Report of the activities organised by the Department of English (2021—2022)

T.I.C : Dr. Preeti Shukla

1) Slogan writing competition on 75th Independence Day

Day & Date: Saturday, 14th August 2021 ELLA, the English Language and Literary Association of Department of English of Shyam Lal, College (Evening), organized the first event of the session 2021-22, a slogan presentation event called the 'Elixir of Freedom' on the 75th anniversary of Indian Independence. This event was organized virtually on Google meet for the undergraduate students of the college to celebrate the spirit of patriotism together. In the event, four students participated in the competition and they presented their original slogans in both Hindi and English language based on the theme, i.e., Elixir of Freedom.

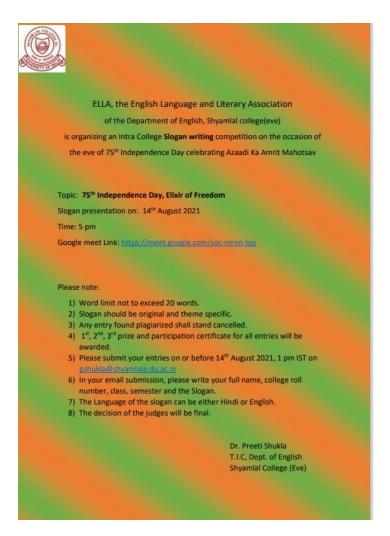
The event was started by Dr. Preeti Shukla and she talked about the prime motto of the department which is to help every student learn the language and help them be confident while communicating in English since the students come from many states. She then invited the Principal of the College, Dr. Ramesh Kumar to enlighten the students. He talked about the irony that we were celebrating Independence Day in the language (English) which we fought against to get freedom. He addressed the students by saying that this Independence Day we should see English as a language that unites us in such diversity.

The program was then conducted by Dr. Kusum Devi and she called Ms. Megha Sharma, Student Executive ELLA, to invite and introduce the judges for the competition. The judges for the event were Dr. Preeti Shukla of English and Dr. Sunita Saxena of the Hindi department of the college who evaluated the participants based on their slogan composed, presentation skills, etc. Dr. Kusum Devi invited the participants on the floor for their slogan presentation; the participants included;

Mr. Anant Joshi (English), Mr. Sachin Kumar (Hindi), Ms. Ishita Pandey (Hindi), Ms. Shyama Ojha (Hindi) and the Judges awarded them 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and consolation prizes respectively. In the end, Dr. Kusum Devi gave the vote of thanks and concluded the program.

The whole event was a success and I believe that this event kindled the feeling of patriotism and nationalism among the students in such hard

times. I only suggest the students take part in such events more enthusiastically.



First Prize winning slogan:

After 75 years,
this tricolor teaches you
not to sacrifice your life
but to live and make others live freely.

2) The Department of English in collaboration with IQAC of the College conducted a webinar on "Gender and Neutrality in the 21st Century"

Day & Date: Saturday, September 4, 2021

The organising committee were all the faculty of the department

Dr. Preeti Shukla (T.I.C.), Dr. Kusum Devi, Dr. S.K. Yadav, Ms. Gauri Saxena, Dr. Vatsal Singh, Dr. Sarika Tyagi and Dr. Megha Jain with Dr. Ramesh Kumar Principal & patron and Co-Ordinator IQAC Dr. Kumar

Prashant.

The Concept note of the webinar spoke about Gender and Neutrality as Gender Sensitisation is the need of the hour.

Now when it is essential to be gender-sensitive in the modern era; with the progress of time, women have imparted education that began to empower them; with the change of time, gender sensitivity does not remain confined only to the questioning and harassment of women.

Many literary writers' post-Victorian era of British literature have penned down much on the trial and tribulations of women. Virginia Woolf's Orlando, Le Guin's The Left hand of Darkness, Eugenides' The Middle Sex are few to mention in this connection.

Indian writings in English has also helped to widen the outlook of its readers by addressing gender equality and gender neutrality. Mahesh Dattani's Seven Steps Around the Fire, R.K.Narayan's The Man-eater of Malgudi, Mulk Raj Anand's The Untouchable, Vijay Tendulkar's Kanyadan, Bapsi Sidhwa's The Pakistani Bride, and several others are fine examples of Gender sensitivity where female individuality is given a great honor.

The Inaugural session began with Welcome address by the T.I.C. Dr. Preeti Shukla. Also, the concept note was elaborated. The importance of being Gender neutral and how She has to be respected in all of her femaleness and her power should come from who she is.

After invoking Goddess of knowledge Maa Saraswati with Mantras and Virtual lamp lighting, an introduction of Principal Dr. Ramesh Kumar and inviting him for words of encouragement followed.

