

**CALICUT UNIVERSITY**  
**SECOND SEMESTER**  
**FOUR YEAR UNDER GRADUATE PROGRAMME(CU-FYUGP)**

**ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS FOR  
COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT(ENG2FA103(3))**

**Prepared By**

**LAMEES VP**

**Department of English**

**CPA COLLEGE OF GLOBAL STUDIES**

equipping with excellence

CPA COLLEGE OF GLOBAL STUDIES



CALICUT UNIVERSITY – FOUR-YEAR UNDERGRADUATE

PROGRAMME (CU-FYUGP) **GENERAL FOUNDATION**

**COURSE**

## ABILITY ENHANCEMENT COURSE (AEC)

Programme	<b>GENERAL FOUNDATION COURSE</b>				
Course Code	<b>ENG2FA103(3)</b>				
Course Title	<b>ADVANCED ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS FOR COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT</b>				
Type of Course	<b>ABILITY ENHANCEMENT COURSE(AEC)- COMMERCE AND MANAGEMENT</b>				
Semester	2				
Academic Level	100-199				
Course Details	Credit	Lecture per week	Tutorial per week	Practical per week	Total Hours
	3	2	-	2	60
Pre-requisites	Basic Communication Skills in English				
Course Summary	The course is designed to enable commerce stream learners to enhance their communication skills in general and augment their presentation and public speaking skills in common and discipline-specific environments.				

**Course Outcome (CO):**

CO	CO Statement	Cognitive Level	Knowledge Category	Evaluation Tools used
CO1	Interpret and critically evaluate complex texts, including literary works, technical documents, and scholarly articles, identifying themes, arguments, and stylistic elements.	An	C	Assignments/Discussion
CO2	Enhance language learning through personal, social and professional contexts.	U	M	Assignments & Team Exercise
CO3	Perspective formation and articulation	E/C	C	Public Speaking Exercises/Debates
CO4	Deliver impactful presentations and speeches with confidence utilizing effective rhetorical techniques, body language and visual aids.	C	P	Presentations/GD
CO5	Develop Collaborative cross-cultural Communication by participating effectively in collaborative projects, demonstrating strong interpersonal communication skills, the ability to listen actively, speak persuasively, read critically, and write cohesively.	C	P	Translation Exercise
CO6	Utilize advanced digital tools and platforms to support LSRW activities, including online research, virtual collaboration, multimedia presentations, and digital publication.	Ap/C	P	Assignments in Digital Platforms
<p>* - Remember (R), Understand (U), Apply (Ap), Analyse (An), Evaluate (E), Create (C)</p> <p>#-Factual Knowledge (F) Conceptual Knowledge (C) Procedural Knowledge (P) Metacognitive Knowledge (M)</p>				

## Detailed Syllabus:

Module	Unit	Content	Hrs	Marks
<b>I</b>		<b>Success Narratives</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>
	1	Standford Commencement Address-Steve Jobs <a href="https://youtu.be/UF8uR6Z6KLc?si=Xze8xBjdTCLN8Onh">https://youtu.be/UF8uR6Z6KLc?si=Xze8xBjdTCLN8Onh</a>	1	
	2	The earth is a living thing-Lucille Clifton	2	
	3	The Mexican- Jack London	2	
	4	Forrest Gump( 1994) -Dir. Robert Zemeckis	2	
<b>II</b>		<b>Specimens from The Literary World</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>
	5	Express- Stephen Spender	2	
	6	Fifteen Years-RK Narayan	2	
	7	The Bennets- A Scene from the dramatized version of Jane Austin's <i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	2	
	8	Luigi Pirandello's speech at the Nobel Banquet	1	
<b>III</b>		<b>Words and World</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>
	9	The Gift of the Magi-O Henry	2	
	10	I plead that you read- Shashi Tharoor	2	
	11	For the Minicab Driver Who Looked as if He Needed Feeding-Imtiaz Dharker	2	
	12	Opening Google I/O 2023- Sunder Pichai <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixRanV-rdAQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ixRanV-rdAQ</a>	2	
<b>IV</b>		<b>Articulations in Black and White</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>
	13	Abdulrazak Gurnah-Nobel Prize in Literature 2021 at the Swedish Academy (Interview) <a href="https://youtu.be/gu1TqDhnLlw?si=49BxDutB47MrDRU">https://youtu.be/gu1TqDhnLlw?si=49BxDutB47MrDRU</a>	2	
	14	The Lottery- Sheryl Sandberg	2	
	15	Wasteland of the Free-Iris DeMent	2	
	16	Long Walk to Freedom- Nelson Mandela (chapter 10- Last Two pages)	2	

V	Practicum	30	
1	<p><b>Module I:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jobs' leadership style and philosophy are evident throughout his speech. Analyse his insights and discuss effective leadership qualities.</li> <li>2. Jobs' talk about resilience in the face of failure can serve as a basis for a workshop on building resilience and perseverance. Write down strategies for bouncing back from setbacks and maintaining a positive mindset in the face of adversity.</li> <li>3. Use the poem as a starting point for a discussion and review on environmental stewardship and the importance of protecting the Earth.</li> <li>4. Prepare an action plan for the learners to participate in the environmental conservation efforts in their community.</li> <li>5. Trace out the elements of adventure and survival in The Mexican</li> <li>6. Comment on the narrative techniques employed by Jack London to make his stories highly readable.</li> <li>7. Explore the historical context of the story, including the Mexican Revolution and the political and social conditions of the time and submit it as an assignment.</li> <li>8. Discuss and write a short note on real-world issues such as homelessness or refugee crises and survival issues.</li> <li>9. Prepare a speech on the themes of kindness, compassion, and service to others portrayed in the film.</li> <li>10. Write a report on the historical events such as the Vietnam War or the Watergate scandal etc after watching the film.</li> </ol>	7	

2	<p><b>Module II:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct a discussion on the topic of Technological inventions and innovations and human progress in the light of the poem 'Express'.</li> <li>2. Conduct a close reading of 'Express' as a group, focussing on the language, imagery, and symbolism used by Spender to convey his ideas about love and expression and prepare a note.</li> <li>3. Create character portraits of the story's main characters, such as Swami, his grandmother and Rajam by depicting the physical appearance, personality traits, and key moments that reveal each character's development.</li> <li>4. Create a timeline of the events in Swami's life, marking the significant moments from the story. Discuss how these events shape Swami's growth and identity.</li> <li>5. Compare and contrast "The Bennets" scene from the dramatized version of "Pride and Prejudice" with the original text by Jane Austin. Discuss how the scene's adaptation for the stage or screen interprets and represents Austen's characters and themes.</li> <li>6. Discuss and write a critical appreciation of the various aspects of "The Bennets" scene, such as family dynamics, social class, marriage expectations, and gender roles.</li> <li>7. Discuss the idea of success by problematising the relationship between arguably the highest-ranking award in literature and the fame and quality of the awarded</li> <li>8. Write your ideas on how to educate your mind and exchange it with your peers then collect everything together to read in the classroom.</li> </ol>	7	

	3	<p><b>Module III:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss the factors which make The Gift of the Magi an all-time favourite.</li> <li>2. Comment on the ' O Henry twist ' that renders a special charm to his stories.</li> <li>3. Do you think that the higher- level reading has been seriously affected by social media and the internet? Conduct a GD after reading the article by Tharoor</li> <li>4. 'Literacy will be read, and democracy will be dead as well.' Examine this statement and conduct a debate.</li> <li>5. Do you want to settle down abroad? How does the poem by Imtiaz Dhaker express the life of an immigrant worker in the West? Conduct a discussion in your class</li> <li>6. Collect details in groups and prepare a write up on literature of the Diaspora.</li> <li>7. Innovation is the soul of entrepreneurship. Examine the statement after watching Sunder Pichai' s speech</li> <li>8. Conduct a GD on the impact of digital technology on the youth.</li> </ol>	8	
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	4	<p><b>Module IV:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare a research project on a specific aspect of Abdulrazak Gurnah's life or work.</li> <li>2. Explore critical responses to Abdulrazak Gurnah's work and discuss different interpretations and analyses.</li> <li>3. Write a paper tracing the history of reception after the publication of the story and compare it with the comment section of the cyberspace today,</li> <li>4. Prepare an imaginary conversation with the writer as a creative assignment highlighting the aspects of savagery in perceivably modern cultures.</li> <li>5. Listening to the song and identify themes of wealth gap and disparity then divide into group and prepare a presentation</li> <li>6. Prepare a speech on the topics of unemployment, poverty and social inequality prevalent in the first world comparing it with the social problems of the third world.</li> <li>7. Analyse Mandela's commitment to social justice and service to others and prepare an article.</li> <li>8. Conduct a GD on Mandela's strengths, weaknesses, motivations, and how he evolves as a character in his autobiography.</li> </ol>	8	
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Note: The course is divided into five modules, with four having total 16 fixed units and one open-ended module with a variable number of units. There are total 30 transaction hours for the fixed modules and 30 hours for the open-ended one. Internal assessments (25 marks) are split between the open-ended module (15 marks) and the fixed modules (10 marks). The final exam, however, covers only the 16 units from the fixed modules.

## Mapping of COs with PSOs and POs:

	PSO 1	PSO 2	PSO 3	PSO 4	PSO 5	PSO 6	PO 1	PO 2	PO 3	PO 4	PO 5	PO 6	PO 7
CO 1	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	2	1	2	2
CO 2	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	1	2	1	3
CO 3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	1	2	2	1
CO 4	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	1	3	1	2	2
CO 5	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	3	2	1

### Correlation Levels:

Level	Correlation
-	Nil
1	Slightly/Low
2	Moderate/Medium
3	Substantial/High

### Assessment Rubrics:

- Quiz/Assignment/Quiz/Discussion/Seminar
- Mid-term Exam
- Viva
- Assignments (20%)
- Final Exam (70%)

## Mapping of Cos to Assessment Rubrics:

	Internal Exam	Assignment	Project Evaluation	End Semester Examinations
CO1	✓	✓		✓
CO2	✓	✓		✓
CO3	✓	✓		✓
CO4	✓	✓		✓
CO5	✓	✓		✓

## Stanford Commencement Address-Steve Jobs

- Jobs starts by acknowledging the graduates' achievement and expressing his honor to be speaking at Stanford University.
- He then sets the tone for his speech by sharing a personal anecdote about not graduating from college.
- Jobs structures his speech around three stories from his life:

### Story 1: Connecting the Dots

- Jobs talks about dropping out of Reed College due to financial constraints. He shares how he dropped in on a calligraphy class, which later influenced the typography of the Macintosh computer. This story emphasizes the importance of following one's curiosity and intuition.

### Story 2: Love and Loss.

- Jobs shares his experience of being fired from Apple, the company he co-founded. He talks about how this setback led him to start NeXT and Pixar, and eventually return to Apple. This story highlights the value of perseverance and staying true to one's passion.

### Story 3: Death

- Jobs shares his near-death experience after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He emphasizes the importance of living each day as if it were one's last and pursuing one's dreams with urgency.

Jobs concludes his speech by reiterating the importance of:

- Following one's heart and intuition
- Staying hungry and foolish
- Pursuing one's passion and dreams
- Living each day with urgency and purpose

## "The Earth is a Living Thing": Lucille Clifton

- The concept "The Earth is a Living Thing" suggests that the Earth is not just a physical planet, but a living, breathing entity that sustains life and is interconnected with all living beings.
- The Earth is a complex system where everything is interconnected and interdependent.
- The Earth is a holistic entity, where the whole is more than the sum of its parts.
- The Earth's ecosystems, including forests, oceans, and atmosphere, are living systems that maintain their own balance and health
- The Earth's natural cycles and patterns, such as the water cycle and seasonal changes, are essential for maintaining life.
- Recognizing the Earth as a living thing implies a responsibility to protect and care for the planet.
- Living in harmony with the Earth requires adopting sustainable practices that minimize harm to the environment
- The concept of the Earth as a living thing is rooted in indigenous cultures and wisdom, emphasizing the importance of respecting and learning from traditional knowledge.
- The idea of the Earth as a living thing can foster a spiritual connection with nature, promoting a sense of awe, wonder, and reverence.
- Ecological systems, such as forests and coral reefs, demonstrate complex interactions and interdependencies that sustain life.
- Climate science highlights the intricate relationships between the Earth's atmosphere, oceans, and land surfaces, emphasizing the need to protect the planet's delicate balance.
- Recognizing the Earth as a living thing can inform spiritual and ethical perspectives, encouraging a sense of responsibility, stewardship, and reverence for the natural world.

## "The Mexican" - Jack London

- "The Mexican" is a short story by Jack London, published in 1911.
- The story revolves around a Mexican rebel, Felipe Rivera, who is fighting against the corrupt government of Mexico.
- The story explores themes of revolution, social justice, and personal identity.
- Felipe Rivera: The protagonist of the story, a Mexican rebel fighting against the corrupt government.
- General Rocha: The ruthless and corrupt leader of the Mexican government.
- The American: An unnamed American who becomes involved in Felipe's revolution.
- Felipe's past is revealed, including his childhood, his education, and his growing disillusionment with the Mexican government.
- Felipe becomes involved in the revolution against General Rocha's government.
- The American becomes involved in the revolution, providing financial and military support to Felipe's cause.
- Felipe and General Rocha engage in a final confrontation, resulting in Felipe's victory and General Rocha's defeat.
- The story explores the themes of revolution and social justice, highlighting the need for change in a corrupt and oppressive society.
- Felipe's journey is also one of self-discovery, as he navigates his own identity and purpose.
- The story touches on the theme of cultural identity, exploring the tensions between Mexican and American cultures.
- The story raises questions about the morality of violence and the use of force in achieving social change.
- The Mexican landscape serves as a symbol of the country's beauty, complexity, and turmoil.
- Felipe's guns serve as a symbol of his power, his revolution, and his identity.
- The American's money serves as a symbol of the corrupting influence of wealth and power.

## **"Forrest Gump" (1994)-Robert Zemeckis.**

- The novel tells the story of Forrest Gump, a man with a low IQ who finds himself involved in some of the most significant events of the 20th century.
- The story is told through Forrest's narrative, which jumps back and forth in time.
- Forrest Gump: The protagonist of the novel, a man with a low IQ who finds himself involved in significant historical events.
- Jenny Curran: Forrest's childhood friend and love interest, who struggles with her own demons.
- Bubba Blue: Forrest's friend and fellow soldier in Vietnam, who shares his dream of starting a shrimping business.
- Lieutenant Dan Taylor: Forrest's commanding officer in Vietnam, who becomes a close friend and business partner.
- Forrest's Childhood: Forrest grows up in Alabama with his mother, who teaches him important life lessons.
- Football Career: Forrest becomes a star football player in high school and college, earning a scholarship to the University of Alabama.
- Vietnam War: Forrest serves in the Vietnam War, where he meets Bubba and Lieutenant Dan.
- Shrimping Business: Forrest and Lieutenant Dan start a successful shrimping business.
- Running Across America: Forrest becomes famous for running across America, inspiring many people along the way.
- The novel explores the impact of significant historical events, such as the Vietnam War and the Civil Rights Movement, on individuals and society.
- Forrest's story can be seen as a representation of the American Dream, where anyone can achieve success and happiness through hard work and determination.

## **"The Express" -Stephen Spender:**

- "The Express" is a poem by Stephen Spender, published in 1933.
- The poem explores the themes of isolation, disconnection, and the search for meaning in a post-World War I world.

- The train is the central image of the poem, symbolizing movement, progress, and disconnection.
- The landscape outside the train window is described as bleak and barren, reflecting the speaker's emotional state.
- The faces of the other passengers are described as "blank" and "unseeing", emphasizing the sense of disconnection and isolation.
- The poem explores the theme of isolation and disconnection in a post-World War I world.
- The speaker is on a journey, both physically and emotionally, searching for meaning and connection.
- The poem reflects the fragmentation of society after World War I, where individuals are disconnected from each other and from their own emotions.
- The poem uses vivid imagery to describe the train, landscape, and faces of the passengers
- The train is a metaphor for the speaker's journey through life.
- The train, landscape, and faces are symbolic of the speaker's emotional state and the fragmentation of society.
- The poem uses enjambment to create a sense of flow and continuity, reflecting the movement of the train.
- The poem reflects the disillusionment and fragmentation of society after World War I.
- The speaker's journey on the train is a metaphor for their search for meaning and connection in a post-war world.
- The poem's use of imagery and symbolism creates a vivid and powerful portrait of the speaker's emotional state and the fragmentation of society.
- The poem reflects the rise of modernism in literature, with its emphasis on experimentation, fragmentation, and disillusionment

### **"Fifteen Years" - R.K. Narayan:**

- "Fifteen Years" is a short story by R.K. Narayan, published in 1937.
- The story revolves around the life of a man, who, after being released from prison, tries to reintegrate into society.

- The protagonist, whose name is not mentioned, is a man who has spent 15 years in prison for a crime he did not commit.
- The protagonist's wife, who has waited for him for 15 years, is a symbol of loyalty and devotion.
- The protagonist's son, who was born while he was in prison, represents the future and the possibility of redemption.
- The protagonist is released from prison after 15 years, and he struggles to adjust to life outside.
- The protagonist reunites with his wife and son, but he finds it difficult to connect with them.
- The protagonist struggles to find employment, as his past conviction makes it difficult for him to get a job.
- The story explores the theme of redemption and rehabilitation, as the protagonist tries to reintegrate into society.
- The prison represents confinement, isolation, and the loss of freedom.
- The family represents love, support, and redemption.
- The son represents the future and the possibility of a new beginning
- life. The story reflects the social and economic conditions of India during the 1930s, including the impact of British colonial rule.
- The protagonist represents hope and resilience, as he struggles to rebuild his life after 15 years in prison.
- The story highlights the importance of family and community in Indian society, and the role they play in an individual's life.

### **"The Bennets" scene from Pride and Prejudice, adapted by Simon Reade:**

- Simon Reade's adaptation of Pride and Prejudice brings Jane Austen's classic novel to life in a fresh and exciting way.
- The Bennets scene introduces the audience to the Bennet family, including Mrs. Bennet, Mr. Bennet, and their five daughters: Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty, and Lydia.
- The mother of the Bennet family, Mrs. Bennet is a woman of limited understanding and narrow-minded views.

- She is obsessed with marrying off her daughters to secure their financial future.
- The father of the Bennet family, Mr. Bennet is a witty and sarcastic man who often mocks his wife's foolishness.
- He is detached from his family and prefers to spend his time reading and avoiding his wife's nagging.
- The eldest Bennet sister, Jane is beautiful, kind, and gentle. She is the voice of reason in the family and often tries to mediate between her parents and sisters.
- The second eldest Bennet sister, Elizabeth is intelligent, witty, and strong-willed. She is the protagonist of the novel and often challenges her mother's views and societal norms.
- The third Bennet sister, Mary is pedantic, serious, and lacking in social skills. She is often ridiculed by her family for her pretentiousness.
- The fourth Bennet sister, Kitty is frivolous, vain, and easily influenced by her younger sister Lydia.
- The youngest Bennet sister, Lydia is foolish, selfish, and impulsive. She is often the cause of trouble and embarrassment for her family.
- Mrs. Bennet's sole focus is on marrying off her daughters to secure their financial future. She is ecstatic when she learns that Charles Bingley, a wealthy young man, is moving into the neighborhood.
- Mr. Bennet is detached from his family and prefers to spend his time reading and avoiding his wife's nagging.
- The scene showcases the distinct personalities of each Bennet sister, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses.
- The scene highlights the importance of social class and status in the novel, particularly in regards to marriage and financial security.
- The scene showcases the complex and often dysfunctional dynamics of the Bennet family, highlighting the relationships between parents and children, and siblings.
- The scene introduces the theme of female agency and autonomy, particularly through the characters of Elizabeth and Jane, who challenge societal norms and expectations.

## **The Nobel Banquet Speech -Luigi Pirandello:**

- Luigi Pirandello's Nobel Banquet Speech, delivered on December 10, 1934, is a thought-provoking and introspective address that explores the nature of art, reality, and the human condition.
- Pirandello discusses the complex relationship between art and reality, arguing that art is not a reflection of reality, but rather a creation of the human imagination.
- He explores the idea that the self is fragmented and multifaceted, and that our perceptions of reality are shaped by our individual perspectives.
- Pirandello celebrates the power of imagination, arguing that it is the source of all artistic creation and a fundamental aspect of the human experience.
- Pirandello's speech is characterized by philosophical and poetic language, which adds depth and complexity to his ideas.
- Pirandello's speech is deeply personal and introspective, offering a unique glimpse into his own creative process and artistic vision.
- Pirandello uses metaphor and analogy to illustrate his ideas, making his speech more engaging and accessible to a wider audience.
- Pirandello's speech was delivered on the occasion of his acceptance of the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1934.
- His speech reflects the cultural and intellectual currents of the interwar period, including the rise of modernism and the crisis of traditional values.
- Pirandello's speech offers insights into his own literary career and artistic vision, which was characterized by a focus on the human condition, the nature of reality, and the power of imagination.

## **"The Gift of the Magi" by O. Henry:**

- "The Gift of the Magi" is a short story by O. Henry, published in 1906.
- The story revolves around a young couple, Jim and Della, who are struggling to make ends meet during the Christmas season.
- The story explores the themes of love, sacrifice, and the true meaning of gift-giving.

- The protagonist of the story, Della is a young woman who is struggling to make ends meet. She is determined to find the perfect Christmas gift for her husband, Jim.
- Della's husband, Jim is a young man who is struggling to provide for his family. He is deeply in love with Della and wants to give her a special Christmas gift.
- The Queen of Sheba's Hair: Della's long, beautiful hair is referred to as the "Queen of Sheba's hair" throughout the story. It symbolizes Della's beauty and her most valuable possession.
- Della is struggling to find the perfect Christmas gift for Jim, but she doesn't have enough money.
- Della decides to sell her long, beautiful hair to buy a special Christmas gift for Jim.
- Jim buys Della a beautiful set of combs for her hair, but when he sees that she has cut and sold her hair, he realizes that the gift is now useless.
- The story ends with a sense of irony, as both Della and Jim have sacrificed their most valuable possessions to buy gifts for each other, only to find that the gifts are now useless.
- The story explores the true meaning of gift-giving, highlighting the importance of sacrifice and thoughtfulness in giving gifts.
- The story showcases the deep love and sacrifice that Della and Jim have for each other, as they both give up their most valuable possessions to buy gifts for each other.
- The story uses irony and fate to highlight the unexpected twists and turns that life can take.
- Della's hair symbolizes her beauty, her most valuable possession, and her sacrifice for Jim.
- The combs that Jim buys for Della symbolize his thoughtfulness and love for her, but also highlight the irony of the situation.
- The Christmas season symbolizes a time of giving, love, and sacrifice, which is reflected in the story through Della and Jim's actions.
- The story uses symbolic language to convey themes and ideas, such as the use of Della's hair to symbolize her beauty and sacrifice.

## **"I Plead That You Read" by Shashi Tharoor:**

- "I Plead That You Read" is an essay by Shashi Tharoor, an Indian author, diplomat, and politician.
- The essay is a passionate plea to readers to cultivate the habit of reading, highlighting its importance in today's world.
- Tharoor emphasizes the significance of reading in broadening one's perspective, expanding knowledge, and fostering critical thinking.
- He laments the decline of reading habits in modern society, citing the distractions of technology, social media, and other forms of entertainments.
- Tharoor highlights the numerous benefits of reading, including improved cognitive skills, enhanced creativity, and increased empathy.
- Tharoor argues that reading is essential for personal growth, as it allows individuals to explore new ideas, challenge their assumptions, and develop their own perspectives.
- The essay highlights the significance of reading in today's world, emphasizing its role in personal growth, intellectual development, and social engagement.
- The essay laments the decline of reading habits in modern society, citing the distractions of technology and other forms of entertainment.
- The essay celebrates the power of reading to transform individuals and society, highlighting its role in promoting empathy, critical thinking, and intellectual curiosity.

## **"For the Minicab Driver Who Looked as if He Needed Feeding" by Imtiaz Dharker:**

- The poem is a thought-provoking and empathetic portrayal of a minicab driver who appears to be struggling to make ends meet.
- The speaker reflects on the driver's worn-out appearance and the hardships he may be facing.

- The poem vividly describes the driver's worn-out appearance, highlighting his "gaunt face", "sunken eyes", and "skinny frame".
- The speaker notes the car's interior, which is "worn and frayed", reflecting the driver's struggles.
- The poem mentions the city's "neon lights" and "rain-soaked streets", creating a sense of urban grittiness.
- The poem highlights the struggles of the working poor, particularly those in the service industry.
- The speaker's reflection on the driver's appearance and circumstances encourages the reader to empathize with those who may be struggling.
- The poem touches on the theme of urban alienation, where individuals become disconnected from others in the midst of a bustling city.
- The speaker's tone is reflective and contemplative, encouraging the reader to slow down and consider the driver's circumstances.
- The poem's tone is empathetic and compassionate, highlighting the importance of kindness and understanding towards others.
- The poem serves as a social commentary on the struggles of the working poor and the importance of empathy and compassion.
- The poem reflects on the urban experience, highlighting the contrasts between wealth and poverty, and the disconnections that can occur in urban environments.
- The poem is characteristic of Dharker's style, which often explores themes of identity, culture, and social justice.

## **Opening Google I/O 2023 keynote by Sundar Pichai:**

- Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google and Alphabet, kicked off Google I/O 2023 with a keynote address that highlighted the company's latest innovations and advancements in AI, machine learning, and other technologies.
- Pichai announced significant updates to Google AI, including improvements to language models, computer vision, and natural language processing.
- Pichai showcased the latest advancements in Google Assistant, including improved conversational capabilities and integration with other Google services.

- Pichai announced the latest version of Android, Android 14, which includes new features such as improved performance, enhanced security, and better multitasking capabilities.
- Pichai teased the upcoming Google Pixel 8 series, which promises to deliver significant camera improvements and other exciting features.
- Pichai emphasized the importance of AI and machine learning in driving innovation and improving user experiences.
- Pichai highlighted Google's commitment to sustainability, including its goal to be carbon neutral by 2030.
- Pichai emphasized Google's focus on delivering seamless and intuitive user experiences across its products and services.
- The keynote highlighted Google's significant ambitions in AI, with a focus on delivering more intuitive and helpful user experiences.
- The keynote emphasized Google's commitment to sustainability, which is likely to become an increasingly important theme in the tech industry.
- The keynote showcased Google's focus on delivering seamless and intuitive user experiences, which is critical to driving adoption and engagement across its products and services.

### **Abdulrazak Gurnah, the Nobel Prize winner in Literature:**

- Abdulrazak Gurnah was born on December 20, 1948, in Zanzibar, Tanzania. He moved to England in 1968 and later became a British citizen.
- Gurnah earned his Ph.D. in English Literature from the University of Kent and went on to teach at various universities, including the University of Kent and the University of London.
- Gurnah's literary career spans over four decades, during which he has written ten novels, numerous short stories, and essays.
- His works often explore themes of identity, belonging, colonialism, and the immigrant experience.

- Gurnah was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature in 2021 "for his uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents."
- Gurnah's writing is known for its lyrical and poetic quality.
- Gurnah's novels often feature complex narrative structures that blend elements of myth, history, and personal experience.
- Gurnah's works often explore themes of identity and belonging in the context of colonialism, immigration, and cultural displacement.
- Gurnah's novels often examine the impact of colonialism on individuals and communities.
- Gurnah's works often explore themes of identity and belonging in the context of cultural displacement and immigration.
- Gurnah's novels often examine the experiences of immigrants in England and other Western countries.
- Gurnah's works often explore the theme of cultural displacement and dislocation in the context of colonialism and immigration.

### **"The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson:**

- "The Lottery" is a short story by Shirley Jackson, first published in 1948.
- The story takes place on a sunny summer day in a small, rural town in America.
- The town is preparing for its annual lottery, which is a tradition that supposedly ensures a good harvest. However, as the story unfolds, it becomes clear that the lottery is actually a sinister and deadly tradition.
- The protagonist of the story, Tessie is a loud and boisterous woman who ultimately becomes the victim of the lottery.
- The official in charge of the lottery, Mr. Summers is a cheerful and efficient man who seems to take pleasure in the tradition.
- The oldest man in the town, Old Man Warner is a stubborn and traditionalist who insists on continuing the lottery despite its horrific consequences.

