

Report on the Mentor Talk: "Essential English Conversations for Professional Success"

Date: 12th April 2025

Speaker: Faculty Smita Ganatra

Audience: First-Year Bachelor of Education (F Y B Ed) Students

Introduction:

On 12th April 2025, Faculty Smita Ganatra delivered an insightful mentor talk to the First-Year Bachelor of Education (F Y B Ed 24-26 batch) students on the topic of "Essential English Conversations for Professional Success." The session aimed to motivate the future teachers to start working on their conversation skills in the second language, English.

Key Highlights of the Talk:

- **Importance of English in the Professional World:** Faculty Ganatra began by emphasizing the crucial role of English as a global language and its significance in the Indian professional context. She highlighted how effective communication in English is essential as the employment opportunities are with the English medium schools these days. Mastery over English is essential as it can open doors to diverse career opportunities, and allows us to stay updated in an increasingly interconnected world.
- **Core Conversational Skills:** Smita Ganatra highlighted how a language is learned, and what is the natural way of learning any language. In an engaging style she draw parallels between learning of mother tongue and the foreign language.
- **Grammar phobia:** learning formal grammar is absolutely not essential, it is the functional grammar that one should focus on when learning to communicate.
- **Doing away with translations:** Best way to acquire language is use the words as they are and not translate, she said. Translation hinders fluency and unnecessary
- **LSRW Mantra:** the language is best acquired in the listening, speaking, reading and writing sequence only. So invest time for active listening. And practice dialogues from day to day life with friends.

- Finally, madam advised the students to **learn a small anecdote of a story** and narrate it to someone you are comfortable with. This will allow the structures of the language to be constructed and allow you the ease to frame new sentences.
- Impact and Outcome:

The mentor talk was highly beneficial for the F Y B Ed students, providing them with valuable insights and practical guidance on improving their conversational English skills for professional success. The session:

- Increased students' awareness of the importance of English communication in the workplace.
- Enhanced their understanding of language acquisition strategies
- Provided them with practical strategies and resources for further improvement.
- Motivated them to develop their communication skills and enhance their career prospects.

The mentor talk by Faculty Smita Ganatra on "Essential English Conversations for Professional Success" was a resounding success. It motivated the F Y B Ed students with essential knowledge and skills for learning English. The session will be a valuable contribution to their professional development.

Smita Gaantra

Faculty, CSSM

