

A Report on the outreach programme of the ELTAI, Guwahati Chapter in collaboration with Department of English Language Teaching, Gauhati University

Date: 12.4.2019 (Friday)

Venue: Nambari High School

The English Language Teachers' Association of India (ELTAI), Guwahati Chapter in collaboration with the Department of English Language Teaching (ELT), Gauhati University conducted a demonstration lesson in a class of around 50 students of Class IX and X of Nambari High School on 12th April, 2019. The session was also attended and observed by the fourth semester students of the Department of English Language Teaching (Gauhati University), some teachers of Nambari High School, and faculty members of the Department of English Language Teaching (Gauhati University).

On reaching the school at around 10.30 am, the faculty members of the Department were warmly welcomed by the Headmaster of the School Sri AchyutSarma.

After a brief felicitation programme, the 90-minute demonstration class started at 11 am. The lesson, carried out by Dr.PranjanaKalita Nath from Department of ELT, Gauhati University, aimed to teach vocabulary and reading skills. Using a part of a unit of Class X textbook, the lesson included activities for learning word meanings by using contexts, skimming and scanning and games.

The techniques of involving all students in a large class were demonstrated by using interaction patterns like group work. Various other techniques in language teaching methodology like error correction techniques, elicitation techniques, use of teaching aids, encouraging learners by praising, use of the mother tongue to facilitate learning a second language, taking feedback, etc. were demonstrated through the lesson.

The students were seen participating actively in the class and enjoying interacting with each other and with the teacher. They worked on the tasks in an engaged manner and responded enthusiastically when the teacher elicited feedback and other responses. Considering the learner involvement and responses, the demonstration class can be considered successful.

After the class, the Head of the Department of ELT, Gauhati University expressed willingness to continue association with the school further. The teachers of the school also expressed their thankfulness towards the team for offering the service. They mentioned that they wanted more opportunities for experiencing such demonstration, which they think, would benefit both their teachers and students.

To conclude, this outreach programme has hopefully benefited three stakeholders – one, the students of the school directly by giving them an opportunity to take part in a model language teaching class; second, pre-service language teachers as the fourth semester students have got an opportunity to observe a model language teaching class and reflect on it for their own development; and third, teachers of the school as they can reflect on their own practice after observing the class.