



National Seminar

on

SOFT SKILLS THROUGH LITERARY CONTEXTS

28th October, 2017

SOUVENIR



Organized by

Department of English

**Andhra Mahila Sabha
Arts & Science College for Women**

(Autonomous, NAAC Re-Accredited)

O.U. Campus, Hyderabad - 500 007

Ms. P. Rajyalakshmi
Organising Secretary

Dr. G.N. Bhagya Rekha
Principal

Dr. K. Karuna Devi
Convener



Prof. S. RAMACHANDRAM
Vice-Chancellor

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16th October, 2017

MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that the Department of English, AMS College for Women is organizing a one-day National Seminar on “**Soft Skills through Literary Contexts**” on October 28, 2017 and is bringing out a Souvenir to mark the occasion.

I compliment the Principal, Faculty, Staff & Students of the Department of English of AMS College for their initiative in this regard.

The theme of the Seminar is so timely and of contemporary relevance. Now-a-days the need for teaching soft skills is felt in all courses of higher education. Active listening, decision making, interpersonal skills, leadership, etc. are very important for all the students. Students who have such good soft skills get better success in life and career than students who are good only at technical skills and lack soft skills.

I am sure that this seminar will provide an opportunity for the participants to hone their own skills and also help their student’s perfect soft skills for better prospects.

I wish the National Seminar all success.


(PROF. S. RAMACHANDRAM)



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

University College of Arts and Social Sciences

Osmania University, Hyderabad - 500 007, Ph No. 27682255, 27091926



October 16, 2017

MESSAGE

Literature is a reflection of all experiences of human life. Therefore it has contexts for all attitudes and behaviour which are the focus of Soft Skills.

Teaching Soft Skills through theory is not so rewarding as teaching them through experiences and this can best be done by using literary contexts as live examples of how skills should be learnt and practiced.

There was a time when people would learn Soft Skills from their interaction with others but now technology has made human interaction lesser. Therefore we can use literary texts to bring this interaction back and inculcate soft skills in the process.

I am very happy that the Department of English, AMS College has taken up this as the theme of their National Seminar. I am sure some interesting papers will be presented in this Seminar which will help improve the pedagogy of Soft Skills in the higher education scenario.

I wish the Seminar all success and congratulate the Department of English for this endeavour.

(Prof. Sumita Roy)

Professor & Head
Department of English
Osmania University
Hyderabad - 500 007.



**DURGABAI DESHMUKH MAHILA SABHA
(ANDHRA MAHILA SABHA)**

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Founder President



Date : 20.10.2017

MESSAGE

I extend my congratulations to Arts & Science College for Women of Durgabai Deshmukh Mahila Sabha (Andhra Mahila Sabha) for their efforts in organizing a National Seminar on “**Soft Skills Through Literary Contexts**” and also bringing out a souvenir.

I am sure that this Seminar will provide much needed platform to our students.

I wish the Seminar a grand success.

Sd/-

(N. USHA REDDY)

Durgabai Deshmukh Mahila Sabha

(Andhra Mahila Sabha)



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Founder President



Date : 23.10.2017

MESSAGE

I learn with great pleasure that the Department of English of Arts & Science College is organising one day National Seminar on “Soft Skills Through Literary Contexts”.

Soft Skills is the buzz word today attracting the attention of students, professionals and entrepreneurs all over the world. Employability today is commensurate with proving multiple skills in varied situations in a fast changing world. Among young people are potential philosophers, artists, writers, entrepreneurs, craftsmen and women – people who will create, who will constitute, who will continue the rich culture and tradition of any country.

There is therefore every need to develop the creative and innovative potential of young students through skill development.

This necessitates formulating models of implementing soft skills in language learning and teaching situation in today’s world. In this context organising this seminar is in a positive initiative by the Department of English.

I congratulate the staff of the Department of English and the management of the College for the initiative.

I hope the souvenir would not only be a fruitful record of models formulated, teaching procedures and activities to facilitate the introduction of soft skills, but would also serve to inspire the faculty and students to follow.

I wish the Seminar all success.

Best Wishes,

Sd/-

(DR. M. LALITHA KAMESWARI)
General Secretary, DDMS (AMS)



**ANDHRA MAHILA SABHA
ARTS & SCIENCE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN**
(Autonomous – NAAC Re-Accredited)
O.U. Campus, Hyderabad - 500 007.



Founder President

Smt. P. Vimala
President, AMS

Dr. G.N. Bhagya Rekha
Principal

Prof. M. Usha
Chairperson, AMS, ASCW

Sri. G. Sethu Madhava Rao
Hon. Secretary and Correspondent



Date : 28.10.2017

MESSAGE

I am immensely happy to learn that The Department of English AMS Arts & Science College is organizing a one day seminar on “Soft skills”.

I am delighted to note that the college has come up with the innovative idea of holding a seminar for imparting Soft Skills for the development of personalities, which is meant for the present society as the values are deteriorating.

AMS Arts & Science College is an excellent centre for Arts Science & Commerce and imparts knowledge to UG & PG students. The college epitomized the vision ethos and guiding spirit of higher education.

I hope the proceeding of this meet would provide the required motivation among the pursuers in a well – deserved manner. I am obliged to feel that this occasion would meet the intended success and hope of all the participants.

I Congratulate and convey my best wishes to the staff and students of the college on this occasion.

I wish the seminar a grand success.

Sd/-

(DR. G.N. BHAGYAREKHA)
Principal

ANDHRA MAHILA SABHA ARTS & SCIENCE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

Andhra Mahila Sabha, a unique institution dedicated to the upliftment of women, was established by Padma Vibhushan Dr. (Smt.) Durgabai Deshmukh in 1948 as a registered society under Indian Societies Act (XXI) of 1860 and a Trust in the same year. With its Central Office located in Hyderabad, Andhra Mahila Sabha has 25 units working under its flag in Chennai (4) and in the State of Andhra Pradesh (21). The institutions run by Andhra Mahila Sabha cater to – care of Women, Children, Senior Citizens, Disabled, Health and Education.

Andhra Mahila Sabha Arts & Science College for Women:

Andhra Mahila Sabha Arts & Science College for Women, established in 1968 in Hyderabad, (A.P) is affiliated to Osmania University. Spread over an area of 5.16 acres the College is situated on the campus of Osmania University. With imposing buildings, spacious lecture halls, well-equipped laboratories, the Campus instills spirit of education. Exclusive Learning Resource Centre, a building of Architectural value having books of archival value, as well as modern lures the knowledge seekers. Well equipped laboratories, Auditorium, Sports Facilities, Hostel accommodation, Mess/ Canteen facility, Health Centre, Placement Centre. Livelihood Centre are additional attractions of the institution.

The College offers undergraduate (12) and post-graduate (2) courses under aided and self-financing sections. The teaching staff numbering 41 are a team of qualified, dedicated, committed and service-oriented workers who spare no efforts for the *integrated development* of the student and the institution. Following the footsteps of the founder President, Dr. (Smt.) Durgabai Deshmukh, the faculty aims at imparting value added education to the students. The College is known for the qualitative and quantitative results. The faculty ever enthusiastic and innovative have initiated number of programmes and projects for the benefit of students keeping in view the changing trends and values.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Inaugural

09:30 am – 3:00 pm

- 09.30 am – 09.33 am : Lighting of the Lamp by Dignitaries
- 09.33 am – 09.35 am : Invocation
- 09.35 am : Welcome Address – **Ms. P. Rajyalakshmi**, Organising Secretary
- 09.40 am : About the Seminar – **Dr. K. Karuna Devi**, Convenor
- 09.45 am : Message by Principal
- 09.50 am – 09.55 am : Message – **Sri G. Sethu Madhava Rao**
Hon'ble Secretary & Correspondent
- 09.55 am – 10.00 am : Message of the Guest of Honour –
Prof. Sumita Roy, Head, Dept. of English, OU
- 10.00 am – 10.05 am : Keynote – **Prof. Annie Pothen**, Retd.
HoD of English, UPG College, Sec'bad
- 10.05 am – 10.07 am : Release of the Souvenir
- 10.07 am – 10.15 am : Inaugural Address by Chief Guest
Prof. S. Ramachandram, Vice Chancellor OU
- 10.15 am – 10.20 am : Presidential Remarks: **Prof. M. Usha**, Chairperson AMS ASCW
- 10.20 am : Vote of Thanks – **Mrs. Sandhya Rani**
- 10.40 am – 11.00 am : Tea Break
- 11.00 am – 01:00 pm : Technical Session I
- 01.00 pm – 02.00 pm : Lunch Break
- 02.00 pm – 03.00 pm : Technical Session II

Valedictory

03:15 – 04:00 pm

- 03.15 pm : Welcome Address – **Ms. P Rajyalakshmi**, Organising Secretary
- 03.20 pm : Report of the Seminar – **Dr. K. Karuna Devi**, Convenor
- 03.30 pm : Responses of Participants
- 03.35 pm : Message from Guest of Honour: **Prof. K. Sunita**,
Hon. Secretary & Correspondent, College of Teacher Education, AMS.
- 03.35 pm : Valedictory Address by Chief Guest – **Mr. P. Nageshwar Rao**, Retd. Principal
- 03.45 pm : Distribution of Certificates
- 04.00 pm : Vote of Thanks – **Dr. D. Rajeswari**, HoD, Dept of Zoology

NATIONAL SEMINAR
Organised by Dept. of English
28th October, 2017

COMMITTEES

Advisory Committee

Prof. P. Ramaiah

Chairman

Prof. M. Usha

I/C (Chairperson)

G. Sethu Madhava Rao

Hon. Secretary & Correspondent

Dr. G.N. Bhagya Rekha

Principal

Organizing Committee:

Ms. P. Rajyalakshmi, Org. Secretary

Dr. K. Karuna, Convenor

Dr. D. Rajeswari

Dr. Sunanda

Dr. Sridevi

Dr. Sharaadha

Dr. A. Pramila

Programme & Technical

Session Committee

Dr. Kiranmai, Convenor

Dr. Shanthisudha

Dr. Sunanda

Dr. Jhansi Rani

Media

Dr. D. Rajeswari

Dr. Sharaadha

Mrs. D. Ramanamma

Registration

Dr. M. Sridevi, Convenor

Ms. Y. Vasundhara

Ms. N. Jaisree

Mrs. Sandhya Rani

Ms. Bhargavi

Hospitality

Dr. Pramila, Convenor

Ms. Swathi

Mrs. Anitha

Ms. Kalpana

Ms. Grace Sravani

Ms. Sowmya Vardhani

Ms. Fouzia



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THEME OF THE SEMINAR

Soft Skills is a term most often encountered in the present century in connection with teaching-learning contexts of higher education. Learners of professional, technical and mainstream general courses seem to acquire a laudable quality of Hard Skills—or the knowledge of their subject(s) of specialization. But they fail to make the best use of this knowledge because they are not equipped with proper attitudinal, behavioural tools which will lead them to succeed in both personal and professional life. This can become realizable only if they are also taught Soft Skills with the same rigor as Hard Skills.

Hence there is a need for inculcating Soft Skills along with the traditional subjects of study at institutions of higher education. And the responsibility of imparting Soft Skills to learners has been put on teachers of English from the time the State Council for Higher Education in the erstwhile joint state of AP initiated it in the beginning of the new millennium.

Subsequently it has been observed that Literature provides an extremely viable and creative medium for teaching Soft Skills. A learner who has mastered all his/her subjects needs to complement them with skills such as Interpersonal Relations, Time, Stress, Change Management, Conflict Resolution and Negotiation, Self Awareness, Self Analysis, Self Confidence, Planning and Goal Setting, Problem Solving and Decision Making, Critical Thinking, Leadership and Motivation, Verbal and Non-verbal Communication, Making an Effective Presentation, Working in Teams, etc. And it is possible to teach all these through the use of examples available in literary texts.

Almost every literary text has a host of Soft Skills which are often missed out while teaching if the focus is only on meaning, language, comprehension, and such parameters. In the process, the learner acquires the superficial content available in the story, poem or play but misses out on the deeper strains of life altering skills which a slight shift in orientation of the teaching-learning graph can exhibit.

Objectives

The present Seminar hopes to address this lacuna in the English Classroom at the Undergraduate and Professional Degree levels where English is a compulsory subject for one or two years—two or four semesters. By taking a close look at the prescribed syllabus or suggest the changes in syllabus content, soft Skills can be added to the other language and literary components that are being taught and tested in these courses.

