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ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

THE COMMUNIQUE

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...



Literature, as it is believed, does not only reflect the myriad credos of human beings but also gives substitute gratification. Though its wings are viewless it is alive to the sunshine and the sorrows of life. With all its bewitching poetry, it dilates on the angelic innocence and the motiveless malignancy of mankind. Its capacity to renew hope and inspire new aspirations in men is everlasting and influencing.

Creativity, the highest of all capacities of human race, has turned the ordinary into extraordinary whose revolutionary notions have influenced humans down the generations. This newsletter has served the purpose of stimulant that enabled student writers to exercise their power of imagination between thinking and inking.

This newsletter, like its predecessor, has showcased the writing skills and creativity of scholars and academicians. My thanks are due to the Head of the Department, Mrs. Princy John, who accelerated all levels of work in bringing out this issue. I have the pleasure of expressing my gratitude to my colleagues for taking effort in compiling the writings of budding writers for publication.

MR D RAJESH
THE EDITOR
ASST. PROF. OF ENGLISH

TREATISE



I chanced upon reading the line, "They are the locomotive kids, pulling their whole family behind them," Tobias Wolff, Professor of English, Stanford University for nearly two decades. The term 'Locomotive Kids' are the students from the families with low annual income getting financial aid to pay for their tuition fees. Pursuing higher studies in the Ivy League universities can be possible for those who can be prepared to pay an exorbitant sum with strong financial backup. Scholarships and financial assistance offered by non-governmental organizations and philanthropic trusts are a scaffold to the brilliant and academically skilled students.

In the year 1989, online classes were started by the University of Phoenix. It was not popular among the students until 2007. After the year, Community Colleges and Universities in the US offered online courses to make the students join in their 'Continuous Education Programs.' Students showed their interest to pursue studies after the working hours. It took almost a decade to make the online courses popular in the developing nations.

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When the first wave of pandemic hits the world, the most affected are the students all over the world. When the parents were musing about their ward's future, online study came to the rescue. Countries like India has changed its traditional way of teaching pedagogy and to use electronic gadgets, to be tech-savvies and to present the curriculum that fits student's time and attention towards the subject.

Evidence: Subsequently, the second wave of Covid-19 devastated so many families and pushed them to a pathetic situation. The media and the newspapers report says, there were greater numbers of school dropouts in the academic year 2020–2021. Students with low annual income were the most affected and they were pursuing their education with the financial assistance from the state government allotted educational funds and other non-governmental organizations. On the other hand, the students with all the financial background are in great distress spending their days indoors with the aid of electronic gadgets. Young children were in a mental trauma with psychological issues. Lockdown days made them to be taciturn and they were glued to their 'rectangle world' (smart phones). The arbitrary measures to start the online classes have added more stress and the students from the deprived section of the society are in the dropout lists. The Post-Pandemic world has made the have-nots to keep themselves away from pursuing academic knowledge. Lately, many skilled and brilliant young minds are in distress and helpless because continuing education is not in a reachable place. It demands more money.

Conclusion: There is a saying, "If a nation wants to grow, its young citizens should be given equal opportunities when it comes to acquiring knowledge." It is all in the hands of the policy makers and the innovative-minded administrators to come out with ideal education policies. The state governments should also get advice from field experts holding positions in top universities around the world.

Prof. Mr. K Mohamed Nazeeb

Assistant Professor

PG & Research Department of English

The New College

FUNNY OXYMORON

English contains a rich supply of figures of speech, but few have as many amusing possibilities as an oxymoron, for example:

- ***Dry lake***
- ***Fuzzy logic***
- ***Living dead***
- ***Free gift***
- ***Numb sensation***
- ***Same difference***
- ***Once again***
- ***Stand down***
- ***Grape nuts***
- ***Metal woods***
- ***Books on tape***
- ***Crash landing***
- ***friendly fire***
- ***peacekeeping missile***
- ***Detailed summary***
- ***Anarchy rules***
- ***Park drive***
- ***Stationary orbit***
- ***Jumbo shrimp***
- ***Vegetarian meatballs***

Miss Beulah, I B.A. English

STAYING MOTIVATED

Check in with your goal. Now that you've broken your goal down into a series of mini-goals and daily tasks, check in every day.

