

**Session 2018-19**

**Department of English**

# **E-NEWSLETTER**

**Post Graduate Government College, Sector-46, Chandigarh**

**Principal Prof. Rosy Walia Joshi speaks...**



**Q & A with Navdeep Kaur and Shanika of B.Com. I,  
appear on page4**

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## NOTES FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

**Dear Students**

**Our Department continues to be a truly vibrant place with everyone engaged in learning as well as enjoying greatly and we are extremely excited to share what we have been practising throughout the session.**

**Education for us, is not merely a prerequisite to get a job or succeed in life, nor for safeguarding one's wellbeing; it should endow the means to live a full and wholesome existence. Life is like a river that represents movement as well as constancy and change is nature's wake-up call to get in sync with life. Learn from a river that no matter even if obstacles force you to change your course, but never change your destination or become the river of oblivion.**

**Every moment throbs with inventiveness. Just as every cell in our body replaces itself in seven years, every moment rationalizes our thoughts and our way of life. Though it might come to your mind that you cannot alone change the world, but I believe, at least you can cast a stone across the water and create ripples. So make an endeavour to engage ingeniously with change. Aptly remarked Ralph Waldo Emerson, "The only person you are destined to become, is the person you decide to be." So learn to harness your deepest veins of courage, endurance and faith and move on in life thus making us proud.**

**Happy Reading!**

**Riju Sharma**

**Do you have an obsession for travel? Be it a bleisure travel or wanderlust, soaking up that international experience can be irritating to a pedant's ear if one doesn't know how to pronounce the names of places correctly. It's worth looking at it through the prism of phonetics:**

**PHUKET** -Don't say: Foo-ket Say: Poo-ket

**DUBAI** -Don't say: Du-BYE Say: du-BAY

**EDINBURGH** - Don't say: Edin-burG Say: Edin-BUR'RAH

**CANNES** - Don't say: KAANS Say: CAN

**MELBOURNE** -Don't say: Mel-BOURN Say: Mehl-B'N

**WILKES-BARRE** -Don't say: Willks-BAR Say: Willks-BARRY

**GREENWICH** -Don't say: Green-witch Say: grEN-ITCH

**THE RIVER THAMES** -Don't say: THAYms Say: TEms

**SAY IT  
RIGHT** ✨





## ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE



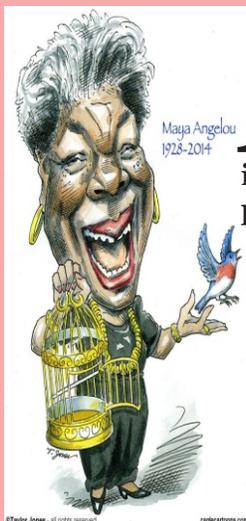
**W**ith an aim to help students in expressing their views in an effective manner and to respond to arguments cogently, a debate was organized on August 21, 2018, on the topic 'The Man Who Doesn't Read Has No Advantage over the One Who Cannot Read'. The first prize was won by Gurgulab Singh of BA I and the second prize was bagged by Ritesh of BA I.

**A**n endeavour to test the art of speaking in public with clarity and confidence was made through an Elocution Competition that was organized on August 24, 2018. Parwind Khera of BA III was first on the league table.

**A**n Inter-class Creative Writing Competition was organized on September 02, 2019. The winners of the Story Writing, Poem Writing and Essay Writing series of competitions were-Arpit Kanwar, Harmandeep Kaur and Pinkeshwar respectively.

**B**ased on the 16th-century play written by William Shakespeare, 'Merchant of Venice' movie was screened for the students of BA II on September 14, 2018.

**I**n collaboration with the Department of Posts, Sector-17, Chandigarh, a Letter Writing Competition was held on September 15, 2018. It was based on the theme 'Letter to My Motherland' inspired by Rabindranath Tagore's *Amar Desher Maati*.



**A**n Essay Writing Competition was organized on the topic 'Emerging Trends of Privatization of Education in India' on November 16, 2018. More than twenty-five students participated in it. Rohit and Gurjant of BCA I bagged the first and the second positions respectively and Ritesh of BA I secured the third position.

*Nothing will work unless you do.*  
*-Maya Angelou*

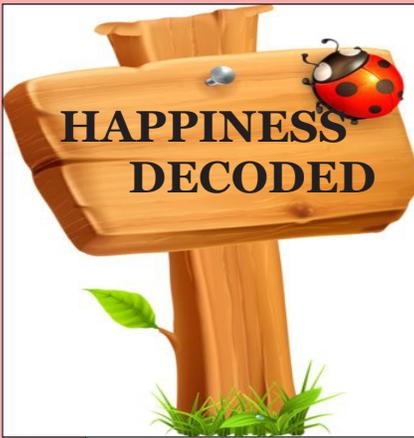
Some More Activities On Page 8



## HAPPINESS DECODED

Undoubtedly, vibes speak louder than words. In the modern day world where people are busy running errands and chasing materialistic things, true happiness lies in the virtues and kindness that reside inside our heart. A smile, a compliment, a helping hand, or a small gesture may spread a lot of bliss and mirth around, which the worldly pleasures may not. The mad race of acquiring the newer, faster or the bigger will never satiate our deepest desires. So as one craves for a great deal of energy and positive vibes that can comfort the soul, an impromptu survey was conducted on *Happiness* by the Department, for the students and the faculty, as we believe that people are living books, the breathing libraries of wisdom. Hence, making their experiences open and available to all, let's see what our students and faculty have to say about happiness.

- Happiness is looking beyond imperfections.  
*Dr. Pooja Garg, Dept. of English*
- Happiness is the satisfaction an individual derives from the tasks one undertakes and completes.  
*Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Dept. of Psychology*
- Happiness is so easy to achieve, yet unattained. The secret to happiness lies in contentment. A content mind, body and soul infuse charm, beauty and happiness in our lives.  
*Dr. Amanpreet Kaur, Dept. of Environment Education*
- Happiness is a lifeline.  
*Dr. Rajinder Singh Koura, Dept. of Physical Education*
- Happiness is situational. On the face of it, happiness lies in the fulfilment of desires, but actually it lies in contentedness.  
*Mr. Praveen Chaubey, Dept. of History*
- Happiness is doing small things in life with big smiles and giggles of your loved ones.  
*Dr. Jatinderdeep Kaur, Dept. of Punjabi*
- Not having achieved everything and being content is any day better than having achieved everything and yet not being content.  
*Dr. Sumeet Gill, Dept. of English*
- Happiness is a choice. You can choose to be happy. There's going to be stress in life, but it is your choice whether you allow it to affect you or not.  
*Ms. Amanpreet Kaur, Dept. of English*
- Happiness is a state of consciousness where all joys and sorrows of life are acceptable. It is an experience ranging from satisfaction to inner bliss.  
*Dr. Baljeet Singh, Dept. of Punjabi*



*A drop of ink may make a million think.*

*-Lord Byron*



- **Success is not the key to happiness; happiness is the key to success.**  
-Priyanka Pawar (BA II, 1522)
- **Happiness is not all about your destiny; your actions are answerable to it.**  
-Bhumika Tanwar (BA II, 1296)
- **Happiness is sitting alone amidst “nature” for introspection.**  
-Ajay Thakur (BA III, 1531)
- **Happiness is the freedom to do something productive.**  
-Madhu (BA III, 1559)
- **Happiness is satisfaction – mental, physical and psychological.**  
-Monirul Rehman (BA III, 1962)
- **Happiness is the best emotion to think positive.**  
-Suraj (BA III, 2236)
- **Happiness is like gold; when we dig it, we find it.**  
-Keshav Sharma (BA III, 1499)
- **Happiness is problem-solving.**  
-Satwinder Singh (BA III, 1376)
- **Happiness is learning whatever you want to learn.**  
-Harvikram Singh (BA III, 1202)
- **Happiness is something which can't be defined, it is an internal feeling.**  
-Himalaya Gulati (BA III, 1359)
- **Happiness is the ultimate source of serenity.**  
-Vineeta Dhanauroo (BA III, 2042)
- **Happiness is enjoying the little things in life.**  
-Geetika Narang (BA III, 2102)
- **Happiness is situational.**  
-Shubham Duhan (BA III, 1717)
- **To be happy does not only mean to acquire happiness, but also to feel it.**  
-Ritika Sharma (BA III, 1996)
- **Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from your own actions.**  
-Shivam Pal (BA III, 1804)
- **Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.**  
-Mamta (BA I, 1145)



# PRINCIPAL THOUGHTS

## One-to-One with Prof. Rosy Walia Joshi

### **How do you define your passion for teaching?**

**Principal:** Teaching itself requires passion. If you are not passionate enough about teaching, then opting for a different profession is, perhaps, a better choice. The passionate behaviour of a teacher affects the actions and the performance of the students directly. That's why I believe only a person passionate about teaching should get into academics.

### **What inspired you to get into teaching? Is it what you always wanted to pursue?**

**Principal:** It's not something that I always wanted to do. I always wanted to be a lawyer. What inspired me to get into teaching was the impressive teaching method of my mentors during post-graduation. They would ask us to present the topics concerning our syllabus in front of the entire class and thus we automatically taught our own classmates. This made me think about pursuing teaching as a profession. Even in high school, our teachers were so passionate that they used to devote extra time for the improvement of their students. All of this, together, directed me towards taking up teaching.

### **Who is your most admired educationist, philosopher or a thinker?**

**Principal:** The person I admire the most is Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and my favourite inspirational quote is "Your best teacher is your last mistake." You should never shy away from making mistakes because you'll make mistakes only when you try and that one mistake will give you a really important life lesson as you will refrain from committing the same mistake again in future.

### **How do you see yourself as a leader?**

**Principal:** I have always believed in teamwork. I think, I am a person who believes in participatory approach. I don't want to see people working under me. Rather, I want every one of us working together. Even to my students, I always say we are a team. I want to lead by example.

### **How do you de-stress yourself after a hectic schedule?**

**Principal:** I actually don't get stressed that often. But whenever I do, the remedy for me is my balcony, nature and a cup of black coffee. I am not a very religious person and I don't meditate. Nature for me is my only solace.

### **What difference do you see between a teaching job and an administrative job?**

**Principal:** I've been performing administrative functions since 1998 as the head of the department. Administration has been a part of my career for the last twenty years. Earlier, as the Dean of a college, I used to stay in the college even beyond working hours. What I miss about teaching are the direct interactions with both teachers and students. Both teaching and administration have their pros and cons. As a Principal, I don't just prefer coming to the office and managing the staff alone but would like to speak to the students and work as a bridge between them and the authorities. I am working on it bit by bit.

### **What is your one final message to the students?**

**Principal:** What you need is education and not just literacy and degrees. As I always say, make perfection your habit, not your attitude. Working on practical knowledge, skills and qualities is more important. The events we organize all the year around are grounds for the grooming of students and hubs for giving them practical knowledge. Education means all-round development and not just the attainment of a degree.

## KNOW YOUR AUTHOR

*"You've got to take the rough with the smooth, get on with life, pull yourself together, be respected.*

*-Anna Burns*

A leading literary award winner, Anna Burns was awarded the Man Booker Prize for Fiction for the novel *Milkman* in the year 2018. This Northern Irish author is the first woman to win the prize since 2013 when Eleanor Catton took the title for *The Luminaries*. She first made a mark in the sphere of literature by winning the 2001 Winifred Holtby Memorial Prize for her regional novel *No Bones* and a year later, for her first novella *Mostly Hero*.

Depicting the troubles within the literature of Northern Ireland, she often explores themes like perils of tribalism, social division and overlapping of sexual and political power. *Milkman* is a quintessential 'experimental novel' that sets down the tone for the author's distinctive stylistic preference. It is an endeavour to bring to the fore the idea of a repressive, closed and insular society. Besides, she lays emphasis on the day-to-day fixations and concerns of her country.

The story seems especially relevant to our times as it is intellectually and morally challenging. In the words of Kwame Anthony Appiah, Professor of Philosophy and Law, New York University, 'The novel will help people think about #Me Too.'



## MALAPROPISM

Also called a Malaprop or Dogberryism, malapropism is the use of an incorrect word in place of a word with a similar sound, resulting in an illogical, sometimes hilarious utterance. It comes from the French word which means "ill-suited." A perfect example of malapropism with which all of us can relate is from the famous Indian comedy-drama film '**3-Idiots.**'



"Subbookkeeper" is the only word found in an English language dictionary with four pairs of double letters in a row.

SAINT-LOUIS-DU-HA! HA! is the only city name in the world that features two exclamation points. The municipality is in Quebec.

USHER contains four personal pronouns - us, she, he, her.

**B**ased on the first of a trilogy of novels written by R. K. Narayan, 'Swami and Friends: Malgudi Days' was screened for the students of BA III, on February 01, 2019.



**A** Calligraphy Competition was organized on February 04, 2019 to improve the writing skills and to inculcate the habit of good handwriting among students. More than 150 students of BA II participated in it. The first, second and third prizes were bagged by Shruti, Priyanka and Vanshita of BA II. A consolation prize was given to Ritu of BA II. The assessment was done by a selected panel of teachers of the Department and the participants were judged on the basis of writing style, legibility and neatness etc.

**T**he students of Functional English participated in various library-related competitions which were organized from February 06- 09, 2019 and the results of the competitions were heartening. Jasleen Kaur won the third prize in 'Book Locating and Reference Hunting Competition'; Khushi and Akshay Verma won the third prize in an 'Essay Writing Competition'; Jasleen Kaur won the first prize and Pooja won the third prize in the 'Slogan Writing Competition.' In 'Collage Making Competition' Khushi and Vaishali won the first and the third prize respectively.

**T**aking into consideration the fact that poetry is a form of self-expression with the creativity of words and emotions that convey a message to the audience, the students got an opportunity to exhibit their talent and confidence through a Poetry Recitation Competition which was organized on February 26, 2019. Students were judged on parameters like confidence, voice modulation, props and overall presentation. A student of BA I, Richard stood first, Gurjot Singh of BA I bagged the second prize and the third prize was grabbed by Bhupinder Singh of BA I.

### Department of English Newsletter

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**WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!**



The department would appreciate receiving news items for the next English Newsletter, 2019-20. Please mail your contributions at [litcare46@gmail.com](mailto:litcare46@gmail.com)