We invite original, thought-provoking papers from teachers/researchers who are engaged in handling English classes or syllabus design or who are aware of the dismal situation of underemployment and unemployment staring at a large percentage of students who qualify for their degrees with high grades but fail to make a mark in their professional life.

PP-01

Etiquette and Grooming in the novel Umrao Jaan Ada

Dr. D. Parameshwari, Assistant Professor, Dept of English
Nizam College, Hyderabad.

The study will focus on the Etiquette and Grooming of the courtesans in the novel Umrao Jaan Ada. The different genres of 'Islamicate' films show a variety of clothing that is regarded as appropriate for muslims to wear in the Mughal court, in the Courtesans 'Kotah'. **Muslim men often wear** unremarkable clothes such as western style outfits or Kurta-Pyjamas, but may be shown wearing clothing that marks them as Muslims. Some muslim men, like Hindu holy men, intellectuals, baddies and Sikhs wear beards and they may wear small muslim caps as one of the friends in salim langde pe mat ro (1989, dir. Saeed Mirza), who wears a cap and a kurta while the other muslims wear western clothes.

PP-02

Soft Skills through Literacy Contexts – Life Skills

Nettikoppula Shiva Kumar, HOD of English, [M.A, M.Ed. SET] (Gold Medalist in Eng Lit)
Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul International School, Mahabubnagar, Telangana State - 509 001.
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In the history of Post-Independence Indian writing in English with reference to Life Skills have occupied a significant place with their solid contribution. They launch an aesthetic voyage within to explore the private consciousness of the Life Skills. These skills are something of a buzz word not only in education; it is also the focus of discussion across a range of industries around the world.

Life skills have been defined by the WHO as, "abilities for adaptive and positive behavior that enable individuals to deal; effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life."

We face a life skills crisis, which is imbalance between supply and demand much is being made these days of the need to boost academic achievement. I felt for the happiness and success of our students and the productiveness and success of our society, as educators we need to admit, face and address the life skills crisis. But no matter if you call them life skills, as 21st century skills, soft skills etc.

My research article will explore the avenues of vivid vistas of Macmillan – Life skills. I would like to through the light on the concerns of students who are able to understand and use these skills, along with their educational qualifications will be better placed to take advantage of educational and employment opportunities. Of course we do all this with a smile, humour is very important when it comes to encouraging such a life skills in students and character getting things wrong sometimes shows them that it is okay to make mistakes too.

PP-03

Exploring Life Skills through Literary Texts

J.Naveen, PhD Scholar

Osmania University, Hyderabad.

The Skills which are necessary or desirable for full participation in everyday life are life skills

Some of the important life skills identified through Delphi Method by WHO are:

- Decision making
- Problem solving
- Creative thinking/lateral thinking
- Critical thinking/perspicacity
- Effective communication
- Interpersonal relationships
- Self awareness/mindfulness
- Assertiveness
- Empathy
- Equanimity
- Coping with stress, trauma and loss
- Resilience

Language is a mixture of many aspects such as culture, communication, behaviour, life style etc so Language is not only related to communication but also many aspects. When we talk about a particular language it resembles particular culture in our mind. Ex Urdu – we get thought of their dress, people, and culture. When a student learns language he not only learns language but also culture, behaviour and many aspects which are helpful to his life those are nothing but life skills in my perspective which are included in language. The source of language is literature then ultimately literature is abundance source or treasure for any language. My research is to find out or bring to lime light life skills from literary texts such as Keats poetry, words worth poetry, Shakespeare dramas etc.

PP-04

Life Skills for Successful Life

Neeli Ramesh, Assistant Professor of English

Sphoorthy Engineering College, Nadergul, R.R. District, Hyderabad, Telangana State.

