

BEST PRACTICES OF THE INSTITUTION

1. **Title of the Practice:**

SARJAN -Skill Development Course for Speaking and Writing Skills by Departments of Hindi, Gujarati and English under the aegis of MNWC Literary Association

2. **Goal: Describe the aim of the practice followed by the institution:**

- The course is designed as a practical and strategic approach to empower students to have greater influence and impact in a variety of literary events, academic and other situations through honing their speaking and writing skills.
- To train students and prepare them for participation in competitions, instil confidence and give them an edge in all areas of life. The course is divided into four parts: Poetry, Dramatic skills, Public Speaking and Writing skills.

The Context:

Two initiatives, one by the Students' Council and the other by the Literary Association of Hindi, Gujarati and English with support from IQAC under project SHILPI was instrumental in starting SARJAN -Skill Development Course for Speaking and Writing Skills.

In 2016-17 the Students' Council Committee had set the ball rolling for informally taking a lead in organising a Skill Development Training Program in Literary skills. The committee took the initiative and chalked out a training program in literary skills by inviting experts in respective fields and students were intensively coached by the members of the Students' Council committee. It was found that from the students who were trained, some of who participated in intercollegiate/ University literary competitions won prizes.

Earlier, every year, the Departments of English, Hindi and Gujarati used to organize their respective Language Day(s) separately. A lot of repetition of activities led to duplication of events.

In 2017-18 the IQAC, under project SHILPI directed departments to plan and organize Skill Development programs. The Literary Association of Hindi, Gujarati and English Departments came together and brain stormed over this matter. It was decided to collectively organize training for B.A. and B.COM students to help them acquire literary skills where they would be trained by external experts and it will help them to get over their inhibitions and are able to participated in all levels of competitions. Hence the idea of SARJAN (Creation): a Skill Development Course germinated and was planted in 2017-18. SARJAN will also enable and empower students to acquire effective communication skills and thus accelerate their growth for being "career ready".

Thus, the Literary Association would play a pivotal role of a feeder by training students in literary skills and preparing them to participate in competitions organized by committee and departments at intercollegiate, regional, national and international levels.

The Practice: Describe the Practice and its implementation:

Selection Criteria:

The teachers were instrumental in selecting the students for the course. For students coming from non-literary backgrounds, the teacher identified students who showed an inclination towards Literature and creative arts. The course was designed to suit the requirements of students from literary and non-literary backgrounds. It was also formed to train them to become independent learners and thinkers.

A. The following events were conducted during the academic year 2017-18, between June 2017 and April 2018:

The Literary Association organized one day, 'Creative writing workshop' on 28th September 2017. Mr. Suraj Prakash and Mrs. Pragya Vikas were the Resource Person for the Workshop in which 31 English, 20 Gujarati and 6 Hindi students participated. Total 57 students participated.

In 2018-19 it was collectively decided to convert SARJAN in to a 30 hour Skill Development Program as jointly decided in the IQAC.

B. During the academic year 2018-19, the following events were conducted:

A Five- day Skill Development Course for Speaking and Writing Skills sponsored by Vijaya Bank, Vile Parle (West) Branch was held from 16th July – 21st July 2018. The Course began with the Inauguration in the august presence of Ms Rita Govindhan, Senior Manager Language of Vijaya Bank, Vile Parle (West) branch who encouraged and motivated the students for the Course.

Day 1 and 2: 16th and 17th July 2018, **Poetry Session**, Resource Person: Prof. Madhuri Chheda. During the session, the speaker highlighted the importance of understanding of the craft, different writing forms and techniques of composing poetry. They learnt to develop a greater appreciation of poetry prescribed in their curriculum and were able to connect with an audience by reading and reflecting on their self composed poetry

Day 3: 18th July 2018, **Dramatic skills**, Resource Person: Mr Arun Shekhar. At this session, they were taught to understand the relationship between the significant aspects of the fundamentals present in the extracts of scripts and how they collectively convey meaning. At the end of the session, the students experimented with the fundamentals of Drama to explore idea, thoughts and feeling, and generated perspectives on the situations, roles and relationships

suggested by the stimuli for performance possibilities. They developed a confidence to participate in theatre events and enhanced their performance in public speaking, poetry reading and presentations.

Day 4: 19th July 2018, **Public Speaking**, Resource Person: Mr. Sanjeev Nigam. Students learnt to develop speech preparation techniques, audience awareness and self-awareness. During the academic year they participated in various literary events like debates, election, extempore speeches, etc and also academic events like student paper presentations and won prizes.

Day 5: 20th July 2018, **Essay and Creative Writing**, Resource Person: Mr Chandidutt Shukla Sagar. The session focused on improving their craft for writing through an understanding of its process which involved idea generation, outlines and writing of several drafts. They developed the confidence to participate in literary events like essay writing, short story writing and creative writing competitions.

Students were presented with books as prizes sponsored by the Department of English during the sessions. Certificates were distributed to 57 students who participated in the Course at the Valedictory function. 35 English, 16 Gujarati and 6 Hindi Students participated.

5. Evidence of success: The literary Course enabled the students to acquire an exposure, which moulded them to bring about a change and make the best use of literature to think and write in a creative manner. The students participated in various college, inter collegiate and national level competitions:

A. The Department of English:

i) Total Number of Inter College prizes for Literary Events - 04

- Yuva Mahotsav Finale:
 - 01 student won 3rd Prize (Elocution)
- Kshiraj 2019 Premlila Vithaldas Polytechnic
 - 01 student won 1st Prize (Story Writing)
- Akansha 2018 Dr. BMN College of Home Science
 - 01 student won 2nd Prize (Creative writing)
- Lang-lit 2018 at B.K. Birla College of Arts, Science in Kalyan
 - 04 students participated (Poetry and Essay Writing)

ii) Total Number of Other Prizes at Inter College Level - 04

- Regional Yuva Mahotsav
 - 02 students won Consolation Prize (Street Play)
 - 01 student won Consolation Prize (Skit)
- Finale Yuva Mahotsav

01 student won Consolation Prize (Skit)
02 students won Consolation Prize (Street Play)

iii) Any Other:

- Dhai Akhar National Level Competition
20 students participated (Letter Writing)
- International Mother Language Day (Matrubhasha Divas)
126 students participated from all departments (Skit, Poetry Recitation, Book Launch by student, Ek Sur: Anek Bhasha)

B. The Department of Gujarati:

i) Total Number of Inter College Prizes for Literary Events (including First, Second, Third and Consolation) - 01

- KES Shroff College:
01 student won Consolation Prize (Essay Writing)

ii) Any other

- Inter Collegiate Samachar Pathan Competition, KES Shroff College
01 student participated
- Regional Yuva Mahotsav
02 students participated (Debate)
- Samvitti and Mumbai Gujarati Sangathan
02 students participated (Movie/ Short Video making Competition)
- Samvitti and Mumbai Gujarati Sangathan
02 students participated (Banner Making Competition)
- International Mother Language Day (Matrubhasha Divas)
126 students participated from all departments (Skit, Poetry Recitation, Book Launch by student, Ek Sur: Anek Bhasha)

C. The Department of Hindi :

i) Total number of Inter College Prizes for Literary events - 01

- Regional Yuva Mahotsav :
01 student won 3rd prize (Elocution)

ii) Any other - 03

- Hindustani Prachar Sabha :
02 students participated in Extempore Elocution competition.
- International Mother Language Day (Matrubhasha Divas)
126 students participated from all departments (Skit, Poetry Recitation, Book Launch by student, Ek Sur: Anek Bhasha)

6. Taking it forward:

- Training for Interview Skills for students to be added in Sarjan activities
- Comparing for Literary Association Activities to be done by students to improve their speaking skills.
- Number of students in Srishti Editorial Board to be increased.
- Motivating more students to contribute in the Srishti Magazine Literary Section.
- Promote and Motivate students to participate in Intercollegiate and National level Competitions and programmes

7. Problems encountered and Resources required:

- The training sessions for students needed space and certificates and prize books and refreshments required financial resources.
- Students find it challenging to adjust to the time slots given to them, pressure of studies and other activities, second language learners' pronunciation problems.
- Working within the limited funds given, is a big challenge for the Literary Association.

Any other information that may be relevant and important: Bank of Baroda (merged with Vijaya Bank), Vile Parle West, Mumbai was contacted for sponsorship. To make it more popular and happening, well established celebrities from the fields of media, event management, coaching, drama, writing, oratory, poetry, scriptwriters will be invited, more linkages will be established thereby increasing the opportunities for internships and placement for students.

1. Title of the Practice:

Food Waste to Kitchen Garden: A small step towards Environmental Awareness

Objectives of the Practice:

- a. To educate and sensitize students about biodegradable waste.
- b. To teach the method of making manure using the basket method and the waste of fruits and vegetables in the kitchen.
- c. To develop a Kitchen Garden using the manure made in the laboratory.
- d. The students to nurture the plants kept outside the Food Lab.

2. The Context:

On 5th February 2018 the students attended a talk on **Biodegradable Waste**, organized by NSS committee under the IQAC initiative NIRMMA. The talk was given by Ms. Mayuri Shinde from Stree Mukti Sangathan. She explained how to make manure from biodegradable waste of the food lab. The process of decomposition and use of manure was thoroughly explained. The talk included information on Waste Management methods, Concept of Zero Waste, Solid Waste Management, Journey from Shopping bag to Garbage Bag and Nature's Waste Management methods. Thirty two students of Food and Nutrition department attended the talk and learnt how to make manure in the food lab using the food waste generated during the practical's. The procedure for making manure using biodegradable waste was explained in detail.

3. The Practice:

Stage I:

The process of manure making from food waste in the Food Lab was started on 9th July 2018. The manure making basket was bought from Stree Mukti Sansthan and the process of making manure from Food Lab waste was initiated. To start with a little soil from the garden was spread at the bottom of the basket. The basket was kept a little above the ground. At the end of each daily practical, the waste was collected together and one student in rotation was responsible for completing the work. The collected waste is blended in the mixer along with a little water. It is then spread in the basket. The basket is kept in the sun for 2-3 hours daily except Sunday. In 3-4 months the basket has the manure which can be used. About 3-4 kg of manure is made. However, the amount of manure depends on the waste put in the basket. The manure thus generated was used in the campus garden.

Stage II:

In January, 2019 it was decided to set up the **Kitchen Garden** outside the Food Lab. Initially 5 pots were bought and plants of Tulsi, green chillies, tomato, mint and curry leaves were planted. The plants are nurtured by the students in rotation. These are sometimes used by the students in their cooking practical's.

Evidence of Success:

Fresh manure produce continues. The plan to increase plants also is being discussed. Students are maintaining the plants and basket with great interest.

4. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

It is the initiative of the Food and Nutrition Department. The pots are kept in the corridor outside the Lab for easy access and monitoring. Only one challenge is faced by students during the vacation period, the baskets don't get replenished. Thus the manure making happens from July to March. The kitchen garden is watered by the lab assistant in vacations when students do not come.

The project was financed by the college and the same will be continued.

