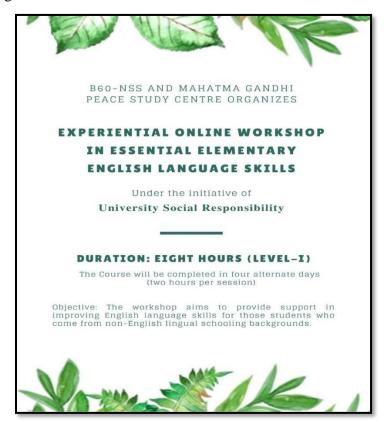
# A Report on

# **Essential Elementary English Language Skills**

# **Experiential Online Workshop**

## 10.04.21 to 17.04.21

The Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center and Postgraduate NSS Unit B 60 had jointly organised four-day online workshop of Essential Elementary English Language Skills for students from a Non-English lingual schooling background under the initiative of University Social Responsibility (USR) between 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. The long-standing commitment of UGC towards strengthening social responsibility and community engagement in Higher Education Institutions in India led to the development of USR program. It is an attempt to foster meaningful and respectful partnerships between the university and the community, where the ownership and benefits of accruing results are mutual.





On 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2021, Saturday, to begin the workshop, Dr. Aparna Phadke welcomed the participants, organizers, Dr. Anuradha Majumdar (Dean of Science and Technology), the inaugural guest and the guest of honour, Ms. Harsha Adarkar (Head of HR, Vice-President, Biostadt). Dr. Phadke briefly introduced the organizers and invited Dr. Satishchandra Kumar to shed light on the conceptualization of the workshop. Dr. Kumar shared with the guests that under university social responsibility, keeping in mind the New Education Policy (2020) which emphasizes student development, the University of Mumbai had taken this initiative to develop English language skills in those students who were educated in non-english speaking schools. He also shared his thoughts about the importance of language and communication skills for expression

and articulation of one's ideas. Dr. Phadke then handed over the session to Ms. Donna Barretto who invited Dr. Anuradha Majumdar to give the inaugural address. Dr. Majumdar congratulated and thanked Dr. Rajesh Kharat, Dean Humanities, for his constant support and encouragement, as well as Dr. Satishchandra Kumar, Coordinator of Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center and Dr. Aparna Phadke, program officer of PG NSS Unit B60 for organizing this workshop that aims to



Dr. Anuradha Majumdar

assist students to develop the skills of communication in a professional context and also be mindful



Ms. Harsha Adarkar

of the digital footprints they create. Ms. Donna Barretto then invited Ms. Harsha Adarkar to share her views. Ms. Adarkar congratulated the organizers and expressed her delight at the opportunity that the students were being presented with. She highlighted the importance of being well versed with the language as it is a basic requirement that recruiters seek. Ms. Donna Barretto marked the closure of the inaugural session with a vote of thanks to Dr. Anuradha Majumdar and Ms. Harsha

Adarkar for sharing their valuable insights which undoubtedly inspired all the young learners. She handed the session over to Dr. Juhi Deshmukh to commence the first skill building session of the workshop.



Dr. Juhi Deshmukh

Dr. Deshmukh, Assistant Professor Department of Psychology, Savitribai Phule Pune University, thanked the organizers and stressed on the importance of language and communication skills as an academician. The session by Dr. Juhi Deshmukh, titled "Language: Importance, Barriers and Overcoming barriers" focused on the concept of language, the different forms of language, importance of language skills, barriers in learning language and strategies to overcome those barriers. She engaged with the participants by asking them to converse in their first language, and then converse in English. This emphasized the importance of practicing the language one wants to learn, in order to develop thinking in that language. Dr. Deshmukh also shared some readily available resources for the participants to practice their skills at the conclusion of her session:

#### **Books:**

- 1. How I Taught My Grandmother to Read and Other Stories by Sudha Murty
- 2. Grandma's Bag of Stories by Sudha Murty
- 3. The Magic of the Lost Temple by Sudha Murty

#### Games:

- 1. Pictionary
- 2. Scrabble
- 3. Ace Fluency





Dr. Aparna Phadke

The second skill-building session was held on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. This session, facilitated by Dr. Aparna Phadke, focused on Phonetics and Tenses. Dr. Phadke started the session by asking the participants to share the difficulties they face while conversing in English. While many of them shared facing challenges in terms of their confidence with using the language, some highlighted their difficulty with sentence formation, use of appropriate tenses and so on.



The session progressed with the students being given an activity to share their thoughts on an assigned topic in a language they felt comfortable talking in. Most students shared their views, thoughts and opinions on issues like the lockdown, vaccination drive, COVID-19 in Hindi and Marathi. Dr. Phadke then

highlighted that often the first barrier we face is not the language but our inability to think about issues. Once we overcome that barrier and start thinking and gathering information, expressing it in any language shouldn't be difficult. Additionally, to be able to express those thoughts in English, students need to start thinking in English. Initially it might seem quite challenging as we tend to use a mix of various languages when we stumble for a word in English. However, searching for an appropriate word in English at that point, not only helps us increase our vocabulary and learn new words but also helps us communicate in English more fluently.

Dr. Phadke took the students through the basic spelling rules and phonetics, moving on to sentence formation and the use of tenses. She kept the students engaged throughout the process by involving them in activities. She also used very basic sentences in Hindi and Marathi that every student could relate to and translated those

Phonetics and Spelling Rules					
a आ / अ	e ए	i इ	o ओ	ь u 31/3	ou औ
		ee \$	-oa- ओ	-00- 35	ai ऐ
		ea ई	o-e ओ		
k	SS	II	ay	qu	er
क	स्स	ਕ	एय	क्व	अर
					1

statements to English. Dr. Phadke effectively broke down the sentences in terms of the subject, object and verbs and demonstrated how these are placed when translating sentences to English. She established the concept of tenses and how and where they are used. Starting with simple present, past and future tenses to the different forms with examples at every step, she also



explained active and passive voice and how to identify, form and modify sentences accordingly. She engaged the students in several exercises thus enabling them to practice and test their understanding of the concepts and to be able to put their learning into practice. The session was concluded by thanking all the participants.





Mrs. Aparna Balasubramanian

The third session of the workshop held on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 2021, was divided into two parts, facilitated by Mrs. Aparna Balasubramanian and Mrs. Donna Barretto. Dr. Satishchandra Kumar commenced the session by introducing the first facilitator, Mrs. Aparna Balasubramanian who is an alumnus of the Department of Applied Psychology, University of Mumbai, with a specialization in Industrial Psychology. She also has a Management degree.

Mrs. Balasubramanian began the session by thanking the organizers and welcomed the participants. She gave a brief overview of the sessions conducted prior to this and how one could use those skills to make an effective presentation. This session was extremely engaging and interactive as Mrs. Balasubramanian invited the participants to share their thoughts about what is

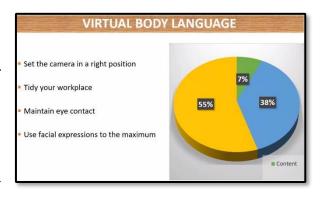


a presentation, the skills required to make one and also to share their experience of making presentations. She further probed the students to reflect on how they felt before, during and after a presentation. As a student shared her experience, Mrs. Balasubramanian engaged all the other students to identify the skills the presenter

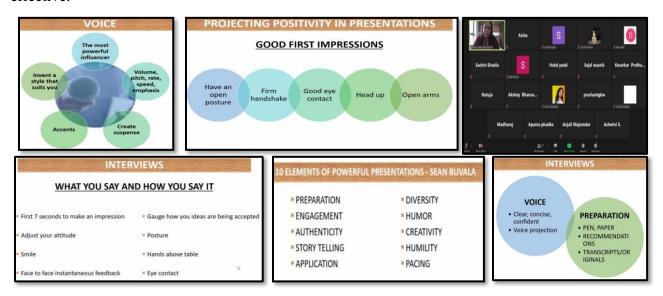
displayed and how it was useful in making a successful presentation.

Through this session, which focused on 'Presentation skills and Interviews', Mrs. Balasubramanian outlined the roadmap of a "good presentation" that involves selecting a topic,

to having a clear objective, gaining information about one's target audience and using appropriate visual aids. She shared details about each of these aspects of a presentation, while also highlighting some crucial do's and don'ts. She helped the students understand how to structure a presentation, how to engage their audience through eye contact and the importance of



voice modulation in a presentation. What made the session even more relevant was the addition of the concept of virtual body language and how to make online presentations more effective.



Mrs. Balasubramanian extended these presentation skills to interviews and how an interview is essentially a self-presentation. She explained how each of the presentation skills covered till now would aid in a successful interview. From the dress code to follow for an interview, to ensuring a match between the person in the application and the one appearing for the interview, the emphasis

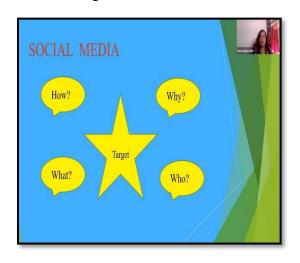
on one's voice and content, knowledge about the job role and the organization, to showing enthusiasm throughout the process, Mrs. Balasubramanian also highlighted the key points to keep in mind for a virtual interview. Finally, she emphasized the importance of concluding any presentation with a punch line and gratitude. She did the same for this session and concluded by thanking the organizers and participants.





Mrs. Donna Barretto

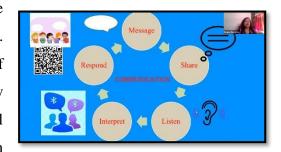
The second part of the session on 'Social Media and Communication skills' began by Ms. Arushi Sharma introducing the next facilitator, Mrs. Donna Barretto. She is an alumnus of the Department of Geography, University of Mumbai, and has been an educator for the past 27 years and currently teaches English and Social Science at St. Joseph High School, Bandra.



Mrs. Barretto began the session with an online poll to understand the audience's social media usage. She engaged the students in a conversation about the "what", "why", "how" and "who" of social media focusing on the reasons or 'why' they are on social media, 'what' they intend to share with their target audience, 'who' is the audience, 'how' to communicate their thoughts and ideas. She also made the students aware of certain social media etiquettes

like being mindful of their social appearance, self-esteem, social acceptance, digital knowledge,

content production, disclosure, the offline consequences of online behaviour and so on. Mrs. Barretto highlighted the positive and negative effects of social media, ranging from enabling us to stay connected to one another, staying updated on global events, providing an effective platform for interaction



and expression of one's thoughts, sharing skills, enabling collaboration, spreading awareness to negative effects like content

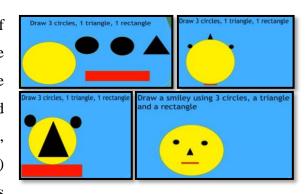


grazing, low self esteem, false imaging, negative change, cyber bullying, anxiety and depression etc. She highlighted certain social media checkpoints like the tone and language used, authenticity of the information shared, the pages and websites one likes and visits and finally the amount of time one spend on social media.

Mrs. Barretto moved on to explain the importance of how we communicate through an activity wherein she instructed the participants to draw three circles, one triangle and one rectangle. What Mrs. Barretto wanted

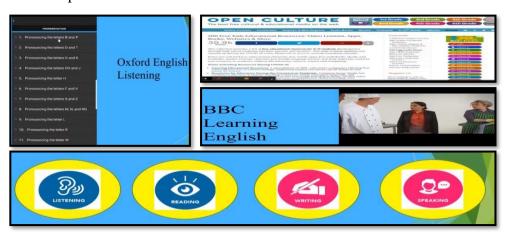


was a smiley, however, the lack of (intended) clarity in the instructions



led to every individual having a different figure with the said shapes. She thus clarified what effective communication means and its importance. She listed the four most important communication skills to be listening, reading, writing & speaking

and shared video clips of eminent personalities to highlight the same. Mrs. Barretto also specified certain activities to enhance one's communication skills like writing new words, creating a vocabulary book, creating writing groups, maintaining a daily diary and so on. She kept the students engaged with several activities that also helped them use communication skills effectively and understand it's importance. She concluded the session by sharing certain tips to enhance one's communication skills and also shared a list of applications and websites like 'Oxford English Learning', 'BBC Learning English' and 'Open Culture' to help individuals practice and sharpen their communication skills.

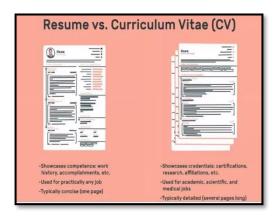




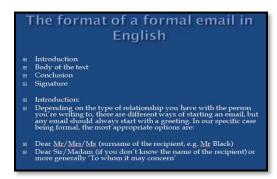
Ms. Arushi Sharma

The final session in the series was facilitated by Ms. Arushi Sharma on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. Dr. Satishchandra Kumar commenced the session by introducing the facilitator, Ms. Sharma, who is an Assistant Professor at the Department of English, University of Mumbai. She began the session by thanking the organizers and giving a brief overview of the importance of being skilled in CV writing, letter writing, writing emails and finally group discussions.

Ms. Sharma started her session by introducing the term "Curriculum Vitae" and explained what it entails. She also highlighted what distinguishes it from a resume. She went on to outline the components of a CV as comprising of an individual's contact information, academic history, professional experience, skills and qualifications, publications, grants and fellowships, volunteer work etc. She elaborated on each of these components and shared what information should



be incorporated into each of these. She engaged the students in an activity to write a CV. Once the participants completed the activity and shared their experiences, Ms. Sharma highlighted the points one should avoid while writing a CV and also shared some useful tips to write one. The session



then progressed to E-mail writing where Ms. Sharma emphasized on certain key points to consider before writing an email. She explained what an E-mail entails, its relevance in the professional context and also shared the rules for writing formal Emails in English. Ms. Sharma also outlined the structure a formal E-mail should follow, comprising of an introduction, the body

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Your Name
Address
Date
Name of Receiver
Title
Company Name
Address
Dear Sir
Sub: Opening of Current Account with us.
When writing a letter using block form, no lines are indented. Include your name, address, and phone number where you can be contacted, as well as the date. You then include the name and address of the person you are sending the letter to.
With new paragraphs, just skip a line instead of indenting.
Add your phone number where you can be contacted in the last paragraph. If the receiver needs to use a relay zerove to call you, briefly explain that you are deaf/ hard of hearing and that s/he can call you through relay.
Thank you for the interest you have shown in our bank.
Yours sincerely,
Your Signature
Enclosure
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of text, conclusion and a signature. She elaborated on each of the components with examples before moving on to letter writing. Ms. Sharma threw light on the skill of letter writing while highlighting the different parts of a letter one should keep in mind. She also explained the importance of each of these parts with examples. She also introduced the participants to the semi block form and modified block form of letter writing. Ms.

Sharma also shared some tips and rules for effective letter writing.

The next part of the session was on Group Discussion which Ms. Sharma started with an effective quote, "Don't raise your voice, improve your argument." She shared the misconceptions people hold while participating in a group discussion and emphasized on what it actually involves. She highlighted the purpose and objectives of a group discussion, the different phases

# Phases of group discussion Orientation Conflict Teamwork Performance Conclusion

of a group discussion and finally how to participate in a group discussion. Ms. Sharma concluded the session by sharing some skills and tips for effective group discussion, along with a video on group discussion.



Dr. Satishchandra Kumar

Dr. Satishchandra Kumar thanked Ms. Arushi Sharma for such an engaging session and commenced the valedictory session by introducing a notable alumni of the department, Mr. Sunil Gangavane. He then invited Ms. Anjali Majumdar, a senior research fellow from the Department of Applied Psychology to briefly summarize all the sessions. Ms. Majumdar presented an overview stating that the first session by Dr. Juhi Deshmukh focused on the importance of language skills and using various

activities to engage with the participants, she identified barriers to learning language and strategies to overcome those barriers; the second session conducted by Dr. Aparna Phadke covered sentence

formation and tenses while providing the participants an opportunity to practice what they had learnt through translation exercises; in the first part of the third session, Mrs. Aparna Balasubramanian discussed presentation skills, interviews and the challenges one faces during presentations and interviews; the second part of the third session saw Mrs. Donna Barretto discuss about how to manage social media presence through communication skills, the reality of social media and its



Ms. Anjali Majumdar

implications on society; the fourth and the final session facilitated by Ms. Arushi Sharma, distinguished between a CV and a resume and also allowed participants to practice writing a CV, she also gave some valuable tips to the participants for effective E-mail writing, letter writing and group discussions.



Mr. Sunil Gangavane

Ms. Majumdar then introduced and invited the Guest of Honor and a notable alumnus of the Department of Applied Psychology, Mr. Sunil Gangavane. Mr. Gangavane is a trained youth development professional. He works as an international facilitator, researcher and youth worker. Currently he is working with a regional educational network named Asia South Pacific association of Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) where he coordinates ASPBAE's youth engagement programme which includes overseeing ASPBAE's Youth-led Action Research involving youth leaders from marginalised

communities in India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Nepal and Mongolia.