TA Skill is the learnt capacity or talent to carry out pre-determined results often with the minimum outlay of time, energy or both. Today's knowledge worker truly requires an integrated set of skills or Multi-skills – one person (he/she) can do more than one task in the workplace. All academic curricula are aimed at strengthening the students' knowledge in their area of study. Right from the school level, the focus is always on the academic subjects and the set of skills related to knowledge, talent and abilities of students/ candidates. But, the skill which actually required building a successful career is actually neglected. The changing industry environment demands a wide variety of skills – academic knowledge and industry-relevant talent. Consequently, the importance of skills other than

the regular academic knowledge has increased manifold over the past few years. Whether it is the need to satisfy the thirst for success and achievement or the need for better employment, skills acquisition has become the need of the hour. It is not only above purposes, to mould the life, form attitude, build the personality and to come out of the hurdles in day to day life – the essence of the life skills make big difference with great impact. The present paper concentrates on the required skills like life skills, communication skills or Softskills which make the life of students/ unemployed tangible towards their career objective / goal other than the academic knowledge.

Key words: Life Skills, Soft Skills, Intra-personal and Inter Personal Skills.

PP-05

Soft Skills

N. Gouri Parvati, M.Com., M.A (Eng)., M.Phil (Eng)., B.Ed., S.L in English
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Soft skills are sometimes referred to as transferable skills or professional skills. Soft skills are the difference between adequate candidates and ideal candidates. The key soft skills section is an extensive, but not exhaustive, guide to what should be considered. Communication, Responsibility, Teamwork, Problem solving are some of the soft skills. How to place the soft skills in the CV, also depends on the efficiency of the candidate. Intelligence is a potentiality; to channelize the intelligence into thinking the soft skills are helpful.

PP-06

Teaching Soft-Skills through Literary Context in Class-Room for Undergraduates

Fouzia Begum, M.A. B.Ed., PGCTE (EFLU), American TESOL, HoD English
St. Joseph's Degree College, Attapur Branch, Hyderabad.

This paper aims at emphasizing the teaching of soft-skills through literary text in this age of globalization.

English literature is the study of literature written in the English Language. The writers do not necessarily have to be from the England but can be all over the world.

Literature serves as a gateway to learning of the past and expanding knowledge and understanding of the world. Literary text's or literary work's main purpose is 'Universal welfare'.

All literature, whether it be poems, essays, novels, or short stories, help us address human nature and conditions which affect all people. These may be the need for growth, doubt and fear of success and failure, the need for friends and family, the goodness of compassion and empathy, trust, or the realization of imperfection. We learn that imperfection is not always bad and that normal can be boring. We learn that the life must be lived to the fullest. We need literature in order to connect with our own humanity. Literature teaches us how to live, Literature makes readers visit places, experience events, meet people, listen to them, feel their joys and sufferings.

Literature is important and necessary, it provides growth, strengthens our minds, and gives us ability to think out of the box.

Teaching language and literary texts are

1. To help the student learn & use the language
2. To help them relish the literature (to take pleasure in the literature)
3. To teach useful things for betterment in their life

This paper emphasizes on the third – by which the most important purpose, that is to inculcate soft skills or Life-skills through literary context. *A paper on Teaching Soft-skills through literary texts 2017*

Key Words : Soft-Skills, Literary text, Social Transformation

PP-07

Importance of Paralinguistic Cues for Successful Careers

Dr. Madhumathi Kotamraju

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“When the eyes say one thing, and the tongue another, a practiced man relies on the language of the first” – Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Communication is to convey the message or information to the receiver understands through a medium called language. However, communication can be through Kinesics i.e by means of gestures, body movements and other forms. In social psychology, it is termed as all behaviour in the presence of another person is considered as communication or Kinesics communication. Language is a recent technology.... your body language, your eyes, your energy will come through to your audience, before you even start speaking. As the quote given by Ralph Waldo Emerson, the body movements convey accurate message than the spoken communication. The aspect of Paralinguistics or Non-verbal communication plays a significant role in vernacular class room atmosphere and also for hearing impaired section of people, as it does not involve words. This type of communication adds more emphasis or shades of the meaning to what people say. Paralinguistic features or cues are so important and significant that they can change the message completely. For Leaders and professionals kinesics plays a vital role in building their Careers. Hence in order to work with fellow people, leaders need to make sense of their non-verbal cues. Emotional intelligence is thus a sine qua non of their skill set.

Objectives: The art of communication is the language of leadership.

Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.

Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

Confidence is contagious. Catch it, and spread it.

