



## Workshop on Challenges and Trends in English Language Teaching on 12 May 2018 at Iqbal Memorial School, Bemina, Kashmir



### A Brief Report

The workshop on Challenges and Trends in English Language Teaching was organised by Amity University Press on May 12, 2018 at Iqbal Memorial School, Bemina. The event saw participation of over 80 ELT teachers from Iqbal Memorial and other reputed schools in the Kashmir valley.

The main objective behind holding the two-day workshop was to devise ways through which students can put their learning into practise and fulfil their day-to-day demands by gaining command over the language and developing effective communication skills.

The day began with invoking the blessings of the Almighty and recitation of verses from holy Quran. The chairman of Iqbal Memorial Trust, Dr Usuf Umer delivered the inaugural address. The proceedings of the day began with a brief presentation on Amity Group of Organisation and Amity University Press in particular.

The first day of the workshop saw an extensive deliberation on why despite earning a global status, English language continues to be a major challenge to the language teachers.

The workshop was conducted by ELT exponent and renowned author of highly successful Grammar series brought out by Amity University Press, **Prema Balasubramanian**. She exhorted the teachers to improve the communication skills of the students by using the four skills of learning- Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking in an integrated manner.

She encouraged the teachers to cultivate a love for reading in students as it not only helps develop imagination power, but also enhances vocabulary. She also elaborated on how poets like Wordsworth and Keats used poetic devices to create a beautiful imagery through words. She said, "It is important for teachers to understand the salient features of the poem and identify the rhyme scheme and style of poetry, if they want the students to appreciate the finer aspects and emotions associated with a poem."

This was followed by a group activity, which saw teachers shedding their hesitation and stage fright and articulately voicing their views and opinions. Saira Arif, one of the participants, sharing her feedback on the workshop said, "The workshop was informative and innovative. It put to rest our queries related to learning processes."

"The interactive session was enriching and would go a long way in enhancing our knowledge. We would try and implement whatever we have learnt today in the classroom in future," Rehana Iqbal said.

The second day of the workshop saw the resource person suggesting interesting activities to teach grammar innovatively. She also touched upon the need to be polite with slow learners and how to encourage them by giving them incentives and praising them liberally.

This was followed by a healthy interactive session, the author patiently addressed the queries and concerns of the teachers and took a promise from them that they will apply the concepts taught during the workshop in the classroom.

Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/amityuniversitypress/>



### **Pictures of the ELT Workshop at Iqbal Memorial School, Bemina, Kashmir**



Picture 1: Prema Balasubramanian, the renowned ELT expert, is taking the workshop in Kashmir



Picture 2: The participant teachers at the ELT workshop in Kashmir



Picture 3: The participant teachers at the ELT workshop in Kashmir