

7.2 Best Practices – Year 2019-2020

1. Spoken English Classes

Objectives:

- a) To make students proficient in the spoken skill of English language
- b) To teach everyday English to students
- c) To teach students how to greet people while meeting them
- d) To groom students so that they can perform well at their workplace
- e) To boost up the confidence of student by their proficiency in English
- f) To enhance their employability

The Context:

The medium of teaching is Gujarati in our college. Most of the students belong to the socially and economically backward classes. Majority of students have studied in the schools run by Municipality. Very few students have studied in the private schools. In such a case, the basic knowledge of English of these students is not satisfactory. Even the meritorious students in other subjects are often found weak in English.

A number of students belong to the tribal areas and they speak the dialect of their regions. Therefore, many of them are not proficient even in Gujarati, the medium of teaching. In that case, one cannot expect proficiency in English from them.

To make students proficient in the speaking skill of English, the Institution decided to start Spoken English Classes on payment basis so that they find themselves confident and employable after they complete their college education.

The Practice:

One of the trustees of The Pardi Education Society, Mr. Kishorbhai G. Gandhi sponsored the Spoken English Classes for the students of our college and those of the self-finance science college run by the same Management sharing the same campus.

Udisha, the Placement Cell of the College in association with The K. G. Desai Foundation announced the Spoken English Classes and oriented the students to avail the facility. The students have been counselled regarding the importance of proficiency in English to increase their employability.

The Spoken English Classes have been commenced on 24-1-2020.

- The students had to pay the fees of Rs. 700/- for the entire course.
- They were given certificate for attending and for making satisfactory performance in the classes.
- The Spoken English Classes have been scheduled as per the convenience of the students, after their regular classes get over.
- The periods for the same have been scheduled twice a week.
- Total 293 students have enrolled for the class.
- The classes were run into 10 batches of 30 students twice a week.
- Five teachers have been appointed who are associated with other Spoken English Classes run in the nearby city, Valsad. Their names are as under:
 - 1) Mr. Dharmesh Patel
 - 2) Mrs. Ami Patel
 - 3) Mrs. Sneha Patel

- 4) Miss Ragini Patel
- 5) Miss Bhumi Patel

Evidence of Success:

As mentioned earlier, the Spoken English Classes have been commenced on 24-1-2020. Total 293 students of both the colleges enrolled. From among the total 293 students, 207 belonged to our College. The professional faculties have been appointed to teach them.

The main thrust of the teaching was on grammar and spoken aspect of the language. The students have been given ample practice in grammar learning. Power Point Presentations and charts were used to make the teaching-learning process more interesting.

Group-Discussions were organized to make students speak in English. They have also been taught to pronounce correctly.

After the end of the course, they were made to make a presentation in English on a topic of their choice in the Seminar organized for the same. That gave the idea of how much proficiency they have achieved at the end of the course.

The students were made to fill in a Feedback Form regarding the Spoken English Classes. Their views and opinions will help us overcome the shortcomings in our next batch this year.

The students have been awarded certificates for attending and for making satisfactory performance during the course.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

As mentioned earlier, many students coming from the tribal belt are not proficient in Gujarati, the medium of teaching. As a result, they are very reluctant to speak in the classroom to answer a question or to voice their doubts. The same problem is encountered in the Spoken English Classes. Their interaction in the classroom was not satisfactory. It is very important for them to try to speak in English in order to master the speaking skill of the language. But they could not overcome their inferiority complex and stage fear.

It seemed that they took the classes for some magic wand that would make them fluent in English just by paying fees for the same and by attending some classes. They are not prepared to do the needful. They lacked the curiosity which is the biggest constraint of all.

Another obstacle was that of time. Most of the students of the Institution commute from the nearby villages by bus or by some shared vehicles. They are not ready to stay back for the classes. Moreover, they didn't show readiness to come during holidays for the same.

Many students backed out of the course for various reasons. We tried to find out the reasons for their constant absence in the classes. We learned that in order not to miss the bus or the shared vehicle, many students backed out of the classes. And some found it an impossible task and backed out.

Then in March, the lockdown was declared due to Covid-19 pandemic and the classes have been called off. From 11 January, 2021, the colleges were allowed to teach the students of the final year offline. The teaching has already been over. Only the Seminar and Feedback Form Filling and Certification have been done after 11 January, 2021.

2. Arranging Guest-Lectures:

Objectives:

- To avail the knowledge of the experts of various fields.
- To help students get deeper knowledge of the topic.
- To give the students chance to be acquainted with various aspects of the topic under consideration.
- To help students clear their doubts about the topic during the question-answer session at the end of the guest-lecture.
- To arouse interest and curiosity among students.
- To encourage students to think independently and differently on various topics.
- To make students improve their general knowledge.
- The guest-lectures arranged for the guidance of competitive examination help students become aware of the kinds of examinations and the preparations required.
- The guest-lectures arranged by Udisha, the placement cell help students develop their employability through guest-lectures.
- The guest-lectures arranged by the NSS units help students aware of the vices prevalent in society and to be a responsible citizen.
- The guest-lectures arranged by the Women's Cell help the girl students share their problems and guide them for women-empowerment.
- The guest-lectures arranged by the heads of various departments help students get detailed and deeper knowledge of the topic.

The Context:

The objective of any Higher Education Institution is the holistic development of students. For that, the Institution has to arrange so many academic as well as co-curricular, extra-curricular and extension activities.

In certain matters, it is found advisable to avail the expertise of some people belonging to corporate, NGO, medical field, or other educational institutions. This way, students can have a deeper knowledge of the topic. It also provides an interesting break to the monotony of routine teaching-learning process.

The Practice:

There are a number of co-curricular activities and extension activities carried out in the Institution. As a part of them, many guest-lectures are arranged by the department heads, chairpersons of various committees and the NSS Program Officers.

The department heads of various subjects invite teachers of other colleges and experts of various fields to enlighten the students on certain topics of the syllabus.

The Women's Cell arranges guest-lectures of local doctors to provide guidance regarding the problems of puberty and other gynaecological problems. This Cell also invites experts from various fields to empower the girl students of the college.

Udisha, the placement cell, invites guest-lecturers from various fields and government officers to speak on various topics and also to groom students in certain vocational skills.

The NSS Units organize a number of extension activities throughout the year and also during the Annual Camping. Guest-lectures on Aids-Awareness, rehabilitation, cleanliness-drive, environmental issues etc. are organized that make students aware of their responsibilities as a wakeful citizen.

Evidence of Success:

- A guest-lecture on “Computer Awareness and Personality Development” was organized on 20-6-2019 by Udisha, the Placement Cell. Ms. Taruna Patel, the proprietor of a private computer class delivered the lecture.
- A guest lecture on “The Competitive Examinations” was organized on 9-7-2019 in collaboration with the Employment Exchange and Banking Academy, Valsad.
- A guest-lecture by Prof. Ajay Naik of Rofel Arts & Commerce College, Vapi was delivered on “Rain Water Harvesting” on 5-7-2019 under the auspice of NSS.
- A guest-lecture on “Information regarding Competitive Examinations” was delivered by the Employment Exchange and Banking Academy, Valsad under the auspice of Udisha on 9 July, 2019. 108 students availed the information.
- A guest-lecture on “Red Revolution” was organized on 24-7-2019 by Women’s Cell. Dr. Amisha Patel and Dr. Sheetal Tailor delivered their lectures on the same. They advocated the girl students to avoid the use of sanitary napkins as they are harmful and carcinogenic. They also pose environmental threat as they are not easy to dispose.
- A guest-lecture by the retired Prin. Shri B. N. Joshi was organized by the Department of History to celebrate the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on 31-8-2020.
- A guest-lecture by Shri Rajeshbhai Rana on Swami Vivekananda was delivered on 13-9-2019 under the auspice of NSS.
- A guest-lecture on “Development of Entrepreneurship” was delivered by Shri Mehulbhai Patel of Centre for Entrepreneurship Development on 29-11-2019 under the auspice of Udisha.
- A guest-lecture on “Get the Edge: Career Guideline” was delivered on 13-12-2019 by Shri Aniruddha Shukla of Met League of College, Bandra under the auspice of Udisha.
- In the second installment of “Red Revolution” was organized on 31-12-2019. Dr. Amisha Patel taught girl students how to prepare home-made reusable cotton sanitary napkins. All the girl students of the college took advantage of the programme held by the Women’s Cell.
- Guest lectures by Dr. Tejal Rathod and Sumitraben on Tobacco Awareness and Rehabilitation were delivered on 3-1-2020. NSS units organized the program.
- 12 January was celebrated as Swami Vivekananda Jayanti by NSS with a guest lecture by Shri Rajeshbhai Rana.
- National Road Safety Week was celebrated in collaboration with Pardi Police Station from 15 Jan. The officers from the Police Station provided information regarding traffic rules.
- The Department of Gujarati arranged a guest-lecture on “Literature and Films” on 21-1-2020. Dr. Dinkar Tandel of J P Shroff Arts College, Valsad delivered his scholarly lecture on the topic.
- A guest lecture by Shri Jagdish Patel has been organized on Career Guidance and NET & SET Examinations on 25-1-2020 by Udisha and the Department of History.
- A guest-lecture by Shri Pankaj Mall, the famous international cyclist and brand ambassador of Cleanliness Drive, was held on “Youth Empowerment” on 7-2-2020. Udisha organized the program.
- Udisha, the Placement Cell organized a guest-lecture on “The Art of Preparing CV” on 7-2-2020. Shri Dipesh Shah, the director of K. N. Desai Science College, Pardi delivered the lecture.
- The Department of Accountancy organized a guest-lecture on “The Annual Accounts of the Companies” on 10-2-2020. Prof. Piyush M. Modi of C. D. Barfiwala Arts & Commerce College, Surat delivered the lecture on the topic.

- The Department of Accountancy organized a guest-lecture on “GST - A Simple Explanation” on 24-8-2019. The well-known Tax-Practitioner of Valsad Mr. Alpesh Upadhyaya explained the topic in simple yet interesting way.
- Udisha, the Placement Cell organized a guest-lecture on “The Art of Facing an Interview” on 15 February 2020. Mr. Dipesh Shah, the director of K. N. Desai Science College delivered the lecture.
- The NSS Units of the college organized a guest-lecture on “Digital Power” in collaboration with the Cyber Crime Branch of Pardi Police Station on 6-3-2020. The officers gave detailed information regarding the misuse of mobile and internet services. They also gave some important tips for protecting our bank accounts and other digital details from being hacked.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

As for problems, there is hardly any that cannot be solved. The Institution can find experts in various fields from the surrounding colleges, industries and society as well. The Institution pays the remuneration and transportation fare to the visiting guest-lecturers.

The Institution has a big Seminar Hall equipped with micro-phone system and overhead projector. Almost all the guest-lectures are arranged there. It can accommodate around 300 students. The seminar-hall is well ventilated and equipped with enough lights and fans. There are enough plastic chairs for the students to sit on during the guest-lectures.