- The story begins with the townspeople gathering in the town square to prepare for the lottery.
- The lottery is conducted by Mr. Summers, who uses a old, worn-out box and a handful of slips to determine the winner.
- When Tessie's husband, Bill, draws the marked slip, Tessie protests and tries to argue her way out of the situation.
- The story ends with Tessie being stoned to death by the townspeople, who seem to take pleasure in the tradition.
- The story explores the dangers of conformity and tradition, highlighting how these forces can lead to horrific consequences.
- The story critiques blind obedience, showing how the townspeople follow the tradition of the lottery without questioning its morality or purpose.
- The story reveals the darker aspects of human nature, highlighting how ordinary people can become complicit in horrific acts when they conform to societal norms.
- The old, worn-out box used for the lottery symbolizes the tradition itself, which is outdated and cruel.
- The slips of paper used for the lottery drawing symbolize the randomness and arbitrariness of the tradition.
- The stones used to kill Tessie symbolize the violence and cruelty that underlies the tradition.
- The story takes place in an ordinary and familiar setting, which makes the horrific events that unfold even more shocking and disturbing.
- The story builds up slowly, creating a sense of suspense and tension that culminates in the horrific ending.
- The story uses irony and symbolism to convey its themes and critique societal norms.
- The story was written in the aftermath of World War II, when America was grappling with issues of conformity, tradition, and social norms.
- The story reflects the rise of suburbanization in America, where people were moving to small towns and communities that emphasized conformity and tradition.
- The story is a powerful critique of conformity and tradition, highlighting how these forces can lead to horrific consequences.
- The story explores the darker aspects of human nature, revealing how ordinary people can become complicit in horrific acts when they conform to societal norms.

- The story uses symbolism and irony to convey its themes and critique societal norms, making it a powerful and thought-provoking work of literature.

### **"Wasteland of the Free"- Iris DeMent:**

- "Wasteland of the Free" is a song written and performed by American singer-songwriter Iris DeMent.
- The song is a commentary on the state of American society and politics, critiquing issues such as inequality, injustice, and the erosion of democratic values.
- "We got preachers dealin' in politics and diamond mines": This line critiques the intersection of politics and organized religion, highlighting the ways in which power and wealth can corrupt even those who claim to serve a higher purpose.
- "We got politicians runnin' wild and free": This line comments on the perceived lack of accountability and oversight in government, suggesting that politicians are often more interested in serving their own interests than in serving the public good.
- "We got little children sleepin' on the streets": This line highlights the issue of poverty and homelessness in America, emphasizing the need for greater compassion and support for those who are struggling.
- The song is a call to action for social justice, highlighting issues such as inequality, injustice, and the erosion of democratic values.
- The song critiques the abuse of power and the ways in which those in positions of authority often prioritize their own interests over the needs of others.
- The song emphasizes the need for greater compassion and empathy in American society, highlighting the importance of supporting those who are struggling and vulnerable.
- Iris DeMent's vocal delivery is emotional and heartfelt, conveying a sense of urgency and conviction.
- The song was released in 1996, a time of great social and economic change in America.
- The song reflects Iris DeMent's roots in folk music, with its emphasis on storytelling and social commentary
- Despite being written over 25 years ago, "Wasteland of the Free" remains a powerful and relevant commentary on American society and politics.

## **"Long Walk to Freedom" by Nelson Mandela:**

- "Long Walk to Freedom" is an autobiography written by Nelson Mandela, the former President of South Africa and anti-apartheid revolutionary.
- The book chronicles Mandela's life, from his childhood in a small village in South Africa to his years in prison and ultimately to his presidency.
- Mandela describes his childhood in the village of Qunu, where he was born and raised. He also writes about his education, including his time at Fort Hare University College.
- Mandela joins the African National Congress (ANC) and becomes involved in the anti-apartheid movement.
- He writes about his early years in politics, including his work with Oliver Tambo and Walter Sisulu.
- Mandela is arrested in 1962 and charged with high treason. He is sentenced to life imprisonment and spends the next 27 years in prison, including 18 years on Robben Island.
- Mandela writes about his experiences in prison, including the harsh conditions and the ways in which he and his fellow prisoners maintained their dignity and resistance.
- Mandela is released from prison in 1990 and begins negotiations with the South African government. He writes about the challenges and complexities of these negotiations.
- Mandela becomes the first black President of South Africa in 1994 and serves until 1999. He writes about his presidency, including his efforts to promote reconciliation and nation-building.
- The book chronicles Mandela's involvement in the anti-apartheid movement and his fight against racism and oppression.
- Mandela writes about the personal sacrifices he made for the cause, including his years in prison and his separation from his family.
- Mandela emphasizes the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation in the aftermath of apartheid.
- He writes about his own experiences with forgiveness and his efforts to promote reconciliation in South Africa.

- The book provides a unique perspective on the apartheid era in South Africa, including the experiences of those who fought against the regime.
- The book chronicles the transition to democracy in South Africa, including Mandela's role in the negotiations and his presidency.
- The book has global significance, providing insights into the struggles against racism and oppression and the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation.