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Report of one day Workshop on Reading English for CICE Serampore 2025

A workshop organised by CLTCS, NSOU and ELTAI in collaboration with Serampore Girl's College was held on 19th April 2025. The workshop was held at the Department of English, Serampore Girl's College from 10.00 am till 2.30 pm with an half an hour break in between. 42 learners from the CICE 2025 batch participated in the workshop. The workshop began with a felicitation program for the two resource persons from the Department of ELT, NSOU, Professor Amzed Hossein and Dr Sumana Bandyopadhyay. Dr Suranjana Bhadra, Associate Professor of SGC introduced the resource persons to the learners. In the inaugural address, Prof Soma Ray, the principal of the college talked about the importance of reading skills in acquiring communicative proficiency. She also stressed on the need of a CICE course at the UG level for excelling in the future endeavors of the learners.

English 400 Reading Program materials from Orient Blackswan were used for the workshop. In the first half of the workshop, the learners were divided into two groups. The first group consisting of 20 learners was asked to work on the placement test for 15 minutes. 10 of the learners from group 1 took the placement test for level 10, while the rest of the learners from group 1 worked on the placement test for level 9. The highest and lowest score from group 1 level 10 were 9 and 4. Level 9 placement tests highest and lowest scores were 8 and 4 from group 1. The second group had a short introduction to language skills for the first 15 minutes. After the placement test, group 1 was asked to read the texts appropriate to their levels and take comprehension tasks following the text. Group 2 consisting of 22 learners took the placement test for level 10, 9 and 8. The highest and lowest score from group 2 level 10 were 10 and 4. Level 9 placement tests highest and lowest scores were 9 and 5. Level 8 scores were 7 and 8. Next the reading texts were provided for the whole class from level 10 and 9. Each of the reading material had an interesting story or passage for reading with illustrations and a glossary for difficult words. It also had a set of 5 comprehension questions and a set of 5 item vocabulary tests to check whether the learner had understood the story and the meanings of some of the words from story.

The learners continued with their reading assignments till 1.30 pm with each learner reading an average of 10 texts within the schedule. They had also checked with the answers to comprehension tasks and marked their performances themselves before moving to the next reading assignment. Reading texts were provided according to their scores on their previous reading tasks. It was a vigorous reading activity for the learners throughout the workshop. Each learner had the opportunity to read at her own level and at her own pace. Srijani could read 17 texts within the schedule scoring 10 and 9 from the follow up tasks while Puja and Arshiya had read 15 texts scoring 10, 9 and 8. The workshop ended at 2.30 pm with a quick feedback from and learners.

