Sambhram Academy of Management Studies
ELTAI Chapter @ Sambhram, Bangalore
Inaugural Ceremony and Colloquium on
“Enhanced Language Skills for Effective Communication”

The Report

The ELTAI (English Language Teachers' Association of India) Chapter was inaugurated at Sambhram Academy of Management Studies, Bengaluru, on August 12, 2017; Dr V. C. Prakash, Head of the English Department was the Master of Ceremony. The inaugural ceremony started with the program briefing by Prof. K. C. Mishra; he welcomed the Chief Guest Dr Mangai Wilson (ELTAI Coordinator), Guest of Honor Dr R. V. Sheela (Associate Professor, MES Degree College, Bengaluru) and Prof. J. B. Janardhana, Professor at Dr NSAM First Grade College, Bangalore and spoke about the art of communication and its importance in today’s world. He stressed on the flair of mind to taste English literature along with other subjects of study and called upon the moral responsibility of English teachers to make perfect communication of the students at large.

Lighting the lamp and declaring the Chapter open was done by Dr. Mangai Wilson, Dr. R. V. Sheela and Prof. J. B. Janardhana followed by the Inaugural Speech by Dr. Mangai Wilson. The inaugural speech was about the importance of ELTAI and its function; ELTAI envisions making India a hub of ELT related activities and to conceptualize the experiences of English language teaching-learning and symbiotically share them with others; this forum for teachers to meet periodically and discuss problems relating to the teaching of English in India and help interact with educational administrators on matters relating to teaching of English.

Dr R. V. Sheela traced the trajectory of English studies in India through her speech; shared her experience of teaching and stated that English studies in India have not been satisfactory as English language has low competency even at degree level. The speaker also stressed upon the polarizing pressure of decolonization and globalization which give more demand for English language. By quoting "Language and Communication are the heart of human existence", she spoke about the importance of communication in twenty first century.

On his expert talk on 'Enhanced language skills for effective communication', Prof. J. B. Janardhana spoke about the importance and relevance of studying English language. He stressed on the vocabulary, grammaticality and intelligibility of English language. Prof Janardhana spoke about listening, speaking, reading and writing as the key skills needed to get equipped with English language.
An elaborate discussion on the aims and objectives of English language teaching was also done. He quoted Dr U. R. Anantamurthy: “If you don’t know your local language, you are illiterate” to make the audience understand the root of effective communication.

The inaugural ceremony came to an end with the vote of thanks by Ms. Garnet P. T., Faculty of English Department at Sambhram Academy of Management Studies; refreshments were then provided for the Guests and participants. The afternoon session started with Colloquium on "Enhanced Language Skills for Effective Communication" led by Dr. Mangai Wilson and supported by Dr R. V. Sheela and Prof. J. B. Janardhana. Dr Mangai Wilson initiated a game by dividing the audience into three groups and each group was given the task to come up with teaching activity, objective and outcome; the groups responded as follows:

**First Group**

Class: Primary Level

Objective:

1) To help children acquire the skills of effective listening and focusing on enhancing concentration skills.

2) To help them convey their thoughts and ideas either verbally and non-verbally.

Activity:

1) An article is given and children are asked to speak and describe it in their own words.

2) Random questions are asked by students to repeat the same information.

Outcome:

1) Building self-confidence.

2) Sharing of new perceptions of a particular concept.

3) Recollection and recapitulation.
**Second Group**

Class: Secondary Level

Objective:

1) Learning through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Activity:

1) Story telling method- watch visuals of a story without audio and try to relate it to a story. Ask each student to make a story out of the visuals projected.

Outcome:

1) Increase attention span of students.

2) Increase the ability to use vocabulary.

**Third Group**

Class: Tertiary Level

Objective:

1) To enhance communication skills

Activity:

1) At intermediate level, give words and ask the students to speak for a minute.

2) At higher level, give words and ask students to create a story with a twist.

Outcome:

1) Understand effective mechanism of communication.

The three groups explained how these activities can be successfully implemented in classrooms. Group members also shared their experience while conducting similar activities and intense discussion happened on overcoming problems faced during classroom activities.
Dr. Mangai Wilson appreciated all the groups for coming up with activities relevant to English language teaching and spoke about how each activity will equip a child with understanding English language. Lastly she appreciated Sambhram Academy of Management Studies for conducting the colloquium. A token of appreciation was gifted to Dr. Mangai Wilson for the support she put forth towards the opening of the ELTAI Chapter at the College. Certificates of participation were awarded to all the members participated at the inaugural ceremony and colloquium. The afternoon session ended with the vote of thanks by Ms. Namratha, Faculty of English Department at Sambhram Academy of Management Studies.