

**DCT's**  
**Dhempe College of Arts and Science**  
**Miramar-Goa**

## **REPORT**

**Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Centre**  
**Miramar-Goa**

### **Introduction**

The Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Centre was established by Dhempe College of Arts and Science in November 2019. The Centre is equipped with 30 student-consoles and a master-console connected through browser-based network, high-end aural interface for audio input and assessment, Orell's iTell Digital Language Laboratory, customised worksheets for language training and ongoing video content being created by the language facilitators.

The operations of DLLSDC have been informed by the six-fold objective instituted at its inception viz.:

1. To establish and strengthen language-learning in the state of Goa.
2. To provide intensive and objective-driven training in communication skills to government employees, employees in the private sector, students and job-aspirants.
3. To facilitate basic, intermediate and advanced level training in the languages of English, Konkani, Hindi and Marathi.
4. To develop a synergistic interface with select industries of Goa by designing need-based language learning modules.
5. To introduce Language Refresher Training in order to promote quality assurance in language education.
6. To strengthen aural and auditory learning in order to facilitate an integrative learning module for the visually impaired, students with speech and learning disabilities.
7. To promote research in language-learning and translation.

In view of this, **five** skill development courses were conducted in the academic year 2019-20. **Two of these viz. Seize the Stage and Finesse in Formal Correspondence are long term courses of 30 hours**

**each.** The focus of the same has been to provide hands-on training to participants towards achieving the expected outcomes of each course. Following is a brief report of each of the courses:

### **SEIZE THE STAGE**

A 30-hour skill development course titled, 'Impressions - Seize the Stage' was conducted by the Department of English from August 26, 2019. The objectives of this course were to:

1. Equip students for careers in theatre, cinema as well as mass communication.
2. Guiding students towards commencement of personality-enhancement classes as well as utilizing the medium of theatre through social entrepreneurship for activities related to extension and outreach.

The course covered a wide range of skills in *nātya* pertaining to acting rubrics combined with communication skills, facial expressions, confidence-building, stage-presence, make-up skills, Indian stage costume design, perception and feedback through performative and participatory workshops. The course was largely conducted in a hands-on mode with emphasis on timing, coordination, stage-sync and voice modulation.

Ms. Clarinda Dias was the coordinator of the course and Ms. Jagruti Patkar was the Resource Person.



*Occupying centre-stage*

**Total number of hours: 30**

**Total number of participants: 14**

### **WORDPECKER 1.0**

The Department of English in collaboration with the Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Center at Dhempe College of Arts and Science, organised a three day spoken English

enhancement course on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November, 2019, that saw a participation of **17** children and teenagers ranging from the age groups of 8 to 15 years. The course was aimed at bolstering both spoken, and performance based skills, through various training sessions and activities that spanned over the three days.

Proficiency in language has emerged as one of the most pertinent skills of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. With India increasingly emerging as the youth capital of the world, the requirement to meaningfully enhance this demographic dividend has become crucial to the contemporary paradigm of development. Towards this end, the Dempo Charities Trust has established a Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Centre, which is equipped with high-end learning resources, cutting-edge technology and a professional ecosystem developed by language facilitators.

‘WORD-PECKER 2019’ sought to bridge the gap between skills and knowledge acquired, and the ability to adequately express the same. Facilitated by the structure of the language laboratory and its software solutions, a kaleidoscopic array of activities relating to poetry, craft, story-telling and performance, interspersed with vocabulary building exercises, were organised by the resources persons, Ms. Rochelle Fernandes and Ms. Anjali Mascarenhas, along with the coordinator of the language laboratory, Mr. Marshall Fernandes.

Each day’s session began with an instructional lesson by either one of the resource people, followed by short training exercises on the consoles in the digital laboratory, which allowed the instructor to assess the progress of each student in real time. Students were taught various things such as haiku writing and black-out poetry, along with origami (which was then utilised in an original shadow play, written and narrated by the various groups of students).

The activities were designed with the goal of dipping into the vast imaginations of each student, in attempts to encourage the potential and skills of poetry writing and dramatic flair, often left untapped in school. By giving them free reign to express their thoughts through writing and drama, stimulated by the various prompts at each session, every student produced stellar, thought-provoking pieces of work.

The program ended on a happy note, with the Principal, Dr. Vrinda Borker, commending each student for their active contribution at the course, and encouraging them to keep practicing and developing the wealth of the skills they had barely scratched the surface of at the course.



*Fostering good communication skills among young learners*

**Total number of hours: 12**

**Total number of participants: 17**

### **SKILL-ENHANCEMENT REFRESHER WORKSHOP IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Centre of Dhempe College of Arts and Science organised a Three-Day Skill Enhancement Refresher Workshop in English Grammar and Formal Correspondence for teachers from high schools across the state of Goa. **16** teachers affiliated to institutions such as Bhatikar Model High School, St. Aloysius High School Diwadi, Ideal High School Piligao-Bicholim, Nirmala Institute of Education Altinho-Panaji, G.S. Amonkar Vidya Mandir Mapusa and Dayanand High School participated in the Workshop.

Over the course of three days the participants were provided intensive training in topics ranging from Fundamentals of English Grammar to Advanced Phonics with special emphasis on Parts of Speech, the Verb, Tenses and Future Time, Phrases and Clauses, Articles and Determiners, Active and Passive Voice, Critical Reading of Passages, and Rubrics of Formal Correspondence. Participants were also provided hands-on training in Pronunciation and Enunciation, Phonetics and Speech Tricks. *The sessions were delivered using techniques of blended learning through LMS, e-learning tools and software solutions as well as exercises worksheets and videos developed by the in-house faculty for massive open learning.* In the last session of the Workshop, the participants made presentations foregrounding common lacunae and errors in English language usages. They also presented some innovative methodologies of teaching topics in Grammar. Along with in-house Resource Persons Ms. Clarinda Dias, Ms. Akshata Bhatt, Ms. Palia Pandit and Ms.

Rochelle Fernandes, expertise was resourced from external facilitators like Dr. Geetha Shastri, Ms. Ameena Bukhari and Ms. Helen Butler.



*Refresher workshop in hybrid and blended mode*

**Total number of hours: 18**

**Total number of participants: 16**

### **FINESSE IN FORMAL CORRESPONDENCE**

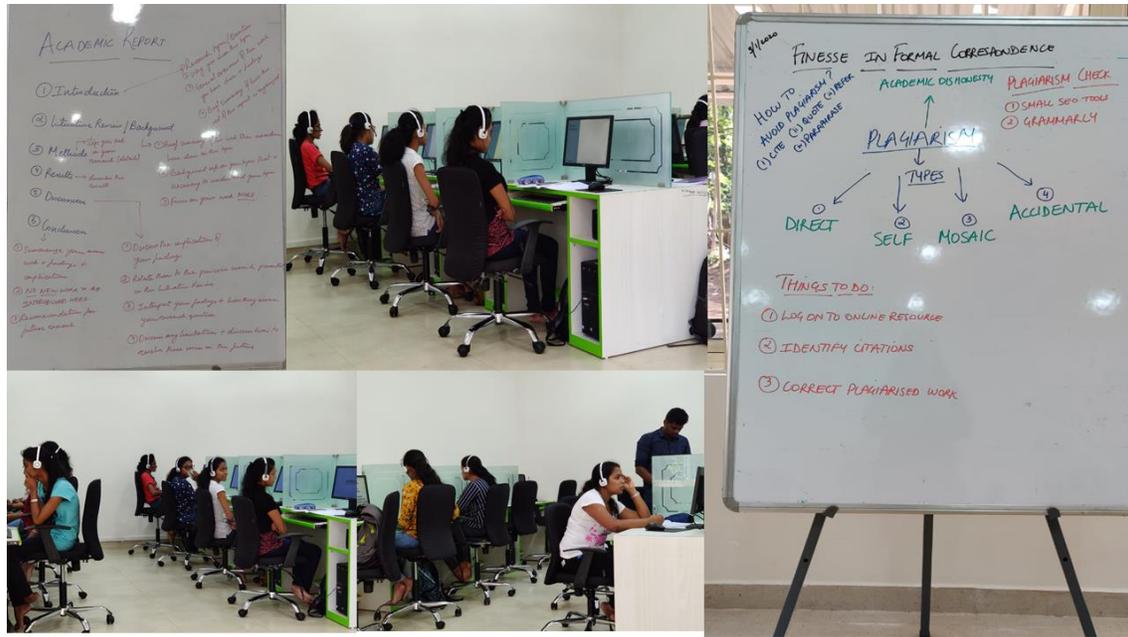
The Department of English in collaboration with the Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Centre of Dhempe College of Arts and Science organized 'Finesse in Formal Correspondence', a thirty hour skill development course, that commenced in January 2020. The course saw a participation of **19** final year students of MSc, Analytical Chemistry. The course aimed at honing communication skills- spoken as well as written- through a series of blended learning techniques that were participatory and interactive and often peer assessed.

The course was designed to efficiently equip students to deal with situations pertaining to academic and career centric correspondence and etiquette.

Over the course of thirty hours, the participants were provided with intensive training in topics that ranged from verbal and non-verbal communication with a focus on effective delivery to soft skills training, preparation for interviews, building of a resume and a CV., how to effectively construct and respond to e-correspondence as well as academic writing with a focus on citations and means to avoid plagiarism.

Towards the end of the course, the participants focused on preparing for upcoming on-campus interviews with pharmaceutical companies such as Unichem Laboratories Ltd. and Sanofi India Ltd. **Nine students were recruited in the above-mentioned organizations.**

The course was conducted by in-house resource person Ms. Rochelle Fernandes.



*Enhancing formal correspondence*

**Total number of hours: 30**

**Total number of participants: 19**

**Total number of participants placed through recruitment: 09**

## **WORKSHOP ON 'DEVELOPING LANGUAGE SKILLS**

Under the aegis of Digital Language Laboratory and Skill Development Centre and the Communication Club, a One-Day workshop titled, 'Developing Language Skills' was organised on March 06, 2020 for the students of BSc Programme. Distinguished alumna and theatre-trainer. Ms. Yashila Lobo was the Resource Person for the Workshop. Through the flipped and hybrid method of facilitation, the Resource Person imparted intensive and insightful training in the rubrics of grammar and spoken language. The event was coordinated by faculty member Dr. Svetlana Fernandes. Faculty member Ms. Anjali Mascarenhas was the co-facilitator of the Workshop. **17** students benefited from the same.



*Language Learning through innovative hybrid activities*

**Total number of hours: 05**

**Total number of participants:17**

Clarinda Dias  
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