It helps to write down your small goals in the same way you wrote down your big goal. That way you can track what you need to do, check off tasks as you complete them, and enjoy knowing that you're moving toward your big goal.

As you accomplish a task, check it off on your list. Tell yourself, "Hey, I've run 10 miles, I'm nearly halfway to my goal!" Reward yourself with something you promised yourself when you set your goal. Feel successful — you are! Now think ahead to accomplishing the rest of your goal: "What do I have to do to reach 26 miles? How am I going to make the time to train?"

Writing down specific steps has another advantage: If you're feeling weak on willpower you can look at your list to help you refocus!

Recommit to your goal if you slip up. If you slip up, don't give up. Forgive yourself and make a plan for getting back on track.

Pat yourself on the back for everything you did right. Don't beat yourself up, no matter how far off track you get. Most people slip up when trying to make a change — it's a natural part of the process.

Writing down daily tasks and mini-goals helps here too. By keeping track of things, you'll quickly recognize when you've slipped up, making it easier to refocus and recommit to your goal. So instead of feeling discouraged, you can know exactly where you got off track and why.

What if you keep slipping up? Ask yourself if you're really committed to your goal. If you are, recommit — and put it in writing. The process of writing everything down may also help you discover when you're not really committed to a goal. For example, perhaps you're more in love with the fantasy of being a star athlete than the reality, and there's something else that you'd rather be or do.

View slip-ups as lessons and reminders of why you're trying to make a change. When you mess up, it's not a fault — it's an opportunity to learn something new about yourself.

Say your goal is to fight less with your brother or sister. You may learn that it's better to say, "I can't talk about this right now" and take time to calm down when you feel your temper growing out of control.

Keep a stick-to-it attitude. Visualize yourself achieving your goal: a toned you in your prom dress or a successful you scoring the winning soccer goal. Self-visualization helps you keep what you're trying to accomplish in mind. It helps you believe it's possible. You can also call up your mental picture when willpower and motivation are low.

Positive self-talk also boosts your attitude and motivation. Tell yourself, "I deserve to make the honor roll because I've really been working hard" or "I feel great when I swim — I'm doing well on my exercise plan!"

Share with a friend. Another boost is having supportive people around you. Find a running buddy, a quit smoking buddy, or someone else with a similar goal so you can support each other. Having a goal buddy can make all the difference in times when you don't feel motivated — like getting up for that early-morning run.

If you're not getting support from someone when you really need it, you may need to take a break from that friendship and surround yourself with people who want to help you succeed. For instance, if you've been going to your friend's house to study together every Thursday after school, but now your pal is turning on the TV, texting friends, or gabbing on the phone and ignoring your pleas to get down to work, it's time to find another study buddy. You can't stay focused on your goal if your friend doesn't share that goal — or, even worse, is trying to hold you back. Seek out others who are on the same path you are and work with them instead.

Don't Give Up!

Ending an unhealthy behavior or creating a new, exciting one is all about taking responsibility for our lives. Finding the motivation to do it isn't necessarily easy, but it is always possible. You can stay motivated by writing down your goals, sticking to your schedule, and reminding yourself of what led you to set your goal in the first place. Change is exciting — we'd all be very bored without it.

Good luck in reaching your goals!

Ms. Archana G.M
Asst. Prof. of English

CORONA, DIE AN AWFUL DEATH

Ms.Princy John
Asst. Professor of English

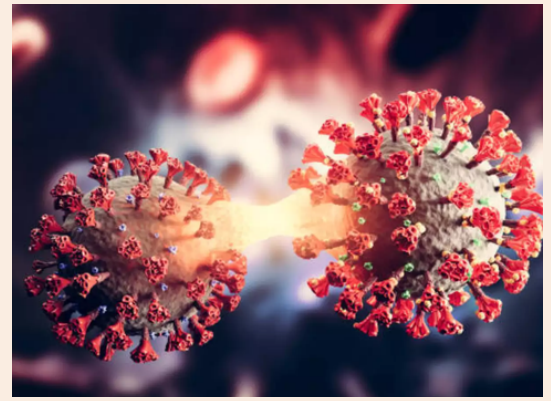
Corona...

Now you are on a great travel expedition! Haunting people,
From poor to rich, from one shore to another;
Men succumb to your deadly sting, and very soon they wither.
Oh! Obnoxious malady, who is thy mother!

On the shores of each Kingdom, you meet every race,
You spread your wings in secret, and take people without grace.
What is thy scheme, goal and intention?
All we now feel is a wave of apprehension!

Sad tales of tears, unspeakable pains, and hunger;
Snatching sweet souls and in great joy you now linger.
Reveal to us thy motive: Why do you still roam about?
Whether you would depart to netherworld, we still doubt!

We bid thee to dissolve in unfathomable depths,
Or immerse in Sun and die an awful death.



***“A book is a gift
you can open
again and
again.”***

Garrison Keillor

TONGUE TWISTERS

- 'Can you can a canned can into an un-canned can like a canner can can a canned can into an un-canned can?'
- 'Thirty-three thirsty, thundering thoroughbreds thumped Mr. Thurber on Thursday.'
- 'I wish to wish the wish you wish to wish, but if you wish the wish the witch wishes, I won't wish the wish you wish to wish.'
- 'Rory the warrior and Roger the worrier were reared wrongly in a rural brewery.'
- 'Imagine an imaginary menagerie manager managing an imaginary menagerie.'
- 'If you must cross a course cross cow across a crowded cow crossing, cross the cross coarse cow across the crowded cow crossing carefully.'



Ms. Arulmani G
I M.A. English

FUNNY SPELLING MISTAKES

Ms.Christina Miracline M.G.
Asst. Prof of English

Eye Halve a Spelling Chequer

I have a spelling checker. It came with my pea sea. It plane lee marks four my revue Miss steaks aye can knot sea. Eye ran this poem threw it, Your sure reel glad two no. Its vary polished in it's weigh. My checker tolled me sew. A checker is a bless sing, It freeze yew lodes of thyme. It helps me right awl stiles two reed, And aides me when I rime. Each frays come posed up on my screen eye trussed too bee a joule. The checker pours o'er every word To cheque sum spelling rule. Bee fore a veiling checker's Hour spelling mite decline, And if we're lacks oar have a laps, We wood bee maid too wine. Butt now bee cause my spelling Is checked with such grate flair, Their are no fault's with in my cite, Of nun eye am a ware. Now spelling does knot phase me, It does knot bring a tier. My pay purrs awl due glad den With wrapped word's fare as hear. To rite with care is quite a feet Of witch won should be proud, And wee mussed dew the best wee can, Sew flaw's are knot aloud. Sow ewe can sea why aye dew prays, Such soft wear four pea seas, And why eye brake in two averse Buy righting too pleas. Sauce Unknown.

WHY IS ENGLISH SUCH A DIFFICULT, ILLOGICAL, YET FUNNY LANGUAGE?

These examples of the English language go some way to allowing us to understand why people from overseas make mistakes when trying to make translations on notices, posters, signs and menus. Enjoy these illogical, yet funny English sentences:

- The bandage was wound around the wound.
- The farm was used to produce produce.
- The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
- He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
- Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
- A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum.
- When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
- A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.
- The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

Ms. Jenith Freeda J
II M.A. English

ENGLISH IS CUH-RAY-ZEE

English is the most widely spoken language in the history of the planet. One out of every seven human beings can speak or read it. Half the world's books, 3/4 of the international mail are in English. It has the largest vocabulary, perhaps two million words, And a noble body of literature. But face it: English is cuh-ray-zee! Just a few examples: There's no egg in eggplant, no pine or apple in pineapple. Quicksand works slowly; boxing rings are square. A writer writes, but do fingers fing? Hammers don't ham, grocers don't groce. Haberdashers don't haberdash. English is cuh-ray-zee! If the plural of tooth is teeth, shouldn't the plural of booth be beeth? It's one goose, two geese. Why not one moose, two meese? If it's one index, two indices; why not one Kleenex,

two Kleenices? English is cuh-ray-zee! You can comb through the annals of history, but not just one annal. You can make amends, but not just one amend. If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one, is it an odd or an end? If the teacher taught, why isn't it true that a preacher praught? If you wrote a letter, did you also bote your tongue? And if a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat? English is cuh-ray-zee! Why is it that night falls but never breaks and day breaks but never falls? In what other language do people drive on the parkway and park on the driveway? Ship by truck but send cargo by ship? Recite at a play but play at a recital? Have noses that run and feet that smell? English is cuh-ray-zee! How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same When a wise man and a wise guy are very different? To overlook something and to oversee something are very different, But quite a lot and quite a few are the same. How can the weather be hot as hell one day and cold as hell the next? English is cuh-ray-zee! You have to marvel at the lunacy of a language in which your house can burn down While it is burning up. You fill out a form by filling it in. In which your alarm clock goes off by going on. If pro is the opposite of con, what is the opposite of progress? Well, English was invented by people, not computers And reflects the creativity of the human race. So that's why when the stars are out, they're visible, But when the lights are out, they're invisible. When I wind up my watch I start it, but when I wind up this rap, I end it. English is cuh-ray-zee!

Mr. Joseph Daniel S
II M.A. English

SAMUEL BECKETT, THE MAESTRO OF FAILURE

Samuel Beckett was born on Good Friday, April 13, 1906, near Dublin, Ireland. Raised in a middle class, Protestant home, the son of a quantity surveyor and a nurse, he was sent off at the age of 14 to attend the same school which Oscar Wilde had attended. Looking back on his childhood, he once remarked, "I had little talent for happiness."

Beckett was consistent in his loneliness. The unhappy boy soon grew into an unhappy young man, often so depressed that he stayed in bed until mid afternoon. He was difficult to engage in any lengthy conversation--it took hours and lots of drinks to warm him up--but the women could not resist him. The lonely young poet, however, would not allow anyone to penetrate his solitude. He once remarked, after rejecting advances from James Joyce's daughter, that he was dead and had no feelings that were human.

In 1928, Samuel Beckett moved to Paris, and the city quickly won his heart. Shortly after he arrived, a mutual friend introduced him to

James Joyce, and Beckett quickly became an apostle of the older writer. At the age of 23, he wrote an essay in defense of Joyce's magnum opus against the public's lazy demand for easy comprehensibility. A year later, he won his first literary prize – 10 pounds for a poem entitled "Whoroscope" which dealt with the philosopher Descartes meditating on the subject of time and the transiency of life. After writing a study of Proust, however, Beckett came to the conclusion that habit and routine were the "cancer of time", so he gave up his post at Trinity College and set out on a nomadic journey across Europe.

Beckett made his way through Ireland, France, England, and Germany, all the while writing poems and stories and doing odd jobs to get by. Beckett finally settled down in Paris in 1937. Shortly thereafter, he was stabbed in the street by a man who had approached him asking for money. He would learn later, in the hospital, that he had a perforated lung. After his recovery, he went to visit his assailant in prison. When asked why he had attacked Beckett, the prisoner

replied "Je ne sais pas, Monsieur", a phrase hauntingly reminiscent of some of the lost and confused souls that would populate the writer's later works.

