



ADHIGAM

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The Library more than a Book Worms Paradise?

Ms. Neelima Balachandran, SIES College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Nerul

The college library – a repository of knowledge , a treasure house of informationthese are the often repeated terms when one talks about the library in the academic context. If not then there are even more scholarly words like digital libraries, portals, knowledge management, ICT based services etc., They no doubt would be highly appropriate and also required if this was an article meant for research purposes or even higher learning. But not at the moment. With the information overload that one is exposed to, on a daily basis, I felt surely one more technical article can be given a miss at least for the time being.

As a librarian, what do I want to talk about? Books, books and more books of course but before you pick up your spectacles and get all serious, let us drift a while and see where we reach. They say each time you open a book; you open up a new world. “The journey of a lifetime starts with the turning of a page” is a favourite quote of mine. You can travel the world, never even having to leave your chair, when you read a good book.

So, why not conjure up images of leisurely browsing through the pages of a book in a library stacked - floor to ceiling, with thousands of books of your choice? Why not think about the different worlds that books could transport you to in a jiffy? And what if you had freshly brewed coffee to unwind with it? Does it not sound like sheer heaven and pure delight??

And that too in Amchi Mumbai!! (At least when Google says so)

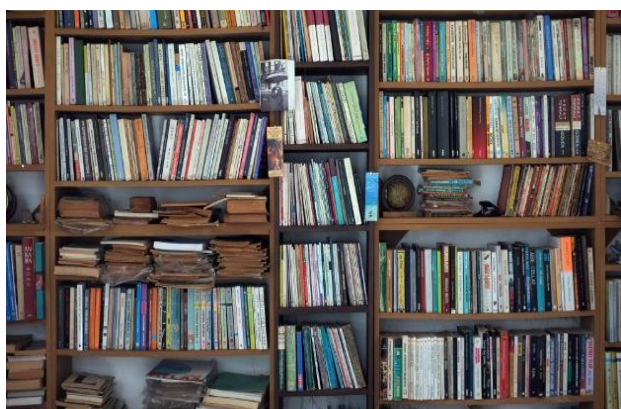
For example:

Kitab Khana - A bookstore that can dish out an immaculate cup of coffee, Kitab Khana is everything you would want in a book cafe. This boutique bookshop in the heart of Mumbai, with its array of delicious desserts, huge shelves full of books and comfy bean bags you can sink into, will invite you to rediscover the wonderful world of books.



Or

Neighborhood Book café - a must visit for all the book lovers. With an impressive range of books, the place offers coffee and brownies to all the readers and one can spend hours here without even really noticing the amount of time that goes by.



*Of course when it comes to academic libraries, there are definitely restrictions on the relaxed atmosphere that can be created. But still within the given, confines of an academic set up, efforts certainly can be made to lure users into the library by creating a warm and welcoming ambience. Geared up towards that, we at the **SIES (Nerul) College of Arts Science & Commerce** have been striving for the perfection. Hence through this article; I would like to showcase our small efforts towards the same:*

*We began with the process around two years ago when well-known author **Dr Radha Krishnan Pillai** was invited to the library to conduct a session for students and faculty members. The USP of this session was that it was organized inside the college library by the library staff. The topic was – **Chanakya's Leadership Ideas for Young India**. The feedback was highly positive.*

Continuing on these lines in the coming academic year various events and competitions were organized for students by the Library Committee. Like debates, recitation, essay writing, group discussion and movie screening. Such events have helped to create a common link between the library staff, students and faculty members. The purpose was to lure more students to the library as well as to encourage academic learning along with the reading habit.

*A web casting session by **Dr. Mahendra Gupta on Quality Tools & Techniques** in the SIESCOMS auditorium was organized for the faculty members. The session was relayed to the commerce library using appropriate software. Again this initiative was highly appreciated.*



*An Information Literacy programme was organized for faculty members and Post Graduate students, where in a Librarian was invited to talk on **Tools and Techniques for Discovering Scholarly Information**. The aim was to help faculty members in their research activities especially using the internet.*

*The initiatives taken during the first semester of **2015**:*

*A **student wing** of the Library Committee was formed in the academic year 2014 -15. This wing had its first event in the month of **August 2015**. Four student members of the wing accompanied by the library team went to the classrooms of all the First Year students and briefed them about the college library the various services provided. This was done mainly in the form of a **small skit performed** by the students to attract the attention of the audience.*

*The motive was also to lure more students towards the Library Committee and thereby create more awareness about the college library. **The feedback was positive and it has resulted in increasing student membership of the committee, with a number of First Year students now being active members.***

*Library resources awareness competition - **LIBRO TAMPER**, were organized by the student wing, basically a **game event** in order to catch the interest of the students as well as make them aware about the library services in a creative way. Cash prize was offered as an incentive. The response was good and the event was enjoyed by all the participants.*

Library need not be only about books, it could also be about the ambience, the users, the interactions, knowledge absorption, all happening amidst a sea of books. Give this a thought and maybe just would now start looking at your academic library in a different lightstarting today!!

Snap Shot of IInd Quarter –Central Training Department

We are glad to bring the IInd issue of ADHIGAM, it has being possible with the positive response and support from all the staff across SIES institutions. In the II quarter more focus on the workshops related to research for the teaching faculties were organized like using SPSS tool & Building Research Acumen. Workshops Use of ICT in enhancing Teaching & Learning Process, Round Table Discussion - Teaching & Learning Process of Attitude Building was also attended by teachers. The non-teaching staff attended workshops on Working in Team.

The knowledge sharing process on Leadership Excellence – 3 topics through Google Hangouts were also conducted in IInd Quarter for students and staff .

Glimpses of Central Training Programs



Summary of Programs Conducted from August to October 2015 -16

PROGRAM TITLE	DATE	TARGET AUDIENCE
Workshop on Stock Market Simulation	21/08/2015	Staff of SIESCOMS
Effective Time Management	21/08/20015	Staff & Students
Workshop on Handling Data and Its Analysis through SPSS	22/08/2015	Teaching Staff
Round Table Discussion - Teaching & Learning Process of Attitude Building	25/08/2015	Teaching Staff
Workshop on Working in Team	15/09/2015	Non-Teaching Staff
Effective Meeting Management	18/09/20015	Staff & Students
Effective Decision Making	01/10/2015	Staff & Students
Workshop Use of ICT in Teaching Learning Process	10/10/2015	Teaching Staff
Workshop on Building Research Acumen	16/10/2015	Teaching Staff

Active Learning Enables Higher Order Learning

Prof. Deepti Reddy & Prof. Namrata Patel, SIES Graduate School of Technology, Nerul

What is Active Learning?

Active learning strategies in-class or outside class enables students' learning more compared to traditional classroom teaching.

Active learning shifts the student's role from mere spectator to active participant who can talk what they are learning, write about it, connect it to past experience and apply it to their daily lives. Active learning is process in which students are actively engaged in activities such as reading, writing or problem solving that promotes analysis, synthesis and evaluation of class content.

Different Active Learning strategies

Think-pair-share (TPS): Student thinks about particular scenario then they pair up to discuss the idea and share their idea in class.




Peer Instruction (PI): Instructor present students with MCQ, student give answer, then students discuss issue with their peer and again give the answer.

Flipped Classroom: Is a method in which the typical lecture and homework elements are reversed. Short video lectures are viewed by students at home before the class session, while lecture time is devoted to exercises, projects or discussion on the video seen.

In this article we will focus on TPS.



Think- Pair- Share

T H I N K		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > About the prompt > Your <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Thoughts o opinion o Confusions
P A I R		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Find a partner > Share your thinking > Clarify your Confusions
S H A R E		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > In a whole-Class discussion what you learned > Write down what's: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Discussed o Evidences o Examples

Think-Pair-Share (TPS)

Think-Pair-Share (TPS) is an in-class active learning strategy in which student work on individual activities, discuss with peers and share their newly discovered knowledge with class. TPS helps in eliciting and sharing different possible solutions from students. This helps students to analyze pros and cons of various solutions thus enabling higher order learning.