Key Words: Non-verbal communication: Kinesics: Emotional intelligence:

PP-08

Soft Skills: An Effective Tool to Complement Professional Students' Hard Skills for their Academic and Professional Success

Dr. Krishna Chaitanya E., Assistant Professor of English

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Many research surveys state that the present education system in India is unable to strike a fine balance between technical skills and soft skills. Although Indian universities are providing excellent training for their students, majority of the outgoing students, despite being highly qualified, remain unemployed. The reason lies in the current academic system which focuses more on imparting hard skills than soft skills and behavioural skills. This is one of the significant reasons why majority of the Indian students are unable to make it to the job market. A few who have joined the workforce are losing their jobs at an alarming rate due to poor soft and interpersonal skills.

The present paper aims at presenting some of the problems Indian students are currently facing due to lack of appropriate soft skills. It also argues the need of imparting soft skills on par with the core subjects in all the streams of U.G. and P.G. courses. It further deals with the necessity of honing technical and soft skills for students' academic and professional success. The paper is an attempt to explore the existence of skill gap (in the light of the need for soft skills) i.e. expectations of the industry and the quality of students. It is concluded with some of the steps government has taken to bridge the lacuna and improve career prospects of the professional students.

Keywords: Behavioural Skills, Soft skills, Technical skills & Skillset

PP-09

Soft Skills inclusion in English Language Teaching at the UG level: A Gateway for Students' Employment

Dr. A. Naresh, Lecturer in English

Government Degree College, Huzurnagar, Suryapet, Telangana, India

This article aims how to develop the life skills (or) soft skills along with English language teaching for enhancing employability of the UG students. The researcher has been focussed on soft skill teaching alongside textual teaching in the classroom as a strategy to enhance the students' not only English language learning in a natural context but also improving their effective communication skills to become employable. In this connection, the researcher would like to state the dire need of imparting soft skills to the target students. In this study, the researcher discussed the importance of soft skills and its' imminent results in the coming days of the UG students in lieu of traditional teacher teaching skill within their prescribed English textbooks. As teacher of English, one has to follow adequate teaching methodologies for effective language teaching along with the life skills which would help the students' to shape as skilled manpower.

Key Skills: Soft Skills, Life Skills, English Language Teaching, Employment

PP-10

Teaching Life Skills through Literature

Srimadhavi P, Faculty of English

CVR College of Engineering, Ibrahimpatnam, Hyderabad.

Literature is an art which enriches the reader's mind with respite and relief from intricacies of life. Literature is an art through which human relationships, feelings, trials and tribulations are presented in a vivid manner. Works of literature have elements of entertainment, enlightenment and learning. The paper elaborates about how well works of literature can help readers acquire desirable behavioural traits that are necessary for sustainability and existence in the society. The influence of reading works of literature has a manifold effect. The paper presents ample evidences from classics and contemporary works which act as guiding forces for acquiring fine social skills and life skills. Taking instances from literature as a basis for enhancement of life skills will certainly prove successful. Paper gives a novel perspective to utilise works of literature to refine and hone up the social skills and life skills. A piece of fiction enhances delicate senses and sensibilities that are essential to make life worth living.

PP-11

A Study on Poetry as an effective means to teach Soft Skills

P. Jyothi, Lecturer, Dept of English

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Soft skills are the personal attributes that enable someone to interact effectively and harmoniously with other people. They are a combination of social skills, communication skills, character traits, attitudes, career attributes, social intelligence and emotional intelligent quotients. Literature plays a vital role in imparting soft skills to the students. Apart from gaining knowledge from the books, they also realize their own strengths and weaknesses. The classroom becomes a platform to learn and unlearn many things. Every word and character in literature has an invisible message. These messages reach the students through lecture method, activity method, discussions etc. poetry is one of the important genres that brings epiphany in the students. The situations, characters, imagery and the interpretations help in the realization of loopholes and thus, the transfer of skills. The present study focuses on the soft skills like self-confidence and decision making taking Robert Frost's poem "The Road Not Taken" as a base. The paper also unfolds the teaching methodology used in teaching this poem. The data is collected from the secondary sources like research articles, text books of semester 1 and 3 (Graduation), Osmania University and World Wide Web. The present paper also reveals the strategies used in teaching learning ambience to enrich the students with skills.

Key words: Soft skills, attributes, epiphany, loopholes, methodology.

PP-12

Where has the Text Gone? Innovative Methods to Develop Soft Skills through Literature

*Dr. JhilaMChattaraj, Assistant Professor, Dept of English
RBVRR Women's College, Hyderabad.*

We no more study literature simply for pleasure. It has become a tool box to unlock the difficulties and challenges thrown by the world in our everyday lives. Hence, there is a huge responsibility on teachers who teach English language and literature. The biggest challenge is to make students use literature to develop skills to that will enhance their career and personality.

In my paper, I would like to introduce a few tried and tested classroom teaching-learning methods to improve literary skills, cultural awareness and employability skills of students. The paper will firstly concentrate on the latest technological innovations, research tools, community learning, peer learning, blogging, empathetic conversations, understanding the “golden Circle” as explained by Simon Sinek and many other such interesting activities conducted by me in classroom. I will highlight the way these activities have linked the inside of a literary text with the outside world of knowledge and skills. Secondly, I will write about the results of the activities carried out through pictures and videos made by the students. Lastly, I would like to show how the above list of activities not only develop life skills in students but equip them with set of transferable skills that they can use in any job sector.

I hope my paper will contribute to the aim of the seminar and enhance its purpose.

PP-13

The Meaningful Trace of Core Life Skills in the One Act Play – Refund

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Wasserkopf – A character from the one act play titled ‘Refund’ written by Fritiz Karinthy felt vaguely dissatisfied with life, reason being he was unsuccessful in life and learns about the same from his friend. After an interval of eighteen years he goes back to school to get his tuition fees back. Unruly body language and intense usage of words of Wasserkopf makes the principal examine the product of his school.

The present study aims to

1. Analyze various life skills of the protagonist- ‘Wasserkopf’ in detail.
2. Make UG learners aware of essential life skills through different characters of the play.
3. Equip teachers and learners few activities of life skills.

PP-14

Biblical Literary Allegory : Strategies for Developing Self Confidence as a Soft Skill

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An Allegory is a literary form in which the characters or events are symbols, representing other events, ideas or people. It has been a common literary device throughout the history of literature. Allegories have been used to indirectly express unpopular ideas; to critique politics; to rebuke those in power; to extract abstract ideas or spiritual truths through an extended metaphor, making the truth easier to grasp.

The Bible contains many instances of allegory that explains the strategies soft skills. There are two basic senses of scripture. The literal sense refers to words which are inspired by human authors and fulfills grammatical aids, archeological evidence, historical and literary analysis. The spiritual sense refers to the signified in the words of a text. The meaning is expressed under the influence of the Holy Spirit in the context of paschal mystery of Christ and of the new life that flows from it. The Biblical literary narrative examines the conflict between good and evil; heaven and hell; light and darkness; angels and demons; wisdom and foolishness; faith and doubt; courage and cowardice; obedience and rebellion; hope and despair. Within this narrative of inner and outer conflict, the sovereign hand of God is upon the course of history from creation to consummation.

Self Confidence as a Soft Skill insists on faith in oneself, faith in others and faith in God. The important strategies for developing Self Confidence are to avoid barriers like addictions, fears and nervousness. Cultivate some social and self-worth skills. Self-awareness is a skill dependent on person's ability to put into place a balanced self-image. This can be done by measuring self-esteem and self-worth.

This paper would explore self-confidence as a soft skill through illustrative allegories. It also justifies through examples and proves the significance of soft skills in correcting behavior and attitudes. It also highlights how they not only teach values but also skills acquired by practice. It also doesn't deny the fact that, they are not something new but already existing skills which are in the vicinity of our consciousness that need active awareness in the day to day life situations.

PP-15

Soft Skills in the Institutes of Higher Education

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Soft skill is a buzzing word which is rocking the world today. It is attracting the attention of the people. Soft Skills are key to build relationships creates more opportunities for advancement.

The elements of Human Resource(capital) Development through, soft skill and hard skill elements which constitute communication skills, critical thinking, team work, professional, moral ethics, leadership skills, lifelong learning and information management skills.

In the working environment, hard skills normally refer to technical methods or practical tasks that are typically easy to observe, quantify, and measure. Training of such skills for under graduates is relatively easy given that they have acquired the necessary knowledge in colleges.

