DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & FOREIGN LANGUAGES

A Report on

"A Three-day National Level FDP on **Promoting Critical Thinking and Research Paper Writing for Teachers"** organized by EFL Department on 3-5 August 2020

Coordinator: Dr. Rosalia H Bonjour



Day 1 03 August 2020 Speaker: Dr. Narke Pankaj

Topic: Integrating Critical Thinking Skills into ESL Classroom - Materials, Instruction, and Assessment

Dr. Vikas Audumbar Kadam (Asst. Professor- Department of English and Foreign Languages) as a moderator of the three-day faculty development programme on "Promoting Critical Thinking Research Paper Writing for Teachers" welcomed the participants on behalf of the Department and MITS Madanapalle. Then he introduced the speaker of the day-1 Speaker: Dr. Narke Pankaj -Assistant Professor, School of Sciences and Languages, VIT-Andhra Pradesh to the participants and thanked him for accepting the invitation to deliver the day-1 session of the FDP. He informed the participants to attend all the (three days) sessions and fill in the feedback form in order to be entitled to get their e-certificate of participation. He also informed them that they can post their questions in the chat box which will be picked up by the moderator who will read them out to the resource person to answer the chosen questions. Then he invited the Principal Dr. C.Yuvraj to address the participants who emphasized on how to make the best use of time during inevitable

pandemic Covid-19. He highlighted the achievements of the college especially its research and development trajectory and student-centric approach of teaching to make students industry ready. He concluded his talk on best wishes to participants and a thank you note to the HoD E&FL & coordinator of the FDP along with the programme's moderator. Next, the moderator Dr. Vikas invited HoD English and Foreign Languages as well as Coordinator of the FDP **Dr. Rosalia H Bonjour** to say a few words to the participants. In her brief note she highlighted the achievements of the department and its strengths. She also gave a few tips to the participants in order to get maximum benefits from attending this FDP. She concluded reminding participants, "We have come here to learn and learning never ends." Finally, the moderator requested the speaker of the day **Dr. Narke Pankaj** to deliver his talk on the topic of the day "Integrating Critical Thinking Skills into ESL Classroom - Materials, Instruction, and Assessment"

The speaker after thanking the Management MITS Madanapalle, Principal, Coordinator as well as HoD English and Foreign languages, and Moderator started the session by a short discussion on "what is critical thinking? He touched upon the related terms of critical thinking: 'Socratic Questioning', Lateral Thinking, Problem Solving, Enquiry Based Learning, Creative Thinking, 21st Century Skills, and Metacognitive skills. He cited Bloom's taxonomy to highlight the subskills of critical thinking. He took his discussion further to 'Critical Thinking and Language Classroom' and what a teacher is supposed to do.

The moderator- Dr. Vikas picked up the questions from the participants and read out one by one to the speaker who answered these questions. 213participants attended the online session and submitted their feedback . 1,133 participants had registered for this FDP.

Day 2 04 August 2020 Speaker: Dr. Reju George Mathew

Topic: Engaging with Differences in Classroom: Critical Thinking for Teachers

Dr. Vikas requested the speaker of the day Dr. Reju George Mathew to deliver his talk. The speaker after thanking the Management MITS Madanapalle, Principal, Coordinator as well as HoD English and Foreign languages, and Moderator started the session citing an incident from online teachers offering online courses and how he had been trolled by his students online to his dismay. He highlighted the fact that we know all teachers are not same and all students are not same either... a kind of diversity persists As a teacher we cannot ask questions to the system.

The speaker advised the participants to think over their own practices. He concluded:

- 1. Critical thinking has a positive effect on student and teacher engagement within The classroom;
- 2. Critical thinking has other benefits including a positive impact on student achievement and students' higher-order thinking skills, and helps meet the needs of all types of learners;
- 3. Effective strategies must be used to invite and promote critical thinking
- 4. There are challenges to implementing critical thinking in a classroom
- 5. Teachers and administrators need support in order to successfully integrate critical thinking into teaching practices.

Dr. Vikas picked up the questions from the participants and read out one by one to the speaker who answered these questions. 194 participants attended the online session and submitted their feedback.

Day 3: 05 August 2020 Topic: Introduction to Writing Research Papers

Dr. Vikas requested the speaker of the day Dr. Minu Susan Koshy to deliver her talk. The speaker after thanking the Management MITS Madanapalle, Principal, Coordinator as well as HoD English and Foreign languages, and Moderator started the session by displaying the following **structure of her presentation:** The speaker suggested following on Publishing Research Papers:

- Find multiple journals peer-reviewed; indexed; high impact factor
- Check the archives
- Check the average publishing time
- Choose a journal
- Read the guidelines; prepare/modify your paper accordingly stylesheet, formatting etc
- Prepare a bio-note, covering letter and keywords.
- Avoid predatory journals
- Do not send a paper to multiple journals at the same time
- Avoid plagiarism
- Respond to emails, peer-reviews; resubmit paper as soon as possible

She also extended tips to participants in order to boost Citation Count

At the end of the session she thanked the participants for their active participation. She also shared consultancy services offered by her institution. Dr. Vikas picked up the questions from the participants and read out one by one to the speaker who answered all the questions. 147 participants attended the online session and submitted their feedback. At the end of the concluding session Dr. Vikas invited Dr. K. Lakshmi Devi (Asst. Professor- Department of English and Foreign Languages, MITS) to give a vote of thanks.