During World War II, Beckett stayed in Paris – even after it had become occupied by the Germans. He joined the underground movement and fought for the resistance until 1942 when several members of his group were arrested and he was forced to flee with his French-born wife to the unoccupied zone. In 1945, after it had been liberated from the Germans, he returned to Paris and began his most prolific period as a writer. In the five years that followed, he wrote *Eleutheria*, *Waiting for Godot*, *Endgame*, the novels *Malloy*, *Malone Dies*, *The Unnamable*, and *Mercier et Camier*, two books of short stories, and a book of criticism.

Samuel Beckett's first play, *Eleutheria*, mirrors his own search for freedom, revolving around a young man's efforts to cut himself loose from his family and social obligations. His first real triumph, however, came on January 5, 1953, when *Waiting for Godot* premiered at the Théâtre de Babylone.

In spite of some expectations to the contrary, the strange little play in which "nothing happens" became an instant success, running for four hundred performances at the Théâtre de Babylone and enjoying the critical praise of dramatists as diverse as Tennessee Williams,

de Babylone and enjoying the critical praise of dramatists as diverse as Tennessee Williams, Jean Anouilh, Thornton Wilder, and William Saroyan who remarked, "It will make it easier for me and everyone else to write freely in the theatre." Perhaps the most famous production of *Waiting for Godot*, however, took place in 1957 when a company of actors from the San Francisco Actor's Workshop presented the play at the San Quentin penitentiary for an audience of over fourteen hundred convicts. Surprisingly, the production was a great success. The prisoners understood as well as Vladimir and Estragon that life means waiting, killing time and clinging to the hope that relief may be just around the corner. If not today, then perhaps tomorrow.

Beckett secured his position as a master dramatist on April 3, 1957 when his second masterpiece, *Endgame*, premiered (in French) at the Royal Court Theatre in London. Beckett was the first of the absurdist to win international fame. His works have been translated into over twenty languages. In 1969 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature. He continued to write until his death in 1989, but the task grew more and more difficult with each work until, in the end, he said that each word seemed to him "an unnecessary stain on silence and nothingness."

Mr. Spurgeon Ben B
Asst. Prof. of English

Quips and Quills: Literary Jokes for Wordsmiths

Why don't writers use graph paper?

- Because they're always plotting.

Why did the scarecrow become a successful author?

- Because he was outstanding in his field.

What do you call a writer who doesn't follow the rules of grammar?

- A rebel without a clause.

Why do writers always feel cold?

- Because they're surrounded by drafts.

Why don't poets ever get lost?

- Because they always follow the rhyme and reason.

What's a writer's favorite exercise?

- The plot twist.

Why did the author go to jail?

- Because he had too many sentences.

Why was the novel afraid of the dictionary?

- Because the dictionary had more words.

MS. MARIYAM S
II BA English

Fascinating Tidbits

- The shortest, oldest, and most commonly used word in English is "I."
- The most common letter in English is "E."
- The longest word without a vowel is "rhythms."
- One of the most commonly mispronounced words in English is "pronunciation."
- Some words in English have no perfect rhymes, such as "orange," "silver," "purple," and "month."
- The English language is full of irregularities. For example, the plural of "mouse" is "mice," but the plural of "house" is "houses."
- "Dreamt" is the only English word that ends with the letters "mt."

MS. PRATHIKSHA R
III BA English

HER OWN PATH

In the quiet of her room, she dwells,
An eighteen-year-old with stories to tell,
Without her mother’s guiding light,
She walks alone into the night.

Memories like whispers soft and kind,
Echo in the chambers of her mind.
She crafts her path, both brave and new,
With each step, she feels her strength renew.

The world may seem both vast and wide,
Yet she carries love that won’t subside.
With courage drawn from years of grace,
She faces life, a strong embrace.

Ms. S R Bhavani Sindhuja
Asst. Prof. of English

*“We are the miracles that
God made to taste the
bitter fruit of Time.”*

Ben Okri

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