Let us take an example:

Think Phase: In think Phase an instructor may ask students to “Think about reasons that a country might need assistance (Ex: war, famine, drought...), explain why these events would cause a country to suffer and need aid. Write your explanations”.

Students will think and write the explanation individually, while instructor is mere facilitator while students are active in doing the given task.

In pair phase a teacher may ask to pair up with a partner, start a discussion with your partner by asking him/her to explain their response to the Think part of this sheet.

The question posed can be:

“Ask your partner to choose the top event that he/she listed above and explain in detail why they feel it would have the most impact on the country. Now share with your partner, combine your ideas & summarize your discussion below”.

Share phase: Share with whole class the most important points from your “paired” discussion. To prepare for sharing list below the most important point you would like to share with entire class.

Why it works:

It is an interactive, engages and respects all participants and fosters trust and communication.

Students from all streams/course participate in such learning strategy actively.

Numbers in Communication

Prof. Sujatha V Rao, SIES College of Management Studies, Nerul

The importance of communication as an essential ingredient of our professional knowledge can be best understood by the personal experience of Mahatma Gandhi.

When he rose for the first time as a young barrister in the court he couldn't conduct the case due to his nervousness to speak in a group. As Mr. Gandhi mentioned, to quote "I stood up, but my heart sank into my boots. My head was reeling and I felt as though the whole court was doing likewise. I could think of no question to ask. The judge must have laughed, and the vakils no doubt enjoyed the spectacle. But I was past seeing anything. I sat down and told the agent that I could not conduct the case". After this incident he realized the economy of communication and started working upon it. In fact he never conducted a case till he went to South Africa.

'Knowledge is power' but the raw material to get that power is communication, hence communication can be described as power to the power of power.

Almost 80% of our working time is spent on communicating something or the other. Communication involves four basic skills intertwined with major skill called non-verbal communication. Expressing by speaking will be listened to comprehended and written message is understood by reading. Hence, these four skills comprises as communication skills. (Speaking, Listening, writing and reading).

It has been proved that an average person spends 45% of his communication period in listening, 30% in speaking, 16% in reading and 9% in writing. Surprisingly our education system is concentrating more on 25% component (writing and reading) than 75% i.e., Speaking and Listening.

<i>Communication skills</i>	<i>Expression</i>	<i>Spoken- 30%</i>	<i>Written-9%</i>
	<i>Understanding</i>	<i>Listening - 45%</i>	<i>Reading-16%</i>
	<i>Non-Verbal Communication</i>		

It is surprising that during initial period, our education system has given utmost importance to the 25% component, i.e. writing and reading. We ignored totally the 75% component of speaking and listening. In reality, the initial period of the career needs technical skills whatever the field may be. Usually after 3-4 years of work experience, an employee needs mostly other soft skills to run the show.

Slowly after realizing the importance the current education system has included activities like Public Speech, Group Discussions and other speaking and listening comprehension at primary level. However, there is still a need to improve upon the curriculum which balances communication skills right from the pre-primary level.

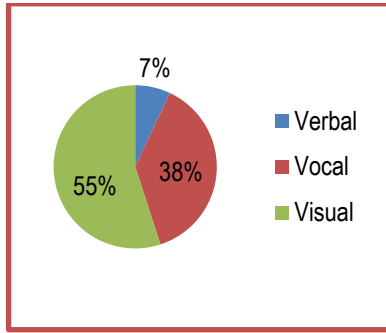
Mehrabian model

'What's important is the way we say it. Art is all about craftsmanship. Others can interpret craftsmanship as style if they wish. Style is what unites memory or recollection, ideology, sentiment, nostalgia, presentiment, to the way we express all that. It's not what we say but how we say it that matters'. – Federico Fellini

Professor Albert Mehrabian has tried to explain 'how' is more important than 'what' in speaking. According to his model the understanding, perception and retaining capacity of the audience is divided among verbal, voice and the visual communication of the speaker.

