

VIJAYA COLLEGE

RV ROAD, BASAVANAGUDI, BENGALURU-560004



REPORT ON SPOKEN ENGLISH PROGRAM AT VIJAYA COLLEGE

An Add-On Certificate Course

2019-20

THE INITIATIVE

Teach India is a Corporate Social Responsibility initiative of The Times of India. With the British Council as its knowledge partner & American Express as funding partner, the initiative is implemented on ground through the partner NGOs, Institutions & Volunteers. The initiative focuses on promoting volunteerism and imparting spoken English skills to underprivileged youth to enhance their employability.

This resource was brought to the students of Vijaya College through the initiative of Dr. B.S. Jayashree and the Department of English in an MoU signed between the College and the Times Group represented by Ms. Rajini Menon and her team of Volunteer Teachers.

PROGRAM

The ability to converse in English opens doors to employment in various sectors. The learners undergo the training on spoken English and the target of the training is to make them job-ready in terms of spoken English requirements. The team also ensures access to suitable employment opportunities. The Times Group pro-actively attempts to build a bridge between the learners and the potential employers and connect the two. On completion of the course, the learners get a certificate which is jointly certified by The Times Group and British Council.

The Program at Vijaya College commenced on January 17, 2020 after many rounds of discussions with the Vice-Principal and Principal of the College. A written test and an Interview was conducted to screen and enrol students for the Course. Students who qualified the Screening test were placed in 3 different batches. Each batch had a strength of 30 students. The classes duly started from the 17th of January 2020 itself.

CURRICULUM

British Council has designed a 100 hour spoken English curriculum which is to be taught over a period of 2.5 months. Learners attend 2 hour sessions each day, 6 days a week for 2.5 months. There are 4 modules and Face the World Module.

Module 1: Introducing Yourself

Module 2: Retail & Sales

Module 3: Tourism & Hospitality

Module 4: Customer Services

There is an additional Signature module called 'Face the World' that focuses on soft skills and interview skills, to equip learners to perform better at interviews. During this session the learners are taught about

Resume Writing and are advised on techniques of Do's & Don't's kept in mind while applying and appearing for Interviews and finally they are tested on the basis of Mock Interviews and the feedbacks are shared with the Learners.

Each Module has 10 units and each unit is covered in 2-hour session. After every Module, a revision is scheduled to revise all the concepts taken. The curriculum has a learner-focused approach with more student talk time, encouraging them to talk and use the concept taught through gamified approach and various team activities, with the teacher acting as a facilitator rather than a dispenser of knowledge. Collaborative learning methodologies have been extensively used. After a set of modules on strengthening core spoken English, the learners are trained on the use of language in BPO, Retail, Financial Service Provider, Hospitality Domain and in other customer service scenarios of an Occupation. Even the assignments in the curriculum are based on examples from these industries. The curriculum is designed with the view of usage of present language levels of the target segment and the spoken English requirements of potential employers. This would expose the Learners to the industry that would be relevant when they join a company of their choice of domain. Thus, the curriculum is designed to make the learners "ready for job" on completion of the course. British Council has designed various teaching methodologies that have proved very effective in the past. For initiating this program, Times Group believes that a rigorous training session is essential for teachers and volunteers who will be teaching this curriculum in the classrooms. Hence a commitment of 8 days for Volunteer training is also expected from volunteers and teachers prior to the start of the cycle.

At Vijaya College, the curriculum was implemented on the schedule of 5 days a week for 2.5 months with a 2-hour session each day.

CLASS SCHEDULE

The 3 batches at Vijaya College were run by volunteers in a schedule as below: The methodology of a batch being taught by two volunteers has been devised to balance the potential pedagogical concerns.

Class Timings	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Nandan	Bina	Nandan	Bina	Nandan	Bina
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Kavitha	Murali	Kavitha	Murali	Kavitha	Murali
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Ramesh	Vijayshankar	Ramesh	Vijayshankar	Ramesh	Vijayshankar

The Course was a successful run through the entire duration until the nation went into a lockdown due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Dr. B.S Jayashree superannuated on 31st March 2020. Asst. Prof. Vimala C T, Head, Dept. of English collaborated with us and together, the Spoken English Course successfully concluded on 12 November 2020 and based on the students' performance and attendance, certificates were distributed.