

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE/ FIRST SEMESTER/ 3 CREDITS

Basic English Communication Skills I

Course Statement:

The aim of this course is to help students become familiar with nuances of grammar, and build confidence in them that grammar is learnable. The course also helps learners become aware of language, its dependence on grammar and the variety it exhibits. This course will be offered under four headings as given below:

- A. Grammar
- B. Listening and Speaking
- C. Basics of Reading
- D. Basics of Writing

Course Level Learning Outcomes

- i) Identify non-standard use of English both in written and spoken forms
- ii) Recognize the errors of usage and correct them
- iii) Recognize students' ability to improve their own competence in using the language
- iv) Understand and appreciate English spoken by people from different regions
- v) Use language for speaking with confidence in an intelligible and acceptable manner
- vi) Understand the importance of reading for life
- vii) Develop an interest for reading
- viii) Read independently unfamiliar texts with comprehension
- ix) Understand the importance of writing in academic life
- x) Write simple sentences without committing errors of spelling and grammar

Course Content

Unit-I: Major Basic Grammatical Categories

Notion of correctness and attitude to error correction with practice exercises

Unit-II:

Introduction to Reading Skills

- i) Introducing different types of texts – narrative, descriptive, extrapolative;
- ii) Reading and Comprehension of different types of texts stated above

Unit III

Introduction to Writing Skills

- i) Aspects of cohesion and coherence
- ii) Expanding a given sentence without affecting the structure
- iii) Reorganizing jumbled sentences into a coherent paragraph
- iv) Drafting different types of letters, personal notes, notices, complaints, appreciation, conveying sympathies etc.

Internal Assessment may be based on the following areas:

- i) Importance of listening skills, problems of listening to unfamiliar dialects,
- ii) Aspects of pronunciation and fluency in speaking
- iii) Intelligibility in speaking to be tested in short seminar presentations

Suggested Reading

- i) Acevedo and Gower M (1999): Reading and Writing Skills, London, Longman
- ii) Deuter, M et.al. (2015). Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of English (Ninth Edition). New Delhi, OUP
- iii) Eastwood, John (2008). Oxford Practice Grammar. Oxford,OUP
- iv) Hadeffield, Chris and J Hadeffield (2008). Reading Games. London, Longman
- v) Saraswati, V (2005). Organized Writing 1. Hyderabad, Orient Blackswan