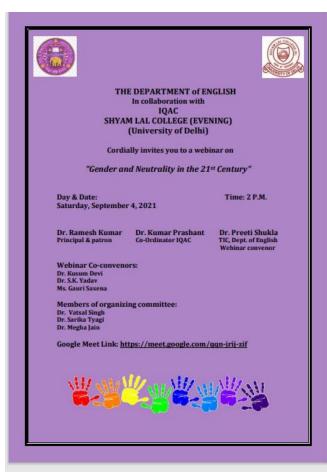
Honorable speakers of the webinar were

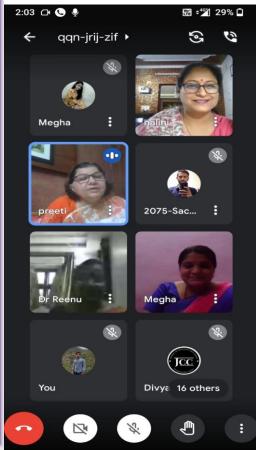
Dr. Nalini G. Kapoor is at present working as Associate Professor in English at Vivekananda College, Delhi University. She did her MA & PhD in English from University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. Her area of specialization is Australian Literature, specifically Aboriginal Women Writers. In recognition of academic achievements, she was honoured with the Appreciation Award presented by District administration, Alwar on Republic Day 1997.

Dr. Reenu Gupta our second speaker of the day is Associate Professor in the department of Hindi in Shyamlal college (Evening). She is the chairperson of college complaints committee and convenor of Gender Sensitisation Committee. She has worked lot on women's issues. She bagged the prestigious Vice Chancellor's innovation project of Delhi University 2012-13 and published a book on it. She is the convenor of Picoholics, Photography Club of the college and is very popular among students.

She shared with the listeners that how our college campus is Gender sensitive and a zero-tolerance zone for any form of harassment against women on campus. She also discussed especially addressing the young students that it is each ones responsibility to respect each other not on the basis of Gender. A gender equal society is where the word even does not exist, where everyone can be themselves.

Followed by the presentation of both the speakers the question answer session rather an informal talk with the speakers went on for quite 40-45 minutes. Dr. Kumar Prashant, coOrdinator IQAC, delivered the vote of thanks.







3) Online Essay Writing Competition:

An Intra-College essay writing competition was organised by ELLA-English Language and Literary Association of Shyamlal College Evening in collaboration with IQAC of the college. It was an online competition and students were given time of one week to mail their entries. The topic of the competition being "Life Lessons that Corona Virus Taught."

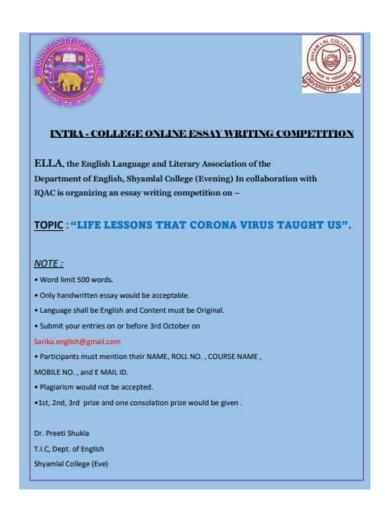
Out of 11 entries the adjudicators selected following 4 students as winners of the competition:

1st Prize: Saurabh Singh, BAP, 5th Sem, Roll no 2704

2nd Prize: Deepa Tiwari, BAP, 3rd Sem, Roll no 6612

3rd Prize: Archana Bharti, BAP, 3rd Sem, Roll no 2073

Consolation Prize: Preeti Rai, BAP,5th Sem, Roll no 2712



4) Talk by Prof Gitanjali Chawla

The Department organised a lecture of Prof Gitanjali Chawla on

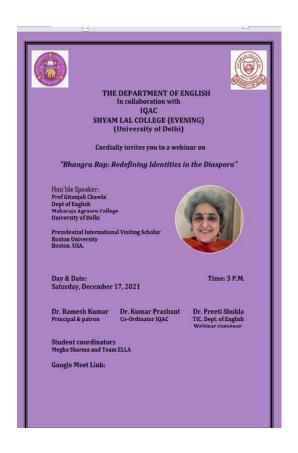
"Bhangra Rap: Redefining Identities in the Diaspora"

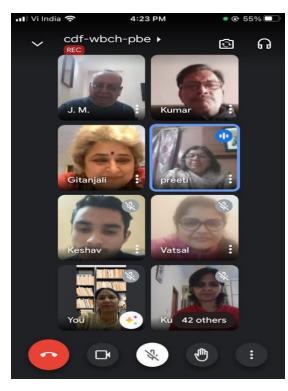
Day & Date: Saturday, December 17, 2021at 3 p.m. on the Google Meet.

Hon'ble Speaker Prof Gitanjali Chawla has more than twenty-five years of teaching experience at Maharaja Agrasen College, University of Delhi. Her research on the folk songs of Punjab has led to an active participation in several fora, both at the national and international level. She has also been the Presidential International Visiting Scholar at Boston University, Boston, USA.

