



*Department of English
St. Bede's College, Shimla*

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

M.A. ENGLISH

SESSION- 2018-2019

TALK ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LITERATURE AND PSYCHOLOGY

Objective: To analyze the relation between Literature and Psychology.

Description of the Event: The English Department of St. Bede's College organized a talk on the Relationship between Literature and Psychology for its PG students on September 4, 2018. The resource person for this was Dr. Ravi Bhushan, Head of the Psychology Department. Dr. Bhushan spoke at length about the relationship between the two of these and how they are connected to each other. He said that whether we talk about the one who writes the story or the one who reads it, Psychology plays a very important role in literature. He rightly emphasized that the author is not just influenced by society, but he influences it as well. He also talked about how psychology helps the writers to present their characters successfully, expressing their feelings, emotions and especially their thoughts, and also how the different events affect the mental lives of the characters.

The talk, which lasted an hour, ended with a fruitful discussion with the students.

Outcome: The students learnt about the significant role psychology plays in literature, the relationship between these two subjects and how psychology helps an author to write a piece of literature that is more interesting to read.



GUEST LECTURE ON 'PHONETICS'

Objective: To introduce students to the fundamentals of Phonetics, including phonetics, transcription, articulation and phonological processes.

Description of the Event: A lecture on "Phonetics" was conducted by the English Department for its PG students on May 2, 2019, to enhance their linguistic, pronunciation and communication skills. The resource person for this was Ms. Sunila Sharma, an eminent educationist, writer and social worker.

The talk, which lasted over two hours, provided an overview of phonetics and the articulatory phonetics of speech sounds. Ms. Sunila engaged the students in activities to recognize and analyze phonological patterns in English language. They were also asked to transcribe sentences and short passages of, refining their transcription skills. Indeed, the lecture provided valuable insights into the world of phonetics and its application in English language learning and communication.

Outcome: Students developed improved listening skills and enhanced ability to analyze and reproduce speech sounds accurately. They also demonstrated enhanced pronunciation skills.



NATURE WALK FOR CREATIVE WRITING INSPIRATION

Objective: To connect PG students with the natural world and to inspire creativity and the development of descriptive writing skills.

Description of the Event: A nature walk was organized for the MA students on November 5, 2018 with the aim of fostering an appreciation for the beauty of nature and providing them with inspiration for creative writing. For this purpose, a location was chosen on the outskirts of Shimla city. The chosen location offered a diverse range of natural settings that students had ample opportunities for observation and inspiration. The event began with a brief introduction to the importance of nature in literature and creative writing. Several excerpts from poems, essays and novels that focus on nature and the environment were read and discussed. The teachers then talked about the importance of nature in literature and told the students how it has been a source of inspiration for various writers. The students were encouraged to observe their surroundings, take notes, while paying attention to the sights, smells and sounds of nature.



After the walk, students participated in creative writing sessions, shared their written pieces and received feedback from their peers and faculty members. The session ended with lunch at a restaurant nearby.

Outcome: The activity fostered a deeper appreciation for both literature and the natural world while offering a refreshing break from traditional classroom settings. They developed sharper observation skills which are crucial for descriptive writing.



PG ACTIVITY 2018-19

JUST A MINUTE

OBJECTIVE: To foster linguistic creativity, enhance communication skills and provide an engaging platform for the Post graduate students to showcase their abilities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT: The English Department of the college organized 'Just a Minute' Competition for the post graduate students on April 26, 2019. The judges for the event were Dr. Deepti Pajni and Dr. Gitanjali Mahendra.

The competition had two rounds. In the first elimination round, participants were given a random topic and one minute to speak randomly on it without hesitation, repetition or deviation. They were judged on their fluency, coherence and creativity. Out of 20 students from the first round, 8 were shortlisted for the second round. Topics for this round were more challenging and thought provoking. The criteria for judging them was the same. Participants with the highest cumulative scores from both rounds were declared the winners. Their names were announced by Dr. Mita Biswas who also delivered a vote of thanks. The event was enjoyed by one and all present there.



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OUTCOME: The competition provided a platform for students to improve their speaking abilities. It boosted their confidence and created a sense of healthy competition and camaraderie among the participants.