The Ministry of Higher Education recently asserted that the above mentioned soft skills and hard skills are to be introduced to undergraduates of institutes of Higher learning in the Country. Through we have also put forward some suggestions on how these elements are to be included in the under graduate programme.

Key words: soft skills communication skills, critical thinking, analytical skills, team work, Professional, moral ethics, leadership skills, lifelong learning and information management skills.

PP-16

Learning communication skills through effective speeches - Grammar of Anarchy by Dr. Ambedkar

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Speech communication is defined as a process by which we assign and convey meaning in an attempt to create shared understanding. This process requires a vast repertoire of skills in intrapersonal and interpersonal processing, listening, observing, speaking, questioning, analyzing and evaluating. English students are supposed to develop soft skills for their progress. Speech communication is one of the skill prescribed through the historic speech of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, “the Grammar of Anarchy” delivered in the Constituent Assembly as the chairman of the drafting constitution. It was a visionary speech, Dr Ambedkar’s vision and foresight was depicted in the speech very vividly. The entire speech is insightful and relevant. He was a states man and patriot. The inspiring, speech is dynamic, informal, clear, and to the point. It is also, vivid and concrete, interesting, audience oriented, free from error, authentic and well organized depicting the qualities of an effective speech. The tone and tenor of the speech is powerful and creative, with clarity of thought captivating the audience with all motivation. As such, effective speeches can be used as a tool to impart soft skill in general and communication skill in particular.

PP-17

Teaching soft skills through the plays of Post Office, Chitra, Hayavadana and Tughlaq

Divya Nayakwadi

Through the character of Amal, the students understand that Amal through his utter gentleness and affection creates a wonderful world through his communication and interpersonal skills and how important they are in every aspect in everyday life.

We understand the importance of time and time management through the characters of dairy man, watchman, headman and Sudha.

It is explained in the paper, how Chitra in the play overcomes her guilt, manages stress and by self analysing her deeds comes finally as a confident woman.

The role played by Bhagavata as a mediator fulfils many functions in the play which is discussed in the paper. It also acts as the key to the play from a spectator to the confidant of the female protagonist. The speeches of Bhagavata echo at the onset build upon the stage of Hayavadana. The role played by the dolls act as an instrument in the play which explains the feelings of the characters and the changes occurring in the characters.

The importance of leadership qualities and conflict management is discussed through the character of Tughlaq.

PP-18

Recalling the Past: Understanding Skills of Draupadi from the Mahabharatha

Dr. Maithry Shinde

Many people in India find it difficult to reconcile that we live in a culture where the evolutionary changes leading to multidimensional growth and technology upgrades have led to a gradual decline of acknowledging a vast repository of our ancient knowledge. We tend to seek refuge and guidance from other or foreign resources, considering them as models of development. The nation's abundance culture, considered a storehouse of vast heritage is in the dark in pursuit of competing with societies who look up to India for the knowledge treasury, both delved and undelved.

Episodes from the classics can be picked unhesitatingly as the knowledge abundance conforms to almost all disciplines to a less or great extent. In the eventuality of designing and redesigning the syllabus, restructuring the curriculum, consequent to the understanding that existing models do not provide for the current needs, several new models have been proposed as a result of much brainstorming of the elite and the learned. The knowledge provided in schools and colleges is able to make the students equipped with certain knowledge, but application of the acquired knowledge seems to be a concern. Hence, the result is that most of our students are unemployable, or are not fully prepared to face outside challenges. There is certainly a need to synchronize knowledge with skills set and look for ways and means to introduce them into the curriculum. Hence, this paper makes an attempt to study the character of Draupadi from the 'Mahabharatha' and relate them to skills needed to survive in the challenging times.

PP-19

Language Skills through Literary Contexts

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Proficiency in English is necessary for professionals in business environment. Employers not only expect expertise and knowledge in their respective field but also soft skills. These skills make a dynamic difference. Soft skills make a difference in the personality of the individual. One can achieve success if they equip themselves with soft skills. The four language skills considered as essential soft skills can be acquired through literature. Literature raises the range of vocabulary and thoughts. A novel expresses the thoughts and language of a particular period and provides appropriate exposure to patterns of the language. Drama utilizes all of the communication skills and the language, the language in the play is the spoken language.

Keywords: four language skills, reading skills, drama, novel, communication skills.