For the students of BA programme, reading cultural diversity and linguistic plurality, folklore folk traditions and culture, the lecture gave an in-depth information and understanding of what folk is. How important it is to understand history and society. Bhangra being a popular dance form associated with the harvest celebrations in Punjab, India. The fusion of their native folk elements with reggae and hip-hop created a vibrant polyglottic soundscape wherein dynamic synergies engaged in a battle to challenge marginality and create liminal spaces for affiliation. Bhangra rap and its mutants invaded the chart busters riding on the wave of the need for experimental sounds, the elements of exotic as well as digitalization and technological advancements in the popular mass media industry.

An hour-long lecture on how simple pastoral dance tunes turned into modern day raps, followed by interactive session with professor Chawla and enthusiasts' students of all the streams was worth listening. The students enjoyed and gained knowledge on yet another folk form of the times.





5) Intra college Debate competition

ELLA (English Language and Literary Association) of the Department of English organised an online intra college debate competition through google meet platform on 12 February 2022. The topic of the debate was "Vlogging: A viable career option or a fanciful dream".

Dr. Preeti Shukla accorded a warm welcome to the Principal Sir, judges and the participants. Then, the session was handed over to the student coordinators of ELLA, Mr. Keshav Soni and Ms. Priyanka Verma.

The coordinators of the programme then called Principal Sir, Dr. Ramesh Kumar for his inaugural speech. Principal Sir spoke about the positives and negatives of vlogging and also emphasized that vlogging should always be done with caution and responsibility. He also gave his best wishes to the participants. Dr. Kumar Prashant, IQAC convenor, encouraged the students by his motivational words and appreciated the ongoing efforts put up by the Department of English under the current Teacher in-charge Dr. Preeti Shukla for organising student centric programs which further help them in honing their critical thinking skills.

Dr. Preeti Shukla, the Teacher in-charge of the Department gave her best wishes to the participants and also asked them to take care of the paralinguistic features while debating as it is one of a very important feature which needs to be taken care of while speaking. She also mentioned that the topic vlogging is contemporary and quite relevant for today's youth. Dr. Vatsal Singh gave introduction of the topic and discussed its relevance specially in today's social context. She also gave her best wishes and encouraged the participants to bring out their best thoughts in the competition.

Thereafter, the coordinators of the event introduced the judges of the debate competition - Dr. Manu Umesh - Department of Commerce, Dr. Manish Karmwar - Department of History, Dr. Sarika Tyagi - Department of English. After briefing the participants about the rules, the Debate competition started with the arguments in favour and against vlogging. Dr. Rajiv Ranjan Singh - Department of Computer Science, Dr. Manu Umesh and Dr. Manish Karmwar gave insights on the topic and also gave handy tips to the students on the things which are required to be considered if someone is choosing vlogging as a full-time career option.

The result of the competition was declared after successful completion of the event. The winners of the competition are as follows:

1st Position: Anant Joshi

2nd Position: Tanya Chawla

3rd Position: Aniruddh Arora



6) Talk by Shri Yuvraj Sharma

The Department of English Shyam Lal college (Eve) celebrated Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav by organising a talk on "Theatre as a medium for learning Indian history", on 29th Dec 2022 from 4 pm onwards at google meet platform. The talk was started with valuable words of the Principal Dr. Ramesh Mishra after that Dr. Amit Singh, Nodal Officer for celebrating Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav in shyamlal college evening. He welcomed the speaker and recited the poem BADHE CHALO which contributed in creating enthusiastic Nationalistic aura for the occasion.

we got a chance to listen our Hon'ble Speaker Shri Yuvraj Sharma, Thespian, actor & Children Theatre director, National School drama Alumnus ('79). He had a very unique kind of energy which is seldomly seen in online programs, through his presentation we got into the depth of Theatre as a medium for learning Indian history and also came to know how it is a medium for learning. He also showed us the Journey of Indian National Flag. The session was very informative and had something which could bind students for a longer time. Students came up with the positive reviews about the talk.

The program ended successfully with the vote of thanks by IQAC Coordinator Dr. Kumar Prashant. Dr. Preeti Shukla, TIC of The English Department appreciated Team ELLA, and all of those volunteers who have been actively working throughout the event.





THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH In collaboration with IQAC SHYAM LAL COLLEGE (EVENING) (University of Delhi)

Celebrates 'Azadi ka Amrut Mahotsav' by organizing a talk on

"Theater as a medium for learning Indian history"

Hon'ble Speaker

Shri Yuvraj Sharma Thespian, actor & children theater director National School of Drama alumnus ('79)



Day & Date: Monday, 24 January 2022 Time: 4 P.M.

Dr. Ramesh Kumar Dr. Kumar Prashant Dr. Preeti Shukla Principal & patron Co-Ordinator IQAC TIC, Dept. of English

Ms. Megha Sharma & Team ELLA Student Coordinators

Google Meet Link:



