse function is provided on the magnetic pen by checking them it serves as a mouse also.
- Simple calibration method enables the use of interactive board just by touching on the calibration mark displayed on the board using magnetic pen only at the opening time to synchronise the computer with interactive board.
- The original file used is not affected, but a separate file with the interactive activities done on the displayed image on the board is saved separately in its software.
- The smart board also can be used as a normal white board without the use of computer and multimedia projector.
- The software is run in one of three operational modes, Interactive mode, office mode (windows only), or whiteboard mode. Whiteboard mode, used without a video projector, allows you to capture and preserve notes, drawing, calculations - whatever you write on the whiteboard with an marker pen. Office mode makes it possible to interact directly with the native files of the Microsoft Office suite of products, PowerPoint, Word and Excel. Interactive Mode, the most feature-rich and robust of the operational modes, allows you to open and run applications while in Mouse Mode by using your electronic Pen to move the cursor on the projected image on the Whiteboard surface. In Annotation Mode, you use the pen to select Tools from the Toolbar.
- Annotations tools have been categorized as annotation tools, editing tools, page creation, page management tools, presentation tools, file management tools and miscellaneous tools. The online support help file describes all this tools in detail, and can be accessed from the device manager menu.

## Distribution presentation files

- The presentation files you create can be printed for local distribution, or emailed to anyone, anywhere. Use the page sorter tool to review the presentation file. The pages in the presentation file can be sorted, moved, copied, and deleted using the page sorter tool. When the file pages have been arranged to your satisfaction, you can use the page sorter's print option to print it, you can export it to one of several file formats, or you can email it directly from page sorter.
- The native file format of saved presentation files has the GWB extension and can be viewed in windows with the GWB Interwrite Reader. This is an application that is part of the interactive board software suite and is installed when the software is installed on the windows operating system. Reader can be distributed freely with your presentation files. You can also save your presentation files in a PDF format, which can be read by Adobe's Acrobat Reader, or you can export your presentation files to a variety of graphics and HTML formats.
- A existing presentation file can be opened, its pages can be sorted, annotations can be added to the existing pages, and new pages can be added to the file. Your presentation will determine how each presentation file evolves. For example, you can prepare a presentation file of blank maps ahead of time for a geography lesson, Or, you can capture and annotate each of the monthly earnings spreadsheets as you review the past fiscal year during a budget meeting. Or, you can run a PowerPoint slide show in Office Mode (Windows only) and annotations can be added to each slide and saved in the native file.
- You can build your presentation file during your presentation, or you can pre-build it, including the screen captures, images, graphs and text pages you want to present. However you choose to do it, process is the same. To capture a screen or window, click on the Mouse Mode tool with your interactive Pen and arrange the desktop for capture. Select and Annotation.

## Uses of Interactive board

- Using the best type of projected visual aid, the instructor can plan, prepare instructional materials like text information, diagrams video, animation etc in advance and stored into the computer for teaching in forth coming classes.
- Stored informations are directly opened by using the interactive magnetic pen on the smart board just by clicking the relevant icon from the tool bar provided on the board itself.

- The Instructor need not spend time and effort to draw diagrams, but simply select them and store in the computer. Just by simply selecting the file by the use of mouse buttons provided on the magnetic pen these diagrams can easily be selected and shown on the board in a matter of seconds effortlessly.
- The size of the diagrams shown on the board can be moved to any position over the board just by click and drag on it; the size can be increased or decreased very simply.
- The thickness of the line written by the magnetic pen can be easily changed by the relevant icon; colour of the line also can easily be chosen just by simple touch of the required colour on the colour pellet as shown in Fig 2.
- Geometrical shapes like circle, square, triangle etc can be easily drawn for mathematical functions just by clicking and dragging to any size on the board.
- On interactive mode instructor can draw lines, mark and write any thing on the opened file. Displayed on the board will be saved separately without any modifications in the original file.
- After completely writing on the board need of erase or cleaning the contents, can be done by opening another fresh page the class can be continued to any number of pages saved.
- Any such saved pages can be easily opened for clarifying the doubts or summarising the main points visually to the learners.
- After completion of the class the whole information displayed on the board can be saved as a PDF file also to be issued to the participants.
- The interactive board is working without the USB connections also, i.e., in Bluetooth mode.
- The information also can be accessed through Bluetooth connectivity by the laptop from any corners of the classroom.
- With the interactive board the instructor is motivating and inspiring the learners for delivering information of his subject-sustaining their interest till the end with lively interaction.
- By the interactive board set up different trade instructors can make use of this facility suitably according to their time tables so that this resource can be utilized effectively for teaching and training various trade groups of the Institution.
- Apart from teaching and training activities, the interactive board can be effectively utilized for organising seminars meetings and other official purposes also.
- The latest advancement in interactive board does not requires a rechargeable type of magnetic pen for its operation. It is designed to work with a ink exhausted marker pen (dummy marker pen) or even with a finger for full functionality right from the calibration step to save the presentation without ink stains.
- Overall, incorporating interactive boards to the classroom environment is likely to change the way teachers/trainers impart knowledge and skills at the same time simplify the learning process for learners. Learners will find it easy to engage with lessons and gain a better understanding of the overall lesson. It is an ideal tool for any classroom setting for effective teaching and development of learners skills.