

Event Report----Story Telling Competition ELLA (English Language and Literary Association) Department of English

The programme commenced with a lamp-lighting ceremony, followed by a welcome address by Dr. Vatsal Singh, Teacher-in-Charge, Department of English. She welcomed everyone, the respected Principal, Professor Nachiketa Singh, faculty members and students who had taken time out of their busy schedules to be part of the occasion.

Dr. Vatsal Singh expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Principal Sir for his constant encouragement and support in nurturing initiatives that empower students to grow, discover their potential and develop their skills with confidence. She also acknowledged the contribution of the Department's senior faculty member, Dr. Kusum Devi, in naming the English Language and Literary Association (ELLA). Expressing her hopes for the association's future, she wished for it to grow further and create even greater opportunities for students in the years to come.

Addressing the participants of the storytelling competition, she encouraged them to focus less on winning and more on enjoying the experience of imagination, creativity and storytelling. She concluded by extending her best wishes to all the participants and inviting the Principal Sir to address the gathering.

In his address, the respected Principal, Professor Nachiketa Singh, expressed his happiness at the Department's efforts to organise such initiatives, emphasising that these programmes provide students with meaningful opportunities to showcase their creativity and talent.

Principal Sir described storytelling as a meaningful medium through which young minds can express their imagination and give shape to their ideas through narration. He emphasised that stories allow us not only to express happiness but also to articulate emotions and experiences that often remain unspoken in our everyday lives. In this sense, storytelling can serve as a means of releasing long-suppressed feelings and attaining a sense of catharsis.

To illustrate the power of storytelling and the written word, he referred to the writings of freedom fighters imprisoned during the struggle for independence, whose works reflected their ideas of nationalism, freedom and liberation. He concluded by highlighting that imagination, when channelled constructively, can become a powerful means of personal expression, self-understanding and meaningful contribution to society.

Following the address by the respected Principal Sir, the storytelling competition commenced. Dr. Avinash Kumar, one of the judges, briefed the participants on the rules and guidelines, while Dr. Chitra Saini, also a faculty member provided additional instructions to ensure the smooth conduct of the event.

The panel of judges comprised Dr. Kusum Devi, Associate Professor, Dr. Avinash Kumar and Ms. Preevi Singh, all from the Department of English, Shyam Lal College (Evening).

Following the competition, one of the judges and the senior faculty of the Department, Dr. Kusum Devi, shared her insights into the art of storytelling. She highlighted that writing a story and narrating a story are two distinct skills, emphasising that storytelling is an art in itself. She explained the key elements of an effective story, including point of view, plot, character, conflict and climax. She further emphasised that successful storytelling goes beyond the written narrative and depends on how the story is structured, expressed and delivered to engage the audience and sustain their interest.

She also drew attention to the significance of narration, explaining that the manner in which a story is told can be just as important as the story itself. Voice modulation, expressions and the ability to engage the audience all contribute to making a story memorable.

The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing various colleges of the University of Delhi. The participants picked a wide range of words, such as cold breeze, smiling stone, Benaras, closed door, identity and many more. The stories they narrated reflected the humane side of life, the dilemmas of being torn between duty and ambition, fantastical elements, cherished memories and powerful narratives of assault, protest and women's identity. The thread that held these diverse stories together was one of hope, optimism and resilience.

The audience thoroughly enjoyed the session as participants brought their imagination to life through engaging narratives, creative expressions and distinctive storytelling styles. Each presentation offered a unique perspective, making the competition an enriching experience for both the participants and the audience.

Winners of the competition were--

1st - Ishaan Dadwal ((Sri Aurobindo College (Eve.) [Keyword- Mirage]

2nd- Aliya Khan (Miranda House) [Keyword- Adventure]

3rd-Ishita Agrawal (Shyam Prasad Mukherjee College) [Keyword- Storm]

Consolation Prize

*Tannu (Shyam Lal College (Eve.) [Keyword- Old Woman]

*Yashvi Tomar ((Sri Aurobindo College (Eve.)
[Keyword- Walking Shadow]

*Kartik Mendhi ((Sri Aurobindo College (Eve.)
[Keyword- Banaras]

Winners were awarded with cash prizes and certificates.

After the competition concluded, Principal Sir added a delightful and thought-provoking dimension to the session by picking a chit with the keyword "Inclusion" and spontaneously weaving a story around it.

He narrated the story of a young student who moved from a village to a big city to pursue his education. However, upon arriving, he found himself struggling to cope with an environment where everyone seemed to speak English fluently, a language he was not comfortable with. Gradually, his confidence diminished and he became increasingly withdrawn. Noticing the change in his behaviour, his teachers reached out to him, understood his difficulties and extended their support and encouragement. With their guidance, he gradually regained his confidence and by the following year, returned to his natural, cheerful self. Thus, through the empathy and support of his teachers, he found his place in the fast-paced urban environment.

Sir's story was much more than a narrative; it was a powerful lesson in empathy, inclusion and the transformative role of teachers. It conveyed an important message to both faculty members and students. As educators, we must ensure that every student feels valued, respected and included in the classroom, irrespective of their caste, class, region, linguistic background or other differences. Students, too, should never lose hope or hesitate to approach their teachers whenever they experience discomfort, isolation or exclusion.

Principal Sir further broadened the discussion by exploring the idea of inclusion in the contexts of family, society, the nation and the international community. His reflections encouraged everyone present to look beyond individual differences and recognise the importance of creating spaces where every individual feels accepted and empowered.

His spontaneous storytelling, coupled with his profound insights, made the session truly enriching and thought-provoking, leaving the audience with a renewed understanding of the significance of inclusion in both education and everyday life. Dr. Manoj Kumar, a faculty member from the Department of Political Science, contributed to the programme by narrating an imaginative story titled '*Avchetan Man Ke Sarokar*' (Concerns of the Subconscious Mind), which he conceived that very morning. The story revolved around Jyoti, a young woman from a small village in Uttar Pradesh who aspired to clear the UPSC examination. Despite her sincere efforts, failure left her disheartened until an encouraging conversation with a professor rekindled her hope and confidence.

Concluding the story, Dr. Manoj conveyed that failure is not the end but an opportunity to begin again. His narrative beautifully highlighted the importance of hope, perseverance, and timely encouragement, reminding the audience never to lose faith in themselves or give up on their aspirations.

The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Avinash Kumar. He expressed his sincere gratitude to the Principal Sir, faculty members, participants, ELLA volunteers and students for their valuable contribution. He appreciated the efforts of everyone who helped organise the programme. He also acknowledged the enthusiastic participation that made the event meaningful and engaging. The programme ended on a note of gratitude and reflection.



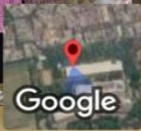
New Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
Hardari Lal Goyal Marg, Naveen Shahdara, New Delhi, Delhi
110032, India
Lat 28.674439° Long 77.281960°
Friday, 09/10/2026 05:04 PM GMT +05:30
Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera



Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi 110032, India
Lat 28.674386° Long 77.281925°
Friday, 09/10/2026 05:05 PM GMT +05:30

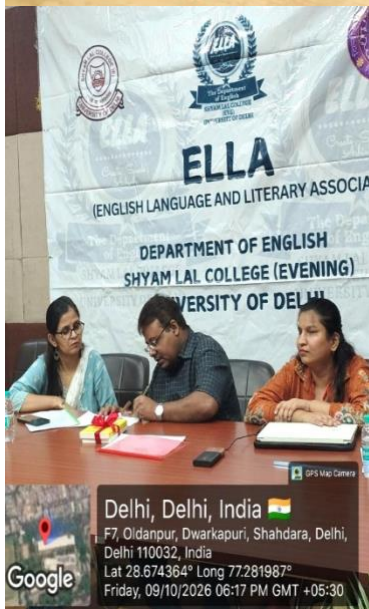


Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi 110032, India
Lat 28.674372° Long 77.281908°
Friday, 09/10/2026 05:04 PM GMT +05:30



Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi 110032, India
Lat 28.674428° Long 77.281928°
Friday, 09/10/2026 06:57 PM GMT +05:30
Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera







Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi
Lat 28.674367° Long 77.281917°
Friday, 09/10/2026 04:59 PM GMT +05:30



Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi 110032, India
Lat 28.674374° Long 77.281982°
Friday, 09/10/2026 05:21 PM GMT +05:30



Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi 110032, India
Lat 28.674438° Long 77.281918°
Friday, 09/10/2026 05:26 PM GMT +05:30



Delhi, Delhi, India 🇮🇳
F7, Oldanpur, Dwarkapuri, Shahdara, Delhi, Delhi 110032, India
Lat 28.674456° Long 77.281919°
Friday, 09/10/2026 06:57 PM GMT +05:30
Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera

