

Department: **SKILL AND PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME CENTRE FOR SC/ST STUDENTS (SPDP)**  
(Sponsored by AICTE)

Date: **24<sup>th</sup> February, 2021**

**An Expert Lecture**  
**on**  
**“Improving Speaking Skills for Professional Students”**

An expert lecture on **“Improving Speaking Skills for Professional Students”** was organized by the College under Skill and Personality Development Programme Centre (SPDP) for SC/ST students sponsored by AICTE on **24<sup>th</sup> February 2021**. The Resource Person was **Dr. K. V. Raghupathi, Senior Assistant Professor (Retd.), Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur**.



***Dr. K. V. Raghupathi, Senior Assistant Professor (Retd.),  
Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur during the talk***

Dr. Raghupathi started his talk by questioning the students about the difference between *Transport* and *Transportation*. He mentioned that English is a stressed language. It has

to be accentuated and has duality where the spelling and pronunciation are different. In reply to his question regarding the different situations where aural language is used, the resource person received answers from the students that it is used in Seminars, Interviews, Public Meeting, Classrooms, Group Discussion, Railway Station, Bus station etc. He also told about the seven purposes of listening- specific information; general understanding; pleasure; predictive listening; inferential listening; intensive listening and evaluative listening. The resource person elaborated about the seven types of listening tasks: Jigsaw listening; ambiguous conversations; decision making (board meetings); pre-reading; pre-writing; gap-filling; and marking routes on maps. He explained the five stages of listening process: receiving, understanding, remembering, evaluation, and responding.



***Dr. K V. Raghupathi interacting with students***

Later, the resource person asked the students to frame questions and remarked that there are three interactional elements in a dialogue or conversation: Initiate (Where did you go last night?); Respond (I went to the cinema); and Follow-up (oh! that is wonderful!). Also, two kinds of questioning - information seeking and getting Yes/No answer. He also told about the information seeking questions which are of two kinds: framed with 'wh': what, who, where, when, why and framed with 'how': how, how much, how many, how long, and how far.

Dr. Raghupathi interacted with students and elaborately discussed the Helping Verbs and Action Verbs. In case of Helping verbs, he dealt with Modal verbs (will, would, shall, should, can, could, may, might, need etc.) and with the 'Be' forms: is/am/are/, was/were, does/do/did, has/have/had and Action verbs were also dealt with in detail by presenting them worksheets and the interaction was a great learning for students. The students were also asked to list thirty most common verbs of action, frame information seeking questions with various tense forms, and Frame Yes/No questions with various tense forms. The students were also exposed to speaking activity on asking for and giving directions; introducing yourself and others; making, accepting and declining invitations. The resource person also asked the students to suggest the suitable title for the paragraph given in worksheet. He also asked the students to discuss on the topic: *Is social media good or bad?* and received a variety of answers which were interesting and thought provoking.

Students attended the program and came to know about the nitty-gritty of effective speaking and it is expected that students would improve their functional spoken language and get their things done productively.



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