



NAAC Accredited 'A'
grade in 5th cycle

PSGVP Mandal's

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7.2.1 Best Practices

BEST PRACTICE I

1. Title of the Practice

Writers' Workshop (Navlekhan Navgeet Workshop)

2. Objectives of the Practice

The workshop was a co-curricular activity that was designed with an objective to make the students aware about the art of creative writing. Minds of students are crowded with extraordinarily novel ideas but they lack the skill to write them down. The workshop intended to stimulate literary styles of writing amongst students in languages best known by them. Another objective was to generate interest in song, poetry, prose and associate these skills in their curricular learning. This would help them to understand the concepts clearly and create interest for the subject. This would enhance the common demeanour of the students.

3. The Context

The cultural background of the tribal belt of Shahada has helped to preserve most of the traditional values of the region. Students are well versed with songs, poems, sonnets, octets, babble notes in their mother tongues. They are unable to represent this inbuilt genius in the form of a strong cultural and social heritage. The reason is their lacunae in the usage of languages that are officially or universally accepted. Thereby the college supports their confidence building and creativity by organizing events that not only promote them to come up with their own novel ideas but also enhance their confidence. The organisation of workshop in 2017-18, 2019-20 and 2021-22 was a sincere attempt to promote such students to portray their skills and capabilities. The workshop was a means to provide platform to such students for showcasing their hidden talents. This would build up their confidence to express their knack.

4. The Practice

Students leave behind the art of speaking and narrating the moment they get transferred from schools and junior colleges to higher education. The organisation of this workshop was an attempt to revive their long-forgotten oratory skills. Such programmes need to be included in



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higher education which shall promote the exchange of cultural heritage of the nation and seal up the concept of Unity in Diversity in India. This will promote the rejuvenation of the culture which may become extinct in due course of time if not reincarnated.

Keeping this in mind the 'Writers' Workshop' entitled *Navlekhan Karyashala* was organized in 2017- 18. Students were guided to write on the theme of their choice in the language of their choice. The best write ups were further published in the college magazine. One hundred and thirty students participated in the workshop.

The second workshop was organized in 2019-20 under the title *Navgeet Workshop*. The students were guided to write in the language of their choice a song or poetry on a particular theme. The entire workshop was coordinated by Dr. V. O. Sharma. The poems were thereafter recited in a very artistic manner. Dr. Sharma narrated the form, element, creation and beauty of *Geet-Navgeet* and its composition. Hundred students participated in the workshop in 2019-20. The methods involved in the composition of songs and its distinctive features were highlighted to the students on this event. The workshop helped in developing and promoting the poetry writing skill of the students.

The Navlekhan Seminar was organized in 2021-22 involving writing skills in three languages Hindi, Marathi and English. The tips for literature writing skills in Hindi were delivered by Dr. Vijayprakash O. Sharma, in Marathi by Dr. Madhav Kadam and in English by Prof. Khumansing Valvi. Eighty-eight students were benefitted by this seminar. The students were guided about the importance of observation, reading, thinking and writing in a creative manner during the talks. The students were motivated to put their own thoughts in a creative manner on paper.

The biggest constraint faced during these events was the introvert and shy nature of the tribal students. Although all the students did not involve many actively participated and tried to recite songs and write about their experiences on paper.

5. Evidence of Success

The initial attempt with the organisation of this practise was partially fruitful. Participation of students as compared to attending students was less. However, the write ups were of good quality and could be published in the college magazine.

The NAVGEET workshop organised thereafter was a good success where students presented their poetry and songs with full confidence on the stage. Their confidence level and skill were enhanced by the activity to a great extent. The participation count was also increased indicating that a greater number of students were motivated and gathered courage



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to come on the stage for their presentation. This was the greatest success of the workshop. The lacunae of students were noted during their presentations by experts.

The Navlekhan seminar was organized with a motive to make the students aware of their lacunae while writing and narrating. The students were guided to examine ideas, organize their thoughts, draft, revise, edit their write ups and add introduction and conclusion to their written passages. This would open their minds to loads of helpful tips and tricks that could be put into practise later. The seminar was a self-assessment for the students who were involved in writing.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Motivating students of remote area to participate in innovative programs is very challenging task. Some are motivated but the percentage is too low because most of the students come from the tribal families and are not open to such novel approaches. Their self-perception is also very poor. Language is the major problem confronted with such students who rarely speak in the three commonly used languages. The tribal students are introvert and their participation is the least. Only 10 % students were actually found to take advantage of the workshop in a participatory manner, rest were mere listeners. But our optimistic approach makes us feel that repeated organisation of such workshops shall improve not only the count but also the quality of write ups and poems coming from the students.

7. Notes (Optional)

Writers' Workshop should not be an optional activity. Rather it should be made mandatory to organise such an event once per semester. This will create awareness amongst the students for improving the quality of their writing and improve their self-perception. Such practice shall improve their curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular writing skills.

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