- *7% of the message is pertaining to the feelings and attitudes is in the words that are spoken.(verbal)*
- *38% of message pertaining to feelings and attitudes is paralinguistic (the way that the words are said – vocal - tone, volume, pitch, rate, speed etc.)*
- *55% of message pertaining to feelings and attitudes is in facial expression (visual - non-verbal communication)*

*For instance, after listening to any presentation or speech, we may not remember what they spoke exactly the text. **But probably we remember 'how' they spoke 'what'**. We definitely remember their style of speaking, usage of voice and their non-verbal cues and connecting to the audience.*



Mehrabian model has become one of the most widely referenced statistics in communications.

Listening Capacity

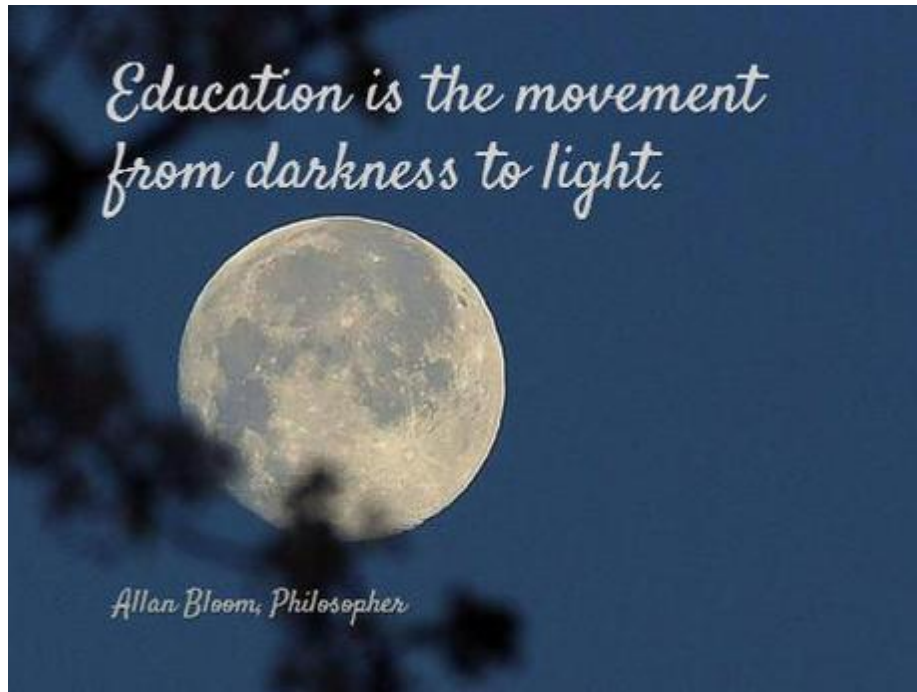


God has given us two ears and one mouth, so we need to listen in the ratio. Listening is considered as first essential communication skill of humankind.

*Studies proved that our ears have the capacity to hear **600-800** words per minute where as our mouth has the capacity to speak only **100 - 175** words per minute. So, ears are relatively free for **2/3** of time giving a way to the mind to get into the other activity. And our mind has a super power of generating 4000-4500 ideas per minute. Hence, listening is considered as the most difficult skills of communication.*

Listening requires an open mind and a heart that is free from any kind of negative feelings, because our heart and mind are not open, we cannot receive the message and comprehend it effectively. What you see is as important as what you hear. Listening is a positive activity.

The message can be effective and have strength in it only if delivered in the language of numbers. Especially managers need to have lot of strength in their communication which can be achieved only by presenting the facts and figures in a lucid manner.



To make the newsletter interactive learning forum, share with us articles on Learning/ Teaching initiatives, experiences/ideas and also provide feedback.

Last date of submitting article- 10th January 2016

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