In his previous experience he worked as program director at PUKAR where he led participatory action research program, curriculum development, facilitation as well as networking engagements for nine years. He was also co-facilitator and core team member of the Training for Transformation

program in South Africa in 2019. Mr. Gangavane also has a multidisciplinary academic background and studied Development Education, Gender Diversity and Social Transformation and Psychology. Mr. Gangavane thanked the organizers and congratulated all the participants for successfully completing the workshop amidst the challenging





times we are faced with. He posed a question about why we learn and shared that we learn for work, in order to upgrade our skills and secondly, we learn for life. He extended the second perspective of learning for life to prompt the participants to think about how they would use these communication skills in their life to make life more meaningful. Mr. Gangavane also spoke about the challenges of physical, emotional and mental health and the importance of communication skills at a time when people are getting

alienated. He further stressed on the importance of learning and using that knowledge and those skills to improve our communication with various stakeholders like family, friends, colleagues and so on. Mr. Gangavane also highlighted how one could become a catalyst for learning and try to inspire others. He also shared a series of quotes and images that inspired him through life.

Ms. Anjali Majumdar then shared the feedback form with the participants and requested them to share their thoughts about the workshop. Dr. Satishchandra Kumar made a closing address to the participants and the workshop was concluded by taking a group photograph.



Out of the 29 participants who filled the feedback form, 72.4% (21) found the relevance of the content, the organization of the workshop and the facilitators to be excellent, and the rest found it to be good. 65.5% (19) participants found the practical importance and the usefulness of the content excellent. 51.7% (15) respondents felt that their doubts and comments were addressed

excellently, and 69% (20) found the workshop to be excellently engaging. 75.9% (22) respondents were extremely satisfied with the content and organizers, and 44.8% (13) were extremely satisfied with the time allotted to each session of the workshop. 72.4% (21) respondents were extremely satisfied with the overall workshop. All of them agree that they learnt useful skills in the workshop that would help them in the future, and that the workshop increased their knowledge.

We extend heartfelt gratitude towards the organizing team: Dr. Aparna Phadke, Dr. Satishchandra Kumar, Mrs. Donna Barretto, Ms. Aishe Debnath, Ms. Anjali Majumdar and Ms. Arushi Sharma.

## **Bio-notes**

Dr. Anuradha Majumdar: Dean of Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Mumbai, has more than 23 years of experience as an academician and scientist. She is B.Pharm and M.Pharm from Nagpur University and PhD (Tech) from University of Mumbai. She was conferred gold medal by Nagpur University in 1996 for coming first in order of merit in M. Pharm. Dr Majumdar's area of specialization is Pharmacology. She has been faculty in Bombay College of Pharmacy and her research areas is Neuropharmacology, Metabolic Pharmacology and novel drug delivery systems. Her research thrust is on "Mitochondrial Dysfunction in diseases and disorders". She has several patents, publications, book chapters and international presentations to her credit. She has successfully completed a significant number of Government sponsored projects including AICTE, BRNS-DAE, DBT-BIRAC, DBT, UGC Major etc. She is a consultant to Pharmaceutical and allied industries and has completed several industry sponsored projects. Recently her "Proof of Concept" on a drug delivery system platform has been selected by Cipla Ltd. In its Innoventia drive and taken up by the company for further development. She has taken up the mantle of Dean, Science and Technology since more than a year and has worked relentlessly towards upward benchmarking of academics and research at the University of Mumbai.

**Prof. Rajesh Kharat**: Dean, Humanities, University of Mumbai (on Deputation), Professor and former Chairperson, Centre for South Asian Studies, JNU New Delhi. He is MA in Political Science from University of Pune and has completed M.Phil. and Ph.D. from CSAS, JNU New Delhi. Began his teaching career from the University of Mumbai in 1991 onwards and continued

since last 29 years and plus. He has published 5 books and 30 plus research articles and 5 major research projects in India and abroad on themes of Contemporary South Asia. He has also recently established the Department of International and Strategic Studies and Centre for Maritimes Studies in University of Mumbai. His publications and an Association with Sage are as follows:

- 1. Tibetans in India; Gainers of Stalemate, An article published in Book edited by Ranbir Samaddar (2003: Sage) originally Joint project of CRG and UNHCR.
- Associated with Sage's Quarterly Journal <u>International Studies</u>, published from SIS,
   JNU New Delhi as a one of Member of Editorial board
- My Book on BHUTAN; Contemporary issues and Perspectives, Reviewed in Sage Journal South Asia Research in January 2017, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1177/0262728017700248">https://doi.org/10.1177/0262728017700248</a>
- 4. Worked as Reviewer for Sage, OUP, Routledge and palgrave from time to time on issues related to Himalayan South Asia and Foreign Policy of India

Ms. Harsha Adarkar: As Vice President, Ms. Harsha Adarkar currently heads the Human Resource and Administration departments at Biostadt India Limited. An industry veteran with more than 25 years of experience, Ms. Adarkar contributes to the holistic growth and career enhancement of the employees. Prior joining Biostadt India Limited in 2017, Harsha has served global as well as Indian organizations across a gamut of industries like Engineering, IT, Insurance, Logistics and Consulting at well renowned companies such as Siemens India Limited, Prudential Process Management Services, Professional Access -JV of Global Telesystems Limited, DHL Exel Supply Chain Logistics, HDFC Standard Life and Mahindra Logistics Ltd. As an agent of change management, she has introduced and contributed to a culture of learning, stabilized development practices and built talent management within the organization. Harsha has a PostGraduate degree in Labour Studies (Personnel Mgt., Industrial Relations & Human Resource Development.) and another Post Graduation on Counseling Psychology from the Department of Applied Psychology-University of Mumbai.

Mr. Sunil Gangavane: is a trained youth development professional. He works as an international facilitator, researcher and youth worker. Currently he is working with a regional educational network named Asia South Pacific association of Basic and Adult Education (ASPBAE) where he coordinates ASPBAE's youth engagement programme which includes overseeing ASPBAE's Youth-led Action Research involving youth leaders from marginalised communities in India, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Nepal and Mongolia. In his previous experience he worked as program director at PUKAR where he led participatory action research program, curriculum development, facilitation as well as networking engagements for nine years. He was also co-facilitator and core team member of the Training for Transformation program in South Africa in 2019. Sunil has a multidisciplinary academic background and studied Development Education, Gender Diversity and Social Transformation and Psychology.

**Dr. Aparna Phadke:** is Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, University of Mumbai. She has been engaged closely in innovative methods of learning to Jilla Parishad School children. She is also engaged in wetland protection movement in the capacity of expert. Currently she is working on a research project sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi, IMPRESS on 'Urban Liveability'. She has Participated in national and international conferences and Published in peer reviewed renowned national and international journals.

Prof. Satishchandra Kumar: is Professor and Head of University Department of Applied Psychology & Counselling Center, University of Mumbai. He is also the Coordinator of Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center. He is the recipient of Summer Fellowship from Albert Ellis Institute New York; He has also got the scholarship to undergo supervised Training in Enneagram Training from Helen Palmer Model San Francisco. He was also awarded the Research Fellowship by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), New Delhi. He has published in international peer reviewed journal like Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Psychological Science, British Journal of Guidance and Counselling, and also contributed to Sage volume of Eminent Indian Psychologists 100 Years of Psychology in India. He has published more than 40 research paper in nationally and internationally renowned journals, 5 books and many students have done doctorate

degree under his guidance. His area of research interest is Industrial/Organizational Psychology which includes positive psychology, Engagement at workplace, Stress and Coping at workplace. He is the reviewer on various international Journal and books. He possesses a blend of both Industrial and academic experience. He is also the member of many Academic bodies and advises the corporates on a regular basis. He is also the co-editor of Sambhashan Journal of University of Mumbai.

**Dr. Juhi Deshmukh:** is Assistant Professor Department of Psychology, Savitribai Phule Pune University. Her areas of research and specialization include neuro psychology, positive psychology, cognitive and clinical psychology. She is Counsellor and Member at Pre-litigation Counsel, Family Court, Pune. She is also Member of the Central and Forensic Science Laboratory, Technical and Evaluation Committee, Government of India. She has been conducting various workshops for various Corporate Offices, Government Departments and Educational Institutes. She has widely published and presented her research work.

Mrs. Aparna Balasubmramanian: has completed her Master's in Industrial Psychology from Department of Applied Psychology, University of Mumbai. She has also completed her Master's in Human Resource Management from Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS), Vile Parle, Mumbai. She has successful cleared the National Eligibility Test. She was teaching the Undergraduates Students of Psychology in Mithibai College, university of Mumbai. She was also a Visiting faculty at Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS). She was also a Visiting faculty at University Department of Chemical Technology now University Institute of Chemical Technology. She has conducted many workshops for Undergraduate and Postgraduate students in Presentation Skills. Also she has conducted many workshops for management students in Group Discussions. She has also completed a certificate course in personal counselling from Xavier's Institute of Counselling under Fr. Fuster.

Mrs. Donna Barretto: an educator for the last 27 years. MA in Geography. She teaches English and Social Sciences at St. Joseph's Convent High School Bandra. She has conducted a number of

workshops for teachers during pandemic. She has also conducted webinar for Mumbai Network of English Teachers on "Enhancing Teaching Skills". She has also conducted Webinar on "An Introduction to Online Teaching. This webinar helped teachers learn how to use various apps to cope with online teaching.

Ms. Arushi Sharma: is an Assistant Professor in the department of English, University of Mumbai. She is a guest faculty in the department of English, IDOL, University of Mumbai. She also works as a trainer for functional proficiency and professional proficiency courses conducted by the department of English, University of Mumbai. She has completed her M.Phil., from the department of English, University of Jammu, J & K. She is a trainer for functional proficiency and professional proficiency courses conducted by the department of English, University of Mumbai She is a Doctoral Scholar in the department of English, University of Mumbai. Her research is on Native Americans as a post-colonial subject. She explores various aspects of sensitivity of their lives and the saga of their turmoils after the invasion of Europeans. She has presented papers at national and international conferences and has publications to her credit. She has participated in National Webinar as a resource person conducted by Ratnagiri sub center, University of Mumbai. She was invited as a resource person in International Students' Conference organised by department of English, University of Mumbai. She has contributed to creating study material on American literature for SYBA students, IDOL, University of Mumbai. In addition to this, she is a poet too.

Ms. Anjali Majumdar: is University Grants Commission – Senior Research Fellow at the Department of Applied Psychology and Counselling Center, University of Mumbai. She cleared her UGC-NET JRF exam and is currently finishing her doctorate. She completed a summer course on Positive Psychology at Middlesex University, London. She also completed courses on Introduction to Qualitative Interviewing and Introduction to Analysing Qualitative Interviews from University of Oxford. She has a certificate course in Psychological First Aid from Johns Hopkins University. She has published in International peer reviewed British Journal of Guidance and Counselling and also contributed to the Sage volume of Eminent Indian Psychologists 100 Years of Psychology in India. She has also completed a Certificate course in Peace studies from Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center, University of Mumbai.

Ms. Aishe Debnath: is an Assistant Professor (adhoc) at the Department of Applied Psychology and Counselling Center, University of Mumbai. She received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Anthropology from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, and Masters degree in Psychology with specialization in Industrial-Organizational Psychology. She has successfully cleared the National Eligibility Test. She has completed a course on the Science of Well-Being from Yale University, and is also trained and certified in Appreciative Inquiry. She has completed and earned a certificate in Psychological First Aid from John Hopkins University, and an Introductory Course on Positive Psychology, under Martin Seligman from University of Pennsylvania. She has also completed her Certificate course in Peace Studies from Mahatma Gandhi Peace Center, University of Mumbai.

Mr. Nikhil Gawai: is a Doctoral student at the Department of Geography, University of Mumbai. He holds a computer diploma in Hardware, Software, Networking & Multimedia and a GIS & RS Certificate in Geographical Information System. He has also earned a certificate in Rational Emotive Behavioral Theory and in General Semantics. He has worked as a project officer, research assistant and provided Cartographic Assistance for various research projects and has also worked as an assistant professor in several institutions. He has published a research paper in an International journal and has presented several research papers at the national level. He also possesses Air wing N.C.C "C" certificate (with "A" grade), Air wing N.C.C "B" certificate (with "B" grade), Basic Civil Defense Certificate (with "B" grade) and Basic First Aid Certificate (with "A" grade).

### Compiled by:

Dr. Aparna Phadke, Ms. Anjali Majumdar

&

Dr. Satishchandra Kumar, Ms. Aishe Debnath

PG NSS UNIT B 60 and Mahatma Gandhi Peace Centre, University of Mumbai