National Symposium

ENGLISH CONNECTS

Organized by
Department of English and Humanities

Friday, December 8, 2023

Message from the Vice Chancellor

It is wonderful to see that ULAB's Department of English and Humanities has organized the National Symposium on "English Connects" that proposes to create connections amongst teachers and students in schools, colleges, and universities. This is, indeed, a welcome initiative as there are very few platforms where these different institutions can come together to share knowledge and experiences.

The idea of making these connections is laudable because it has become more imperative in light of the global nature of learning. The amount of information available to our youth today can be overwhelming. There are so many different modes of learning too that can create confusion among our students. Hence, it is necessary to have constant interactions among academicians from all levels of institutions as these can lead to identifications of problems and possible solutions to them as well.

I know that all the presenters and participants will find this Symposium useful. I also hope you all enjoy your visit to our lovely, green campus.

I wish the Symposium great success!

Professor Imran Rahman

Message from the Pro Vice-Chancellor

As a media scholar, I have read many papers indicating that social polarization has indeed increased with the rise of social media. A shared social media environment has given way to echo chambers – making it difficult to listen to and collaborate with people who have contrary opinions and alternative explanations. In this medium, facts are no longer as cherished as before with people preferring alternative truths and comforting lies. The institutional media, who are supposedly the purveyors of facts, are struggling in terms of viability; their words are no longer as trusted as they compete with the digital media.

The Edelman Trust Barometer Results for 2023 shows a global society with decreasing trust levels given economic anxieties, institutional imbalance, mass-class divide and battle for the truth. It mentioned examples of highly polarized societies – Argentina, Columbia, USA, South Africa, Spain, and Sweden. Fortunately, Bangladesh has not reached a point of a critical societal divide. We need to do whatever we can to avoid that from happening.

For this reason, I would like to congratulate ULAB's Department of English and Humanities (DEH) for initiating the DEH National Symposium on English Connects on 8 December 2023. The event brings together students and teachers from different universities, colleges, and schools around the country. The Symposium tackles this very important topic of a world growing smaller but more distant from each other. It is truly such an irony and hopefully, we can learn how to connect and prevent societal polarization from happening in our country.

Professor Jude William R. Genilo

Message from the Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees

I commend the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB for conceptualizing "English Connects," a forum where the influence of language extends beyond boundaries, fostering connections both inter-institutional and inter-generational. This distinctive gathering will unite over 100 faculty members and students from various Bangladeshi universities, colleges, and schools, weaving together a vibrant tapestry of shared interests in language, literature, and culture.

The importance of language and cultural understanding within the humanities has never been more crucial in a world constantly dominated by technology and financial considerations. This event pledges to facilitate dialogue between seasoned educators and emerging student-scholars. Their participation in collaborative sessions will not only bridge academic gaps between institutions but also between generations. Within a climate of academic cooperation and collaboration, participants will share their research findings and insights, showcasing and enriching the scope of English Studies in Bangladesh.

I am confident that "English Connects" will serve as a platform for establishing enduring connections beyond the academic sphere, fostering a community that celebrates the richness of language, literature, and culture in the face of our rapidly changing world.

My sincere appreciation goes to the organizers for orchestrating this transformative event. I extend my best wishes for the success of the conference.

Professor Shamsad Mortuza

Message from the Dean

This is the first symposium of its kind in the country, bringing together teachers from higher secondary to tertiary levels, alongside university students, to discuss the ways the teaching and study of English language and literature impacts our lives, and more importantly, how it can help improve human connectivity in a world that threatens to become increasingly fissiparous. What is unique in this symposium is its inclusive framework: teachers at higher secondary, undergraduate and graduate levels, and students from colleges and universities will share the same platform. This will hopefully go a long way towards bridging the gaps that arise from the compartmentalization of educational systems.

I hope the participants will go away with a positive awareness of the common endeavor that unites everyone who tries to teach or learn English in order to enhance our ability to address various connectivity related problems at a personal or social or (inter)national level. Above all, the symposium will, I hope, increase our awareness of the specificities relating to the role of English in our country. It is not a rival to Bangla, which will always be our major language of communication and creativity. It has, on the other hand, certain functions that we cannot do without. It is an essential tool in our interconnected world; if we cannot use it effectively it may be used against us. Whether we like it or not, language is both a means of connecting and a weapon. The better armed we are, the better our chances in this competitive world.

Professor Kaiser Haq

Message from the Head of Department

I am proud to welcome you to the National Symposium, "English Connects," organized by the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB. The theme of the Symposium was chosen to think about ways in which English Studies can help to increase connections amongst peers and offer guidance to those in need as well as to understand how the increasing amount of misconnections and disconnections may be addressed. While social media platforms offer innumerable ways to connect with more people within a short period of time, ironically, they have also led to higher levels of isolation and disconnection. So, in an effort to combat such isolation within academia, the Department of English and Humanities has organized this Symposium to bring together teachers and students of different levels of institutions to share their stories and experiences of teaching and learning within the discipline of English Studies.

We have been overwhelmed by the response we received within the short time in which the call for papers was circulated. It appears that there are like-minded individuals across the country who appreciate the opportunity to present their ideas on this shared platform. I would like to express my gratitude to all who have submitted their abstracts and to those who have shown their interest in attending as audience members to be a part of a wonderful opportunity to meet their peers from different institutions. On behalf of the Department of English and Humanities, I am glad to be able to offer the beautiful premises of the ULAB Main Campus as the venue for this Symposium.

At ULAB, we believe in offering platforms to showcase intellectual talents. We want to extend our knowledge base by sharing what we know and learning from others. And I am glad that the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB is doing its part through this Symposium to build networks to strengthen the academic community.

I am grateful to my colleagues, Professor Kaiser Haq, for agreeing to deliver the Keynote Address and to Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam, Professor Shamsad Mortuza, and Dr. Rafi Saleh for their Plenary Addresses. My heartfelt thanks to Dr. Mohammad Mahadhi Hasan for coordinating the event and to Ms. Nadia Rahman for directing the activities. To all my other colleagues at the department, my gratitude to you for handling the different tasks and your continued support.

I am also extremely grateful to the wonderful student team at the Department who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the Symposium is executed smoothly. The administrative staff, the Communications Office, and the IT Office at ULAB, too, deserve our profound gratitude for being a constant support system. None of this would be possible without their help.

I wish the Symposium great success!

Arifa Ghani Rahman

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Professor Kaiser Haq

Dean, School of Arts & Humanities, and Professor, Department of English & Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)

Connecting the Dots

The lecture will take a broad look at the role of English in our lives. It will delve into the history of English studies in South Asia and, more specifically, in Bangladesh, before going into the controversies surrounding English in this country. It argues that it is in our interests to find a place for English in our national life, and accord it an important role as a means of communication and, in some cases, a means of creative expression. Finally, it engages with issues relating to pedagogy, and suggests ways in which we can derive the maximum benefit as a society from our familiarity with English.

Kaiser Haq began teaching English Literature at Dhaka University in 1975, and retired in 2017. He is currently a professor at ULAB, where he is also Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, and Director of the Dhaka Translation Center. He has at various times taught part-time at NSU, BRAC, East West, ULAB, Eastern, and a number of other universities. Between 2011 and 2015 he was on extended leave from Dhaka University and a full-time professor at ULAB. He was a Commonwealth Scholar at Warwick University, a Senior Fulbright Scholar and Vilas Fellow at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee (1986-87), and a Royal Literary Fund Fellow at SOAS, London University (2002-2003). In the latter capacity he gave writing tutorials to interested students. In the summer of 2003 he was the resident poet ("Café Poet") at the Poetry Café of the Poetry Society of Great Britain. He was on the panel of judges for the Commonwealth Writers Prize for three years, one year of which he was the chairperson for the Eurasian region. As a poet and translator, he has had the pleasure of seeing his work included in the curricula of schools and universities at home and abroad. His books include eight collections of verse, two volumes of translated poetry, two edited poetry anthologies, three translated books of fiction, and three edited anthologies of poetry. A new collection of his poetry is forthcoming from ULAB Press. He has won the Bangle Academy prize for translation, the Sherwin W. Howard Poetry Award, and the Distinguished Achievement Award for Creative Writing given by SALA (the South Asian Literary Association).

PLENARY SPEAKER
Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam
Professor Emeritus, University of Dhaka

English Studies in the Digital World: Restoring Human Connection

The digital turn the world took in the 1970s with the arrival of personal computers and the access they provided to a world of information was nothing but a paradigm shift, as subsequent developments and inventions in digital technology, the availability of the Internet and the search engines, video sharing platforms and increased networking testify. As digital technology entered social communication, education and culture, and began to impact economic and corporate structures worldwide it also led to a progressive virtualization of the world of objects. And now, in the era of social media, being online for a stretch of time comes with the thrill of navigating an alternate mode of existence. Even in a culture like ours, which has always promoted human content and human interaction, the virtual realm has, at least among those with education and the means to own digital devices, substantially reduced the need for human connectivity. And with the threat being posed by artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics of overtaking and replacing humans in the workplace and becoming the dominant form of intelligence, questions are being raised about what human beings can do to ensure their continuity as free agents. No clear answers have emerged, but some scientists, realizing the clear and present danger of rogue technology, are suggesting that other than humanizing technology, the world cannot avoid the slippery slope to ruin. And for humanizing technology English Studies can be of much help. I will speak about how English Studies provides the scope to hone critical thinking and analytical reasoning skills and find ways to restore and strengthen human connection, and to rethink culture, society, and reality of our time in light of the lessons learned from canonical and contemporary texts. Finally, I will dwell on how interfacing humanities and (indispensable) technologies can provide us with a handle to revitalize human connectivity.

Dr. Syed Manzoorul Islam is Professor Emeritus at the University of Dhaka. Until this appointment, Dr. Islam was a full-time professor at the Department of English and Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh. He completed his undergraduate and graduate studies in English at the University of Dhaka and received his PhD from Queen's University, Canada. He has written extensively on literature, literary theory, cultural studies, art and architecture in journals at home and abroad, and has received a large number of awards in recognition of his contribution to Bangla literature, including Bangla Academy Award (1996) and Ekushey Padak (2018). Dr. Islam has eight short story collections and five novels to his credit. His short story collection Prem o Prarthanar Galpo *won the Prothom Alo Book of the Year award in 2005. He was also the president of PEN Bangladesh from 2018-2020.*

PLENARY SPEAKER
Professor Shamsad Mortuza
Professor of English, University of Dhaka and Special Advisor, Board of Trustees, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)

Stories beyond Armageddon: Rethinking Human and Nonhuman Interdependency

My presentation highlights the transformative potential inherent in human-nonhuman relationships as portrayed in literature, with a specific focus on the power of storytelling as a mode of interspecies connectivity. Against the backdrop of global conflict and apocalyptic anxieties, this paper aims to celebrate stories that transcend prevailing doomsday scenarios, showcasing the enduring celebration of human-nonhuman relationships found in various literary genres. In particular, I shall examine interspecies dependencies, i.e., the foundational bonds between humans and nonhumans, to emphasize the role of storytelling as a powerful medium for fostering understanding and connection. From ancient epics to contemporary novels, examples abound of stories that incorporate the intricate tapestry of relationships between different species. The oral tradition of epics like the *Mahabharata* and the written narratives of contemporary novels such as Yann Martel's *Life of Pi* exemplify the enduring human tradition of weaving tales that bridge the human and nonhuman worlds. These narratives serve as a source of resilience against the prevailing armageddonist views permeating our contemporary landscape, rife with conflicts and wars. Using recent theories of ecocriticism, I shall contend that by recognizing the intrinsic value of these stories, we gain insight into the potential for literature to inspire hope, compassion, and a collective vision of a better world—one that stands resilient against the pervasive shadows of apocalyptic forebodings.

Dr. Shamsad Mortuza is an academic administrator, educator, poet, translator, and columnist. He is a Professor of English at the University of Dhaka who served as the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) from 2018-2022. He is also a Professor of the Department of English and Humanities of which he was the former Head. Dr. Mortuza is currently serving as the Special Advisor to the ULAB Board of Trustees. Dr. Mortuza has previously taught at many universities including his alma mater Jahangirnagar University. He attended the University of Arizona as a Fulbright scholar. He received his PhD in English from Birkbeck College, the University of London for his dissertation on The Figure of the Shaman in Contemporary British Poetry. *In 2013 he went to UCLA as a senior Fulbright postdoctoral fellow. He has six books, and over 30 articles and book chapters to his credit. He is the Chief Editor of* Crossings: A Journal of English Studies *and* Journal of Bangladesh National Museum. *He writes a popular weekly column "Blowin' in the Wind" for* The Daily Star. *He serves on the editorial board of the literary journal,* Six Seasons Review. *Dr. Mortuza supervises MPhil/PhD students in the fields of Contemporary British Poetry, Romantic poetry, South Asian literature, and Native American literature.*

PLENARY SPEAKER
Dr. Abu Saleh Mohammad Rafi
Assistant Professor, Department of English & Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)

Monolingual University Meets Multilingual Students: Connection, Disconnention, and Translinguistic Fiesta

This plenary reports on empirical evidence from the Rafi and Morgan (2022) series that explored translanguaging pedagogical approaches at two public and two private universities in Bangladesh. Both types of universities have monolingual instruction policies: Bangla at public universities and English at private universities, while recruiting students with different degrees of proficiency in multiple languages. The analysis of macro, meso, and micro medium of instruction policy decisions and implementation reveals a disconnect between macro-level language policy and actual practice at meso and micro-level within universities, with translanguaging occurring organically in classroom practices. This disconnect indicates that these monolingual MOI policies may be scrapped entirely, while providing hopeful glimpses into the possibilities for developing a more accessible medium of instruction based on translanguaging pedagogies for Bangladeshi higher education.

Dr. Abu Saleh Mohammad Rafi is an Assistant Professor of Linguistics at the University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh. Dr. Rafi's research work has appeared nearly in all top-tier Q-1 journals of linguistics, such as the International Journal of Multilingualism, Applied Linguistics Review, Language, Identity & Education, Teaching in Higher Education, Classroom Discourse, *and* Critical Enquiry in Language Studies*, as well as invited chapters in edited collections published by Springer, Routledge, Multilingual Matters, and Vernon Press. He is a co-editor of the 2023 special issues of* Critical Enquiry in Language Studies *and* Frontiers in Psychology *and an invited reviewer for two anthologies for* Applied Linguistics *(Oxford University Press). He gave 12 invited talks at universities in Australia, Bangladesh, Pakistan, India, and the Philippines, including his most recent keynote address at the 10th international conference on language and literacy education, hosted by the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. Dr. Rafi's biographical account of the Bangladeshi English departments in connection with translanguaging scholarship has recently been published in a De Gruyter volume.*

OPEN FORUM
Moderator: Dr. Mohammad Mahadhi Hasan
Assistant Professor, Department of English & Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)

The Open Forum, a moderated session, will offer the presenters and participants of the Symposium a platform to voice their experiences of teaching and learning in today's world. Given the overwhelming availability of information, how important is it to negotiate through these, develop strategies that are beneficial to all the stakeholders, and retain or make connections with empathy and knowledge? How, through the discipline of English Studies, can teachers and students create a conducive environment in academia? In what ways can English serve as a bridge, breaking down linguistic barriers and fostering communication across different communities and backgrounds? How does the study and mastery of English empower individuals to connect with the world, express their ideas, and navigate diverse cultural landscapes? How can English serve as a tool for global collaboration, encouraging cross-cultural understanding and cooperation in an interconnected world? As we navigate the digital age, how does the use of English in online platforms, social media, and digital communication shape the way we express ourselves and connect with others? In what ways does literature, both classic and contemporary, serve as a powerful means of connecting individuals across time, space, and diverse experiences? Considering the dynamic nature of language, technology, and communication, how do English students and teachers envision the future of the English language and its role in society? How can the study of English inspire creative language expression, encouraging students to explore poetry, storytelling, and other forms of artistic communication? How can English students and teachers collaborate to create supportive language communities, fostering continuous learning, mentorship, and mutual inspiration? How does the Department of English and Humanities at ULAB weave a dynamic thread of connection, fostering collaboration, understanding, and a sense of community among students, faculty, and the broader academic landscape? These and other questions will be addressed during this Forum.

Dr. Md. Mahadhi Hasan is a teacher, trainer, and researcher in the fields of English language, TESOL, teacher education, and applied linguistics. Prior to joining ULAB, Dr. Mahadhi obtained his PhD in Communication (new media and language) from Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He investigated the influences of new media usage on learner motivation, collaboration, and learning English language skills at the tertiary level in Bangladesh. He completed his MA in TESOL with distinction from BRAC University and his BA in English from Comilla University with second position. Dr. Mahadhi taught at BRAC University, Infrastructure University Kuala Lumpur, University Putra Malaysia, East West University, and Southeast University. During his career at different universities, he has shown innovation in branding, organizing big events, leading student clubs, debating, and working for society. He has delivered 13 invited talks in Malaysia, Nepal, India, and Bangladesh. Besides, he has conducted 20 workshops on different topics at home and abroad. Dr. Mahadhi has published articles in Scopus and other referred and indexed journals locally and internationally. He is promised to learn and teach in order to enlighten the students he teaches.

ABSTRACTS

Mirror that Swallows Palestine: Hidden Colonial Discourse in Levy's *The Other Son*

Abdullah Al Mamun

English Teacher , ESS School

In response to the Israel/Palestine conflict, a good number of media productions have come into being. Among them, a significant number of film directors ventured out to foreground the human sufferings of both Israeli and Palestinians in the background of political turmoil. *The Other Son* (2012) falls under the category of such a film where the director Lorraine Levy —according to the Jewish film institute and professor Thomas E. Wartenberg (2015) —upholds 'shared humanity.' In contrast to such statements, this paper argues how the movie cannot help avoiding the subtle tone of a biased discourse behind the cloud of neutral and humanitarian air. Here, we may contextualize French thinker Gilles Deleuze who pointed out at American/ European discourse that fuels the fire of Zionism. Accordingly, selective issues like the naming of the characters and few shots and scenes—to be more specific, two young children's, with two different identities, standing before a mirror, and the Israeli boy Joseph's visiting the Palestinian family and singing song — will be brought under the microscope with a view to exposing the second layer of meanings which is otherwise called mythology in terms of Roland Barthes. Whereas the mirror scene will be framed into religious scripture, the Torah; the singing scene will be framed into Nietzschean outlook on Dionysian activity mentioned in his The Birth of Tragedy (1872). The finding from the former scene will be denoted as a historical claim of the Jews; and that of the latter will be connoted as another type of dominance over the Palestinians. Finally, it will be concluded with a hypothesis that this movie is nothing but another brick in the wall of the occupation movement of Israel against Palestine.

Unveiling the Limitations: An In-depth Analysis of Testing Flaws in EFT Books of NCTB

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Despite the claims of NCTB to focus on speaking, listening, reading and writing skills as a CLT approach, the skills are not equally emphasized as testing and assessment criteria. As a result, this paper aims to execute an in-depth analysis of testing and assessment limitations along with the use of the four skills in Class-3 English for Today of NCTB. A qualitative research design is used throughout the study. The researchers analyzed the Class-3 EFT manually. The findings have been presented in tables and paragraphs. The findings of the study show that, unlike reading and writing, lack of testing and assessment of speaking and listening skills lead to language testing limitations. The validity of Class-3 EFT could also be questioned due to the inclusion of language items which require mathematical abilities for the testing and assessment of English language skills. The differences between the content of the book and the testing system further leads to the invalidity of the test. Overall, due to the disconnections between policy, contextual content and testing practices of language skills in Class-3 EFT, there is a necessity to align the national curriculum, classroom teaching and learning activities and testing systems for a real-life language learning experience.

"The Past is the Present": Disconnected Present in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night*
Afnan Bintey Helal

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Past is not merely a relic of yesteryear, but it is persisting and prevailing almost into a physical form or presence and such is the case in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night*. In the play, there is no linearity or barrier marking the end of the past and the beginning of the present; rather there is this fluidity in the past memories that seep into the present and thus dilute the present. Here, past memories dictate the present realities and in the process, isolate individuals to the periphery of illusions, and individuals in this play also thus take "refuge and release in a dream where present reality is but an appearance to be accepted and dismissed unfeelingly"(O'Neill 113). Therefore, this paper will argue how an unhealthy fixation on the past is rendering people disconnected from the present in O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night* and the argument of the paper will further explore how the disconnected selves long for a connection from the past to bridge the present as these individuals "can't help being what the past has made [them]" (O'Neill 113).

Rise of the AI: The Question of Authorship, Creativity, and Originality in Writing Courses
Akibur Rahman Khan

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Priyanka Akhter

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Artificial intelligence (AI) has become a powerful tool for generating and analyzing texts in various domains and genres. However, the use of AI also raises ethical and philosophical questions about the nature and value of human writing and creativity. This research paper aims to explore how AI challenges the notions of authorship, creativity, and originality in writing courses and what implications this has for the teaching and learning of writing skills. The paper is qualitative in nature and reviews the literature on the rise and risks of language-generating AI. Moreover, the authors interviewed five tertiary-level teachers to examine the impact of AI on students' writing in relation to creativity, authenticity, and more. The paper also discusses the pedagogical strategies and challenges for incorporating AI tools in writing courses, both in terms of evaluating students' writing and developing their writing skills. The paper highlighted the opinions of teachers on how to foster critical thinking and awareness among students and instructors. The paper concluded with some recommendations and suggestions for future research on this topic.

Exploring the Challenges in Implementing New Assessment Procedure in Secondary School Level of Bangladesh: A Case Study
Alia Rawshan Banu

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Assessment is a vital part in smooth progression of academic curriculum. It focuses on the effectiveness of entire education system. In order to pursue effective learning, proper assessment and evaluation of the students is a matter of great concern. In our country, a new curriculum and assessment system has been introduced in January 2023. The first phase of the newly introduced curriculum started with the reformation of the textbooks, change in the entire learning procedure and the assessment system for the students of class VI and VII. This study explores the challenges and barriers that the teachers,

students and parents are facing while implementing the new assessment procedure. Teachers and students of 12 High Schools from Mohammadpur, Dhanmondi, Bosila and Mirpur area have been interviewed and data have been collected through qualitative research method by analyzing their experiences, opinions and viewpoints. Since this new curriculum has brought huge changes to the education system in Bangladesh, it has revolutionized the way the students are taught and evaluated in classroom teaching and learning. The researcher utilized a qualitative survey to explore the beliefs and opinions of the teachers about effective teaching techniques and the obstacles they faced while implementing the newly reformed assessment system. The results of this study unveil the challenges of the new assessment system and show possible solutions to the problems. This study reveals that change is needed but it will be effective only if proper implementation is possible.

A Comparative Analysis of Ideological Perspectives: Kazi Nazrul Islam and Henry David Thoreau
Ajrin Jahan
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Kazi Nazrul Islam, a prominent Bengali poet, writer and musician from the Indian subcontinent, and Henry David Thoreau, an American transcendentalist philosopher and author, lived in different cultural and historical contexts but shared some common themes in their ideological perspectives. This research paper delves into a comparative study of the ideological perspectives of two influential literary figures, Kazi Nazrul Islam and Henry David Thoreau. The aim is to explore the thematic parallels and divergences in their works, shedding light on the socio-cultural contexts that shaped their thoughts. One of Nazrul's notable works is "Bidrohi" (The Rebel), a poetic expression of defiance against tyranny. Written in 1921, it captures the spirit of rebellion against colonial rule and social injustice. Thoreau, a 19th-century American philosopher, is best known for his essay "Civil Disobedience" and his book "Walden". Thoreau's works are deeply rooted in the American transcendentalist movement, which emphasized the inherent goodness of people and nature, as well as individual intuition over institutionalized knowledge. The research employs a comparative analytical approach, scrutinizing selected works of both authors within their historical and cultural contexts. Textual analysis, thematic categorization, and historical contextualization will be employed to draw parallels and distinctions in their ideologies. The findings of this research promise to enrich scholarly discourse on the convergence and divergence of literary and philosophical ideologies across cultures. Furthermore, the research aims to provide insights into the influence of literature on societal values, offering a nuanced understanding of how these ideologies resonate in the present day. This comparative analysis of Kazi Nazrul Islam and Henry David Thoreau's ideologies seeks to bridge the cultural gap between Eastern and Western philosophical thought. By shedding light on the similarities and disparities in their works, the study aims to foster a deeper appreciation for the universality of human experiences and the diverse ways in which these experiences are articulated through literature. Ultimately, this research contributes to the broader exploration of the interconnectedness of global literary traditions and their impact on shaping societal values and perspectives.

Professional Writing Practice: Scenario of a Private Bank in Dhaka
Arpita Saha
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Along with worldwide communication, English is regarded as the lingua franca in the international trade and banking

industry. It is widely used by bank employees for written communication. This research explores the crucial role of English in corporate communication and highlights the importance of effective English writing skill at a private bank in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Mixed method has been applied to investigate the diverse writing practices for banking operations as well as communication and also to find out specific writing problems faced by the bank employees. The study reveals how they manage to overcome the difficulties and proposes useful strategies to enhance their English writing proficiency in the banking sector. The outcomes of this study will not only accelerate the development of effective written communication practice but also facilitate the continuous improvement of employees, benefit the private banking sector, contribute to the bank's reputation and ultimately promote globalization.

Navigating Educational Landscape in Bangladesh regarding Plagiarism: Teachers' Perception, Knowledge, Academic Responsibilities and Consequences in the Tertiary Level

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Plagiarism is a grave concern among academicians and researchers in higher education. Due to this issue, many academicians and researchers have faced unwanted penalties. In Bangladesh, newspapers publish news on plagiarism or academic dishonesty done by students, researchers, and academicians at the higher education level. This paper aims to investigate the teachers' perception of plagiarism in higher education in Bangladesh and its consequences. A qualitative research method designed to answer the research questions: What are the perceptions of English teachers about plagiarism at the tertiary level in Bangladesh? What are the consequences of plagiarism in academia? An in-depth interview guide was used to interview 10 teachers of the English department from various universities who have ample experience in research and thesis supervision. The collected qualitative data was analyzed thematically. The thematic analysis of the in-depth interviews revealed that the teachers have general ideas about plagiarism and those who are active in attending workshops, training, and writing courses intend to have more knowledge about plagiarism compared to others. Precisely, their academic background does not have the primitive result of their knowledge about plagiarism. Some explained that they give proper citations and references to the handout provided for students so that students can learn from that. Besides, some teachers encourage students to give each reference on the first page of the assignments. The absence of mentioning 'plagiarism' in the course outline and not introducing it to the students at the very first of every course is also an academic irresponsibility of the teachers at the university. The findings also showed some crucial issues concerning the consequences of plagiarism at the higher education level. However, in most cases, the one who commits plagiarism simply passes away without the least amount of punishment. The study ends with a few effective recommendations for reducing plagiarism in higher education for individual and institutional academic behavior in Bangladesh.

The Absurdity of Temporal Existence: A Camusian Analysis of Time in the Novel *The Stranger* by Albert Camus

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This study looks into the existential exploration of temporal absurdity in Albert Camus' classic, *The Stranger*. The study is set against the backdrop of Camusian philosophy, and it seeks to unravel the novel's protagonist, Meursault's, deep relationship between time and existential absurdity. As an existentialist philosopher, Albert Camus incorporates the theme of the absurd into his literary works. And *The Stranger* is a classic example of Camusian existentialism, where he depicts a reality where the

passage of time seems to break down and lose its coherence. And this contributes considerably to the underlying sense of absurdity in the novella. The fundamental goal of this study is to determine how temporal aspects act as catalysts for the absurd in The Stranger. The study aims to investigate Meursault's perspective of time, the reasons and consequences of temporal absurdity, and also Camus' literary approaches for conveying these existential concerns. Using a literary analysis methodology, this qualitative research investigates the temporal constructions in *The Stranger*. Specific temporal events are explored to demonstrate their function in constructing the story and contributing to the protagonist's existential crisis. The study adopts Camusian existential philosophy as its primary theoretical framework, delving into the interplay between time and absurdity. A detailed exploration of how temporal factors cause and affect the existential crisis is also investigated in this paper. The research builds on already existing theories of existentialism, and its findings seek to contribute to a better understanding of the novel's philosophical roots and provide further insights into the larger debate on existentialism, the human conception of time, and absurdity. Finally, it provides a comprehensive analysis of how temporal factors contribute to the novel's existential themes and sheds light on the complex relationship between time and the human experience.

'This is the Time of Sweet Sweet Change for us all': An Analysis of Lizzie Borden's 1983 Classic 'Born in Flames' Based on Nancy Fraser and Linda Nicholson's theory of Postmodern Feminism

Ahnaf Md. Shafee Rahman
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Looking at the discourses concerning the issue of 'identity' in the present world, it has been very clear that there are very little chances for constructing any parameter for the identification of any person. But the situation was not always the same considering the history of the transformation from feminism to postmodern feminism. That history includes not only the emergence of queer theory in the 1980s but also how the transformation concerning identity was being portrayed in popular culture during that time. In this paper, there will be a close analysis of Lizzie Borden's 1983 classic 'Born in Flames' based on the theories of postmodern feminism. The theories concerning postmodern feminism will mainly focus on Nancy Fraser and Linda Nicholson's view on postmodern feminism or post-feminism. But for the sake of clarity, Michel Foucault's idea on 'sexuality' and Jacques Lacan's view on 'human self' will also be brought into the discussion. The study will follow secondary research methods using books, journals, articles, reports, websites etc. The analysis of the paper will be qualitative using descriptive information rather than quantitative analysis using statistical data.

Chromatic Visions and Affective Landscapes: Exploring Emotion and Colour in Alfred, Lord Tennyson's "Mariana" and "The Lady of Shalott"

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The subtle interplay of human emotion reveals a symbiotic relationship between affect, emotion and colour in various literary forms across different eras. In the poems "Mariana" and "The Lady of Shalott" by Alfred Lord Tennyson, an apprehension of poetic artistry prompts reflection on the broader implications of affective transformation in literary interpretations. In these two poems, emotion and colour are presented as an art form of profound magnitude, intricately linked to the language that gives it form and meaning and corresponds to affective tones. In the melancholic world of "Mariana," the omnipresent green, the fleeting red and the otherworldly white contribute to Mariana's inner isolation and her burning longing, creating an emotional chiaroscuro. In "The Lady of Shalott," the green landscape, glowing yellow, contemplative blue and ominous dark

hues serve as visual and emotional orchestrators that amplify the lady's journey. A comparative approach reveals common emotional themes such as melancholy, longing and despair, while considering contextual subtleties that shape affective responses. The application of affect theory facilitates the decoding of Tennyson's emotional landscapes by bringing together insights from cultural influences on particular emotions. This approach systematically unravels the complex web of emotional responses evoked by the various colorations.

Denying the Truth: Approaching Albert Camus's *The Stranger* from an Existentialist Perspective
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The focus of this paper is on the exploration of the protagonist Meursault's chaotic life where he accepts his individuality by distancing himself from getting emotionally attached. The novel aptly deals with the issues of alienation and detachment in Meursault's life where he is condemned by the structured society for his lack of concern. He rejects the convention and denies the truth to find the meaning of his absurd life. This paper exhibits his emotionally aloof life where his uniqueness is engulfed by his detached present life. Furthermore, this paper emphasizes the conflict of finding a purpose in life. This research argues how Meursault portrays the absurdity of life as an existentialist where the human connection absolutely means nothing to him. Therefore, he is connecting life through disconnection.

A Joyful Odyssey: Illuminating Moments in Kindergarten Teaching: A Teacher's Everyday Story
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This abstract illustrates the joyful and transforming journey of teaching kindergarten, weaving a tapestry of positive experiences that shed light on the unique dynamics of early childhood education. Using innovative and play-based techniques that encourage holistic growth, this narrative explores the educator's role as a guide, engaging with the endless enthusiasm and unbridled curiosity of young learners. In the vibrant world of kindergarten, the teacher becomes a facilitator of exploration, drawing on each child's innate creativity. A dynamic and inclusive learning environment is fostered through interactive lessons, sensory-rich activities, and imaginative play. The abstract explores the significance of clear communication tailored to the developmental stage of the students, as well as establishing trust and creating a space where every voice is heard. Beyond academic accomplishments, the abstract emphasizes the significant impact of cultivating a sense of community in the classroom. Collaborative learning experiences lay the foundation for social skills and emotional intelligence, while also creating a nurturing environment in which friendships can blossom. The delight of witnessing a child's genuine expressions of discovery becomes a recurring theme, emphasizing the mutual nature of the teaching and learning process. The abstract wraps up by highlighting the reciprocal nature of the kindergarten experience, in which educators learn as much from their students as they do from them. The enduring bonds formed, the celebration of achievements, and the shared moments of overcoming challenges all contribute to a rich and fulfilling tapestry of kindergarten teaching, leaving an indelible mark on both teachers and the young minds they guide.

Examining Process and Product based Writing Approach of Bangladeshi L2 Learners at the Tertiary Level

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Academic writing skills serve as a tool of communication that conveys a better, concise, and focused understanding to readers. Almost every Bangladeshi university student studying in the English department has to complete their pedagogic tasks in English. Many universities are introducing EAP courses to make them independent and proficient writers. Thus, it is important to find out how university students are taught writing. This study has revealed the pros and cons of introducing a popular writing approach from the teacher's point of view. The study also demonstrates how the process and product-based approach affect students' academic writing. The study is mixed-method in nature. A total of five teachers and seventy-five students from different public and private universities have participated in this study. Teacher interviews, student surveys, and classroom observations are utilized in this study to get a deeper picture.The study reveals that most practitioners use the process approach as it helps students become self-sufficient writers, while the product-based writing assists students in understanding certain formats of writing. Despite facing difficulties, including writer's block and anxiety, students find these approaches effective for their academic success.

Analyzing the Effectiveness of E-learning Platforms in Enhancing English Language Skills among Bangladeshi Secondary School Students

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The exploration of language evolution within the realm of e-learning platforms has garnered substantial attention due to its profound influence on modern linguistic trends. Existing research in this domain has been somewhat constrained in its methodology, necessitating a more exhaustive examination. This study endeavors to dissect the intricate sociolinguistic dynamics that shape the interaction between e-learning platforms and the development of English language skills, with a specific focus on reading, writing, listening, and speaking proficiencies. We meticulously curated a dataset of student interactions within e-learning environments over a span of six months, drawing from diverse platforms. This approach involved 75 secondary school students, addressing previous gaps in research methodologies. The findings illuminate discernible enhancements in language acquisition, showcasing the impact of e-learning tools on grammar, syntax, and overall language proficiency. This research contributes to the ongoing discourse on contemporary language dynamics in education and offers valuable insights for educators, policymakers, and stakeholders seeking to optimize e-learning platforms for English language instruction in Bangladeshi secondary schools.

Rural Tapestry of Bengal in Syed Waliullah's *Lalsalu*: A Colonial Perspective

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In *Lalsalu* the poignant narrative unfolds against the backdrop of rural Bengal, offering a nuanced exploration of the enduring impact of colonialism on local communities. This article delves into the intricate layers of the novel, examining how the characters navigate a landscape shaped by the historical forces of the colonial era. Misusing religion and clash between traditional values and modernity, *Lasalu* serves as a vivid canvas illustrating the complexities of colonial influence on

individual lives. People want to sustain their existence by fooling people with the help of religion. People make colony by misusing their religion and their moral values. Through a close analysis of the novel's themes and characters, this article sheds light on the subtle yet profound ways in which the colonial past continues to shape cultural identity and societal dynamics in rural Bengal. By tracing the threads of historical legacy woven into the narrative, readers are invited to explore the rich tapestry of *Lalsalu* and gain a deeper understanding of the intricate interplay between personal stories and the broader currents of colonial history.

Paradox of (Pseudo) Connectedness: Enigmatic Post-truth in Post-apocalyptic Fictions

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The dilemma of discourse and pseudo-connectedness are causing a piercing impact on the lives of postmodern people which is vividly described in some post-apocalyptic novels. Moreover, the daunting post-truth and many other conspiracy theories are triggering a malignant destructive threat to the stability of human life. It assumes that the deadly aggression of many countries in the disguise of connectedness in the 21st century is creating a new meaning of this connectedness. And, the post-apocalyptic novels are the threshold of this dire post-truth ambivalence. Though literature can cater to the growth of connectedness, sometimes, it shows a catastrophic fall and proves the futility of this pseudo-connectedness. Extracting good moral values from art and literature is going beyond the faculty of human imagination. In this increased (pseudo)connectedness, people are getting more alienated and embittered. In the name of connectedness, deceit, conspiracy, murder, robbery, forgery, cruelty, and selfishness- all these are replacing all moral values of human life. Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*, a post-apocalyptic novel, focuses on the vagueness, disbelief, and distance among the people after an imaginative environmental disaster. The purpose of this paper is to expose the nakedness of post-modern connectedness as pervasive in the novel *The Road*.

The Effectiveness of Shadowing Techniques for Enhancing Speaking Skills among Undergraduate Level Students

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Developing fluency in second language speaking requires mastering skills like pronunciation, intonation, stress, vocabulary, punctuation and grammar. This study investigates the effectiveness of shadowing techniques for developing English language speaking. A mixed-method study examined the efficacy of a shadowing intervention to improve speaking proficiency in 60 English language learners. Pre and post-assessments compared a 2-week shadowing training versus conversation only. Quantitative results showed the shadowing group had significant gains in fluency, accent approximation, vocabulary, grammar, and confidence compared to controls. Qualitative data revealed participants perceived improvements in listening ability and pronunciation. The findings indicate shadowing boosted various components underlying proficient speaking. Implementing regular shadowing practice in language teaching is suggested to leverage these benefits. Overall, this study provides robust evidence that shadowing unlocks a more organic, holistic language learning process, fulfilling our innate human desire to connect across divides.

The Quest for Identity: A Comparative Study between Franz Kafka's "A Hunger Artist" and Mohsin Hamid's "The Reluctant Fundamentalist"

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The texts chosen for the paper are published 85 years apart, yet there are similarities between the issues dealt in the texts. Perhaps, that is the uniqueness of literature which connects the thoughts of two writers from two different eras. Franz Kafka is known for creating his own literary world where the sun never shines, on the other hand, Mohsin Hamid creates his, where there is sun but it does not provide sufficient light to evacuate darkness. Thus, the connectivity of literature transcends. As a matter of fact, this paper will trace the connections between the two texts, compare and analyze them in the historical, social, cultural, and periodical context. Largely, both the texts are connected to the notion of the main characters' alienation and the protagonists search for identity. Hence, the paper will broadly discuss, compare, and analyze the two dominant issues mentioned earlier. Furthermore, the analyses of the notion of alienation will be done through the lens of Albert Camus' "Theory of Absurdism" and the search for identity will be interpreted through the lens of Jean Paul Sartre's "Theory of Existentialism."

Intergenerational Trauma and the Formation of Identity through a Diasporic Lens in Susan Abulhawa's *Mornings in Jenin*

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The novel *Mornings in Jenin* by Susan Abulhawa explores the trauma of four generations that start with Yehya and ends with Amal's only daughter Sara. It negotiates human conditions to the realm of "self" and "other". Abulhawa has portrayed the characters of both a Jew and Arab from a humanist view. It has depicted the sorrows of the mother, Dalia and Jolanta and the way they both carry the identity of a Muslim and a Jew. And the lost son of Dalia, Ismael who later named David in Israel. The terror of Holocaust that haunted the Jewish people and their dislocation of identity which ends with the diasporic identity of Amal in this novel visits trauma multiple times. Abulhawa in her novel wrote about the realistic nature of humankind rather than being biased to any one particular culture. The guilt that led Jalanta to disclose David's identity and Moshe's agony of not being able to receive the fullness of family, homeland, and a wife, depicts that the suffering was still there with them. This paper analyzes the characters of Mornings in Jenin, their fragmentation and reformation of identity due to generational trauma and the rise of critical consciousness, the quest of moral humanism.

A Psychoanalytical Examination of Pecola Breedlover in *The Bluest Eye*: Deconstructing Imposed Beauty Standards

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This research explores Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* through a psychoanalytical lens, engaging Post-Colonial and Critical Race Theory perspectives in order to deconstruct the imposed hegemony of beauty standards shaping the narrative of Pecola Breedlover. The analysis uncovers the intersectionality of race, gender, and colonial repercussions in Pecola's pursuit for beauty, revealing the profound impact of beauty standards on her identity. Acts of resistance within the novel, through the characters like Claudia MacTeer, highlight the potential for subversion inside the marginalized communities. The

examination of Pecola's desire for blue eyes unveils profound connections between colonial histories and the perpetuation of the hegemony of Eurocentric or Western beauty ideals. The relevance of Pecola's narrative extends to contemporary society, prompting reflection on the persisting impact of historical injustices on perceptions of beauty and self-worth. As discussions around race, gender, and beauty evolve, Pecola's story serves both as a cautionary tale as well as a catalyst for dismantling lethal societal norms and fostering authentic self identity.

Unraveling the Enigma of Cholly Breedlove in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*: Victimhood or perpetration?

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Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye* intricately weaves the complexities of human nature, societal influences, and the horrifying effects of institutionalized oppression. Whereof, Cholly Breedlove, one of its pivotal characters, embodies a nuanced portrayal that challenges conventional categorizations of victimhood and perpetration. This analysis explores the multifaceted nature of Cholly Breedlove's persona, his life experiences, traumatic encounters, societal conditioning and the intricate web of circumstances that contributed to the formation of his identity and additionally, seeking to resolve the contradiction of his dual roles in the novel as a victim and a victimizer. Furthermore, the investigation scrutinizes Cholly's actions and behavior, scrutinizing instances where he inflicts harm upon others, particularly his daughter, Pecola. Simultaneously, it seeks to contextualize these actions within the framework of Cholly's own victimization, aiming to discern the psychological complexities that drive his destructive behaviors. However, this investigation explores the hazy boundaries between victim and perpetrator, acknowledging the cyclical nature of trauma and its significant influence on an individual's ability to deal with life's obstacles. By examining Cholly Breedlove through a multidimensional lens, this study aims to provoke critical discourse on the intricacies of human behavior, the pervasive effects of societal oppression, and the intricate balance between personal responsibility and external influences within Morrison's rational work.

Politeness in Interaction: A Discourse Approach to Bangladeshi Politeness Marker

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This research paper investigates the multifaceted phenomenon of politeness in interpersonal interactions, focusing on the context of Bangladeshi communication. Through a meticulous examination of authentic conversational data, this research endeavors to shed light on the distinctive linguistic strategies, speech acts, and cultural norms that underlie the expression of politeness in this specific cultural setting. In fact, the theoretical framework of this study draws upon the seminal works of pragmatics integrating politeness theories proposed by renowned scholars in the field. By employing Brown and Levinson's politeness theory as a foundational basis, it further delves into the intricacies of politeness strategies, considering face-threatening acts, positive politeness and negative politeness as key dimensions for analysis. To ensure the reliability and validity of the findings, an ethnographic approach is adopted involving participant observations of various social interactions across diverse settings such as family gatherings and workplace interaction. The preliminary findings uncovers linguistic strategies such as honorifics, deferential address forms and indirect speech acts as prevalent means for expressing politeness. By shedding light on the dynamics of politeness in Bangladeshi discourse, this research endeavors to contribute to the existing body of knowledge in the fields of sociolinguistics, pragmatics, and intercultural communication.

Turbulence in the Body and Mind: A Dissection of Al Mahmud's *Jonakir Basha* in the Light of Medical Humanities

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In this POMO era, people suffer from psychological illness that has crossed the limits of Medical Sciences and entered the arena of Humanities. This paper aims to connect Medical Science and Humanities through Medical Humanities. The relativity between psychological illness and physical illness, which has existed since prehistoric times, is prominently portrayed in postmodern literature. Physical disabilities and sickness result in mental trauma and disturbance in everyday physical, social, and financial aspects that are reflected in contemporary literature across the globe. For this paper, I would like to work on Al Mahmud's 'Jonakir Basha' (The Nest of Fireflies), written after Al Mahmud's stroke. His physical uneasiness, dependence on medicine, and neurological distortion made him more disorganized and wounded. He started hallucinating the past and recalling the memory; Traumatic Amnesia was there due to the changing narrative. Al Mahmud named the medicines as 'জীবনপাখির নীলাভ ডিম' (Mahmud 226) 'bluish eggs of the bird named Life' (Translated by Mithun 2023). I would like to show how literary studies in 21st-century Bangladesh have embraced Medical Humanities with Disability Studies, Memory, and Trauma Studies in Al Mahmud's 'Jonakir Basha' (The Nest of Fireflies) and finally, how the Illness Narratives are working in Medical Humanities.

Threading the Pangs of Partition in Saadat Hasan Manto and Ritwik Ghatak

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The 1947 partition, an axiomatic political upheaval that altered thousands of crores of lives of the inhabitants of this subcontinent and took violence and havoc to their new extremes. This unprecedented act of dividing a nation by tearing it apart into two new ones made an umpteenth number of people fall prey to the heinous bloodshed and horror that followed. Death, displacement, bloodshed swept many parts of this subcontinent away. And quite evidently, that included many of the creative personas who took their creation to express the deep agony and torment they had to survive due to this political convulsion. Ritwik Ghatak (1925-1976), the noted filmmaker from Bengal and Saadat Hasan Manto (1912-1955), the celebrated author from Punjab are two of such artists who survived the 1947 partition and that devastation shaped their creative forte as well as their later lives. And there are some uncanny resemblances in the way both of them perceived and lived and represented partition in their works. In a phenomenological approach, this current study tries to thread those similarities in the light of Urvashi Butalia's The Other Side of Silence.

Connection and Disconnection in Philip Larkin's "Aubade": From the Perspective of Existentialism

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Philip Arthur Larkin (1922-1985) is well known for his poetry which often has a pessimistic and skeptic tone. However, in his poem "Aubade"(1977), existential elements are evident. The poem starts in an isolated room where the poetic persona is disconnected to the world. This disconnection leads the persona towards the ultimate realization of death which connects one to their existence as a human. 20th century existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre's ideas from Being and

Nothingness(1943) can be placed side by side with "Aubade" to explain further how the end of being (death) creates a nothingness (void) to existence. Thus isolation connects ideas to universality. The research paper aims at adding a new perspective to the poem "Aubade" and tries to represent the disconnection as the linker in a positive manner. This also aims to connect the human psyche regarding death (disconnection) to existentialist enlightenment. As a research method, mainly qualitative method would be used. The textual analysis of the poem "Aubade" through theories of Sartre's existentialism would be conducted. This research would make one revaluate their attitude towards life.

Artistic Mindset of Victorian Poets Influenced by Renaissance Artists
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Victorian poets effectively employed echoes to Renaissance artwork into their poetry. For example, Alfred Lord Tennyson, in "In Memoriam," inspired the Renaissance's desire of humanism and beauty by incorporating Michelangelo's spirit. The objective of the research is to show the creative attitude of Victorian poets and how Renaissance artists impacted their writing. By examining the similarities between these two very different time periods, it reveals the subject and stylistic relationships that influenced Victorian poets' poetry. Qualitative research methodology has been used throughout the study. This study examines the poetic devices applied by Victorian poets to imitate the visual components of Renaissance painting. Finding mutual themes in Victorian poetry that are influenced by Renaissance art might help one better appreciate the philosophical and cultural connections between the two ages. This study concludes that this kind of study could improve our understanding of the complex interrelationships that exist between literature and the visual arts throughout history and provide a more complete picture of the artistic development from the Renaissance to the Victorian era.

The Normal By-products of Imperialism?: A Chaotic Reading of George Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant"
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Looking through the lens of Chaos Theory, George Orwell's 1936 essay "Shooting an Elephant" presents the aspects of connection, misconnection, and disconnection. The essay is set within the complex system of imperialism, and this paper traces evidence of sensitivity to initial conditions, un/predictability, butterfly effect, nonlinearity, underlying patterns, bifurcation, strange attractors, etc. located within the narrative. In doing so, the imperial reality, the power dynamics with the Burmese natives, and the misconnected moral dilemma of the British police officer are brought into question within the fabric of order and disorder, as the essay dives toward the edge of chaos. The apparently deterministic imperial order emerges as an unpredictable deterministic chaotic system. As the demise of the elephant is confirmed and its fate sealed, the internal conflict and free will of the officer are put to rest. Ultimately, the paper attempts to answer whether the stability of the imperial order, i.e. connection, can indeed be re-established, or has the system disconnected and spiraled out of control.

A Comparative Exploration of Parent-Child Relationship in Dickens' and Martin's World
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The parent-child relationships between different characters of literary works play a crucial role in defining how an individual may come to portray him or herself. The intricacies of parent-child relationships can be explored in two distinct literary

works– Charles Dickens' Great Expectations and George R. R. Martin's *A Song of Ice and Fire* which is adapted as the television series named "Game of Thrones." Specifically, the dynamic between Estella and Miss Havisham in *Great Expectations* and Cersei Lannister and Joffrey Baratheon in "Game of Thrones" are two of the most significant depictions of the relationship. In *Great Expectations*, Estella, raised by the eccentric Miss Havisham, embodies a cold and detached attitude shaped by her upbringing. On the other hand, in "Game of Thrones" Cersei Lannister, who is a formidable political player in Westeros tries to mold her son Joffrey into a ruler while navigating her personal view of the outer world in Joffrey's psyche. This paper is an attempt to show a comparative lens and unravel the subtle threads of parent child dynamics in these two literary works. Through the application of psychoanalysis, the objective of the paper will be pursued. The aim is to delve into the psychological impact of the parent figures' influence on the formation of ego in their respective children.

Reconnecting Nature with Human Beings through Unschooling: Contextualizing Local is Our Future (L.O.F.) by Helena Norberg-Hodge (H.N.H.)

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Helena Norberg-Hodge's (1946-) Local is Our Future (2019) offers an alternative reading to rejoin human life with nature that sees a pluralistic and peaceful future by challenging a patriarchal, capitalist and globalisation-based world order. To enrich this future, learning is very significant in terms of shaping an individual's morality, philosophy, logic, personality and communication skills which should be rooted into his local culture and tradition. Globalization is, however, disconnecting an individual from their roots as they get intellectually hegemonized through a Eurocentric epistemology. Helena Norberg-Hodge exposes different forms of intellectual domination waged by the Global North over their Southern counterpart in her book Local is Our Future (2019) where she tries to create awareness among the people to be free, sovereign, self-dependent and make a harmonious relationship with each other through localised learning or unschooling values. The book also shows how unschooling can offer an alternative knowledge system based on indigenous and local cultures. This presentation aims to present the politics of institutionalised or structured schooling practices and misconceptions about unschooling practices prevailing in the contemporary globalised world. It will also seek to show how localisation of education, or unschooling movement can be a viable solution to confront the suppressive and hegemonic role inherent in schooling practices which hardly undertake nature as a core concern of education. Thus, it endeavours to show how the unschooling movement can rebuild the rapport between human beings and nature.

Capitalizing Aesthetics: The Intersection of Literature and Marketing in the Global Marketplace

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In the age of capitalism, commercialization has reached its maximum height leaving no stone unturned to generate more capital. This intense commercialization is closely tied to people's purchasing power, as increased purchasing power transforms individuals into customers. The advent of industrialization has fueled not only the emergence of the middle class but also spurred the emergence of operative shoppers. The Victorian era, for example, saw the marketization of soap as,

before that era, soap was not a regular commodity for people. Over time, products have been branded to manipulate aspects of race, culture, society, family, and even emotions such as love, passion, and hate often through an "aestheticizing" process utilizing literary elements. Today, multinational corporations like Ford, Levis, among others employ (or exploit) poetry to maximize their capital. These ideas, exemplified by the use of Robert Frost's "The Road Not Taken" in Ford's advertisement and Walt Whitman's "Pioneers! O Pioneers" in Levis's advertisement, demonstrate a blend of connection and disconnection, ultimately culminating in a significant level of misconnection. These concepts exhibit innovation, yet the excessive commercialization of aesthetic elements converts them into commodities. Commodities, as well known, have exchange value but this, in turn, undermines the aesthetic value of the literature used. This paper, primarily focusing on Marxist criticism, aims to investigate how products are marketed using literary components around the world, and how this leads to the devaluation of literary texts.

Connecting Tertiary Level Students through Teaching English in a Private University
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English has been taught in all the universities in Bangladesh as one of the distinguished disciplines. Apart from ensuring benefits, teaching English to the tertiary level students meet some challenges. This paper aims to investigate the problems faced by the teacher while teaching students and explore a connection between the EFL teacher and the EFL learners in a Bangladeshi private university. It is actually an in-depth investigation conducted by a teacher at Z. H. Sikder University of Science and Technology located at a semi-urban area in Shariatpur. Personal narrative technique has been used as a form of the method. The teacher uncovers his own personal experiences in terms of teaching his learners. However, the findings show an effective connection of tertiary level students with teaching English.

Effective Strategies in Teaching Speaking Skills at the Secondary Level
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At the secondary level, students often struggle with spoken English due to a lack of interest in learning the language. This study aims to address students' apprehensions about learning speaking skills enjoyably and effectively. Crafting a comprehensive syllabus that includes essential content proves highly effective in teaching speaking skills. The research objective is to identify suitable language learning strategies for secondary-level students to enhance their speaking abilities. A qualitative research design was employed throughout the study. The researcher analyzed existing research along with classroom interactions among peers and teachers. The students' efforts are pivotal, involving demanding tasks such as role-play, practice, and repetition processes. The study's findings indicate that the effectiveness of practiced strategies is heightened when they are both up-to-date and relatable to secondary-level students. This study recommends that the benefits extend not only to students but also to teachers, enabling students to make significant progress in their English speaking skills.

Men, Loneliness and the Cosmopolitan City: Broken lines of connection in Teju Cole's *Open City* and Caleb Azumah Nelson's *Open Water*

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While loneliness in big western cities is an epidemic in and of itself, men and men of color tend to fall victim to it in a way distinct from women. There is talk of patriarchy imposing the burden of isolation on men frequently. But in most circumstances, this issue is brought up to divert attention from women's concerns. As a result, the actual problem at hand is rarely discussed in good faith. This essay aims to amend that by looking at the literary representation of men's inability to connect with other fellow human beings in Teju Cole's *Open City* and Caleb Azumah Nelson's *Open Water*. Both novels follow black men in metropolises, where alienated and isolated, both men turn to art as a substitute for human connection. However, this is where their similarities end and their paths diverge. This paper means to explore these men's inability to make long-term meaningful human connection through the dual lenses of spatial affect theory and gender performativity. This essay will also highlight how misogyny, systematic racism and sexism, and rigid cultural definitions of masculinity all lead to repression in young men and how this ultimately affects their ability to open themselves to the possibility of community and love.

Teaching the Art of Communication - Listening and Speaking: A Reflection Journey in Teaching

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Powerful connection requires the right art of communication. Listening and speaking skills are the best skills for creating any connection. The objective of this research is to find out the most effective strategies for teaching listening and speaking. This study uses TBLT methods, Krashen's monitoring, and input hypothesis. By using that method and hypothesis, positive feedback has been observed, the lessons have been learned quickly, students have been encouraged for further learning, they have learned to select the right material and most importantly they have learned how to make connections with others through these two skills. This paper will portray listening and speaking skills, create strong connections, and avoid misunderstanding.

Translingual Pedagogy in English Language Teaching and Learning: Fostering Linguistic Diversity and Intercultural Communication

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The need for language instruction goes beyond multilingualism or bilingualism in a society that is becoming more linked and diversified. Hence, Translingualism is the seamless passage from one linguaculture to another and their inevitable fusion without complete assimilation but with the preservation of language users' linguacultural identity, resulting in mixed discourse. Research shows that exposure to learners' native language in the classroom strengthens the English language learning process through intercultural dialogue and social cohesion. This study explores how English language learners' intercultural awareness and recognition of linguistic diversity can positively benefit the English language learning process in Bangladesh. The participants of this study include 80 undergraduate students aged 18-23 years old and 15 teachers from the tertiary level. A questionnaire survey among the participants reveals that translingualism in language class helps

individuals become more culturally competent, thoughtful, and empathetic, preparing them for a globalized society by exposing them to various languages and cultures. This paper shows how reconceptualizing the role of the teacher as a translingual practitioner in the language classroom can help overcome the dichotomy between native and non-native speakers. This research offers recommendations for language teachers who want to improve language teaching practice by encouraging their students to use all the languages they can comprehend.

On the Problematic of Bangladeshi Anglophone Literary Tradition: Towards a Resolution
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The post-2000 boom of Bangladeshi Anglophone literature in the postcolonial South Asian conglomerate signals a nationally distinct cultural tradition that David Shook (2013) describes as "poised to extend beyond its own boundaries and the boundaries of the subcontinent" (p. 44). Surely, the publication and recognition of works by international entities mean that this World Literature entrant is destined to serve what Bengali writing in translation has been short of doing: showcasing 'Bangladeshiness' to the world, at par with other South Asian and African Anglophone traditions. But positioned against the country's dominant Bengali-lingua-cultural ideology in the post-liberation era, and in relation to native readership, BAL seems to be struggling for a national status—a fact that props up in the tradition's pioneers (e.g., Kaiser Haq) and historiographers (e.g., Quayum and Hasan; Anam). Especially when elitism, detached authorial provenance and with-it adequacy of representation are taken into consideration, the tradition still calls for a strong validation, with its patron event Dhaka Lit Fest being the latest focus of controversies in the country. As we find no express polemic aimed at the Anglophony of "a shadowy and tentative literature"—quoting Alam (2015) to countervail the available advocacy, BAL is entitled to a virtual concession and also a rapport with the country's power structure. Taking all these issues into its ambit, this research aims at resolving a number of related questions facing the establishment of an Anglophone literary tradition or integrating the whole corpus into the national literary category. This paper's main argument in favour of BAL builds on the country's growing neoliberal tendencies that should facilitate what Ramone (2013) points out in Rushdie's case as representational, ambassadorial potential. Given that critical practices are rather "weak" in Bangladesh (Haq, 2021), this research emphasizes that Bangladeshi Anglophone works—like those of Indian English literature— be accommodated alongside Euro-American canons in the country's academia.

Jean Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development : A Comparative Study on Bangladeshi Children
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Swiss psychologist Jean Piaget's theory was previously considered adequate to describe the structure and development of human thought. He was mostly focused on the biological influences on "how humans come to know." How children think of the world. He observed that young children's answers were qualitatively different from older ones, which suggested to him that the younger children were not dumber. On the other hand, they answered the questions differently than their older peers because they thought differently. In Jean Piaget's theory, we can see that there are two major aspects, such as the process of coming to know and the stages we move through as we gradually acquire our ability. According to Jean Piaget's theory of cognitive development, our intelligence changes as we grow. At the same time, a child's cognitive development is not only about acquiring knowledge; the child also has to develop or construct a mental model of the world. Through the interaction

of innate capacities and environmental events, their cognitive development happened. Children pass through a series of stages such as the sensorimotor stage (birth to 2 years), the preoperational stage (2 to 7 years), the concrete operational stage (7 to 11 years), and the formal operational stage (12 to adulthood). He mentioned that all children go through the same stages in the same order.

Exploring Connection, Disconnection and Reconnection: Ecocritical Analysis of K.J. Fowler's *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*

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Karen Joy Fowler's novel *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* (2013) explores a myriad of connections between humans as well as across the species divide. It also sheds light on the implications and consequences of the disconnection/misconnection between the same actors. Besides, it highlights the importance of reconciliation/reconnection between the human and nonhuman entities for a more ecologically sustainable world. The storyline revolves around a woman named Rosemary and a Chimpanzee called Fern who were raised as twins for five years in order for a scientific experiment undertaken by Rosemary's father, who was a scientist. The failure of the experiment and the subsequent separation between the twins led to a series of traumatic experiences for all the stakeholders: family members and the chimpanzee. Drawing on insights also from posthumanism, critical animal studies and trauma studies, this ecocritical paper will seek to establish the importance of interpersonal and interspecies connections, explicate the costs of disconnection between people, both human and nonhuman, and promote an ethics of interspecies co-existence and reciprocity.

Hybridity and Mimicry in E. M. Forster *A Passage To India*: A Postcolonial Reading

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This paper is going to analyze Hybridity and Mimicry in E. M. Forster *A Passage to India*. E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India* finds Postcolonial Aspects Hybridity , Mimicry. It also shows the way in which the 'colonizer' treated the 'colonized'. It basically seeks to spot the postcolonial aspects in E.M.Forster's novel *A Passage to India* (1924). The novel illustrates the gap existing between the British and the Indians', a gap which cannot be bridged. Hybridity mostly associated with the analysis of the relationship between the coloniser and the colonised. Homi k Bhabha argues that the coloniser and the colonised are mutually dependent in constructing a shared culture. Hybridity is the result of mimicry another important concept in postcolonial theory, because it has come to describe the ambivalent relationship between colonizer and colonized. This research portrays Hybridity and Mimicry in E.M Forster's *A Passage To India*.

Mental Health and Gender Issues in the 21st Century as Reflected in Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*: Social Perspectives

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This research paper focuses on the 21st-century gender issues and mental health in association with the study of Swift's Gulliver's Travels. It tracks the relevant factors of a society that are very influential to determine mental health and gender issues. It is evident that the impact of globalisation, peer pressure, professional tensions, internal chemical deficiency, chronic

stress, and diminishing family values are connected with mental health. On the contrary, sex is connected with gender, and gender is connected with mental health. In Gulliver's Travels, Gulliver has faced gender discrimination which is created by society subsequently especially in book-II. From the social perspective of "Brobdingnag," the social and personal behaviour of women is the opposite of a patriarchal society. This research aims at understanding the connection between 21st century mental health and gender issues associated with Swift's Gulliver's Travels. Moreover, the study shows how society is involved with mental health and 21st-century gender issues. This research contains qualitative methods of research based on both primary and secondary sources of data.

Significance of Moral Education and the Ethics of Sufism in 21st-century's Human Life: An Analysis Based on Syed Waliullah's *Tree Without Roots*

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Moral education and ethics of Sufism are complex and subjective topics. 21st-century people are generally more aware of some issues such as equality, inclusivity, and the rights of marginalized groups. They, much more than people of the past, are also encouraged to think critically for making informed decisions based on their values and beliefs. The versatile novelist Syed Waliullah's classic creation Tree Without Roots is a religious doctrine and portrayal of a rural lifestyle, and of the superstitious faith in 20th-century Bangladesh. This paper focuses on the significance of moral education and the ethics of Sufism that can be extrapolated from that novel a century later: in modern life today. Sufism emphasizes spiritual practices and also encompasses a moral and ethical framework that conducts the behavior of its practitioners for the betterment of the personal and social life of people even in the 21st-century. In particular, the paper aims to explore the moral and ethical lessons of Sufism because knowledge of creation can never be completed without having sufficient knowledge of the creator. Thus, this paper attempts to encourage the audience to ruminate on religiosity for society's well-being. The research will be qualitative research in nature and it will consult both primary and secondary data in fulfilling its objectives.

Magical Realism as a Mode of Political Resistance in Akhtaruzzaman Elias' *Khwabnama*: An Alternative Retrospect of the Bengal Bifurcation of 1947 and the Tebhaga Movement

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Akhtaruzzaman Elias' last novel *Khwabnama* re-visits the 1947 Partition and the creation of India and Pakistan through the illustration of an alternative narrative of the Bengal bifurcation and the Tebhaga movement from the point of view of the marginalized fishermen and farmers of northwestern Bangladesh. The novel chronicles the legends of a munshi and a sannyasi by depicting the shared belief and devotion Tameez's baap, Baikuntha and other characters show towards them despite their religious differences. This allows the present day readers an opportunity to form a connection with the unsevered bonding, culture and traditions existing between the Muslim and Hindu population during the pre-Partition period. Drawing from the magical realist paradigm of Lois Parkinson Zamora and Wendy B. Faris, this paper points out that the presence of ghosts, supernatural occurrences and local folklore in the novel contribute in reviving the collective memory of undivided Bengal in addition to depicting a resistance against ethnonationalism stemming from the initiation of the 1947 Partition.

Unchained Butterfly Effect: a Critical Analysis of how Anger Suppress Other Emotions in *A Passage to India*

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E.M. Forster's novel, *A Passage to India*, explores the complexities of human relationships in the context of colonial India. The pervading patriarchy of Indian society has a monumental impact on the wheel of the novel's events. The protagonist, Dr. Aziz, is mostly driven by the notion of "Anger". This paper argues on the destructive power of anger, its ability to suppress other emotions and to hinder impulsive connection. Dr. Aziz, a doctor of the Indian race, is at the heart of the paper's exploration of the spectacles of the patriarchal male gaze. Aziz's anger is rooted in the colonial hegemony; a false accusation of sexual assault by an Englishwoman, Adela Quested, fuels it out and away. Such desperate feelings of anger make him to be nonchalant and scornful towards the British race in general. The unchained butterfly effect juxtaposes the suppression of 'other' emotions and the consequences of anger in only anger and hate. Finally, this paper will define how the novel ironically illustrates the destructive power of anger, making a compelling case for Forster's plea for connection, "Only connect!" in a world grappling with division and conflict.

Teachers' and Learners' Vocabulary Paradigm: The Need for Effective Vocabulary Strategies in Tertiary Instruction

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Vocabulary teaching and learning in the most effective ways can help ESL learners ensure a developmental process for mastering English. Bangladeshi tertiary ESL learners tend to get terrified by seeing extensive repositories of English vocabulary and thus overlook the essential terms of acquiring lexical knowledge and understanding the functionality it holds in all language skills. This tendency not only restricts their communicative competence but also inhibits progress in scholarly pursuits. Therefore, this paper aims to navigate the strategies and methods Bangladeshi tertiary vocabulary learners adopt to overcome the challenges of learning English vocabulary in an ESL context, followed by sustainable solutions for optimal results. Qualitative and quantitative methods were used to obtain the results from both tertiary learners and teachers to showcase the dynamics in their experiences, perceptions and suggestions. Empirical data found from this study concludes that using instrumental strategies like contextual learning, guessing from context, technological assistance, incorporating fun techniques like calendar notes, group activities and perceptive strategies like motivation and self-learning can overcome the complexities of learning vocabulary where teachers can explicitly participate with effective teaching strategies providing the required materials for the lesson.

Academic Success – Are My Parents' Educational Background Playing a Part?

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In this qualitative paper, the researcher studied the influence of parents' educational background on their children's academic success. A case study of two students has been presented. The students' family members were interviewed to

obtain genuine data from their close people which might escape the participants themselves. Data analysis is thematic and answers the three research questions in the study, namely, the consequences for not having parents with a good educational background, the extent to which parental involvement is necessary, and how having parents with a good educational background helps a student. The findings revealed that parental education does play a vital role in a student's academic life, but over-involvement does little good. Results have also shown that a parent's knowledge void causes tremendous damage.

The Reflection of Feminism & Freud's Sex-Desire in *Sir Gawain & the Green knight*
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The study aims to explore the reflection of feminism, Freud's theory of conscious and unconscious desire of minds, Lady Bertilak's seductive approach, emotionally appealing and bodily attachment by hook or by crook with Sir Gawain. Anyway, she proposed deceptive golden offerings to convince him in between her two legs for having sex but failed three times. Though she has managed to kiss as the formal scenario of then king's castle of Green chapel several times, she was not able to indulge with sexual gain anymore from Sir Gawain. The role of women is nothing but feminist, conscious desire as seductive and deceptive approach where the colorful affection as a spy of the Lord of a castle in the remote jungle of then-contemporary medieval age. By the study of Sir Gawain & Green Knight, anyone can experiment with the sexual distance between a knight and a woman of the castle. The hierarchal character of Sir Gawain has projected the crystal clear pure honesty as a King Arthur's knight and heroic image of him for not being a sexual object of that woman. To identify the matter of sex, sensation and convincing role of the woman are the supreme ingredients to make the study understandable to any voracious passionate reader.

Teaching English Writing to Bangladeshi Young Learners
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The purpose of this study was to find out the techniques that are being followed for teaching English writing to Bangladeshi young learners in both Bengali and English medium schools. Furthermore, the effect of the applied strategies in young learners' writing skill. This study was conducted following a qualitative method which included teachers' perception regarding teaching writing, co observation of two writing classes and analysing students' class works and exam scripts. The researcher selected purposive homogeneous sampling for choosing four English medium teachers and five Bengali medium teachers as participants to collect data. From the collected data it was found that various type of strategies such as- discussion session with brainstorming and elicitation, providing interactive worksheets, guided writing, independent writing with picture description, story mapping, visualisation with videos and pictures, peer feedback, also group work and pair work are done in English medium schools for teaching writing effectively to young learners. On the contrary, in Bengali medium most of the writing tasks are memorisation based, there are no interactive or creative tasks for students. Furthermore, teachers are not allowed to create or modify their own techniques or materials. As a result this is hampering young learners' learning. The findings of this study will help the material developers and teachers to take initial ideas and modify according to their learners' needs and classroom.

Accreditation Body for the Mushrooming English Language Centres: A Call of Time?

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Rocksteady and envious growth of the Language English across the Globe and later resulting in a demanding life skill for developing countries like us have opened a door of opportunities for aspiring language learners and lured both the bona fide ELT practitioners and mercenaries to owning its lucrative business pies. This paper expresses its concerns for the latter- the mercenaries since they are mushrooming quite rapidly and rampantly in the guise of proving themselves to be the only talisman of avid language learners across the country when, in reality, this paper hypothesizes that they are only intriguing these learners to satisfy their utilitarian interest. At first, this paper will represent the current scenario of private English language teaching and learning centres across the country, then it will diagnose their eligibility and prerequisites for teaching English and then their teaching methodologies and their efficacy. Afterwards, it will also look into the ad multimodalities those centres use to attract their target learners' groups and to what extent these are authentic or deceiving. Finally, on the backdrop of these, this study will try to do a feasibility study to assess the need for setting up an Accreditation Body for the Mushrooming English Language Centres and also to find out how this accreditation body can regulate and reform these private language centres' pedagogical practices to produce more successful and effective language learning experiences which is also the crying need of the time too.

Cultural Chasms and Misconnection in E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India*: A Semiotic Analysis

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E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India* stands as a seminal exploration of British colonialism in early 20th-century India. It conducts a semiotic analysis of E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India*, focusing on the theme of cultural chasms and misconnections within the narrative. Employing a semiotic framework, the study explores the symbolic language embedded in characters, events, and settings, unraveling the intricate web of cultural disparities depicted in the novel. Through a close examination of semiotic codes, the analysis reveals how signs and symbols shape the interactions between the British colonizers and the Indian subjects, contributing to the complexities of cultural representation. Characters such as Dr. Aziz and Mrs. Moore, along with significant locations like the Marabar Caves, serve as focal points for dissecting the semiotic dimensions of cultural miscommunication. This research goes beyond a mere exploration of textual elements and extends its findings to broader discussions on colonialism, identity, and the clash of cultures. By unveiling the layers of meaning inherent in the text, the study seeks to deepen our understanding of the implications of cultural miscommunication and its reverberations in the postcolonial context. Ultimately, it also provides a methodological framework for employing semiotics in the analysis of complex cultural narratives, paving the way for further exploration of semiotic approaches in literary studies.

Exploring the English Language Learning Process of Ethnic Minority Communities' Students in Rangamati Area: Challenges and Prospects

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This study delves into a comprehensive understanding of the English language learning process of students from ethnic minority communities in the Rangamati district. This study illustrates the difficulties that ethnic people face when learning

English and how those difficulties can be overcome. The study is designed using mixed methods, incorporating data from student questionnaires, teacher interviews, and classroom observations. It has been discovered that the English language learning process presents significant challenges for students from ethnic minority communities due to a variety of factors such as multilingualism, living conditions, transportation limitations, limited exposure to English, insufficient access to quality education, scarcity of resources and materials, socioeconomic barriers, lack of parental engagement, insufficient educational foundation, adherence to ethnic customs, and historical and cultural influence. Several critical strategies are recommended in this study to improve English language proficiency and the quality of English instruction in ethnic minority communities. Establishing a comfortable language environment, fostering students' enthusiasm for English learning, providing ample teacher training opportunities, ensuring adequate availability of resources and materials, facilitating language practice opportunities, and nurturing students' self-assurance in their English learning will all play an important role.

Virtual Reality: Preserving Lost Bengali Cultures and Historical Places – Unlocking Potentials and Charting a Comprehensive Roadmap for Smart Bangladesh

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In alignment with the Bangladesh Government's vision of a Smart Society within a Digitally Transformed Bangladesh by 2041, cultural heritage preservation stands as a pivotal aspect. The originality of this research lies in its focus on using VR to preserve lost and extinct cultural heritage of Bangladesh. This paper delves into the possibilities, applicabilities, and limitations of utilizing Virtual Reality (VR) to safeguard lost and extinct Bengali cultures and historical sites. The purpose of this study is to examine how VR can be used to create digital replicas of these cultural artifacts and places, and how this technology can be employed to provide a more engaging and accessible experience to Smart Citizens. This research used a qualitative methodology involving a literature review, multiple case study analysis, and expert interviews. The literature review scrutinized existing VR and cultural heritage preservation research, emphasizing cases like Virtual Museum Bangladesh and Ubisoft's Notre Dame Cathedral project. The cross-case synthesis identified several common themes that are essential for the successful implementation of VR in cultural heritage preservation, such as the need for accurate data acquisition and modeling, the importance of engaging with the local community, and the requirement for ongoing maintenance and updates. Expert interviews were conducted with professionals in the field of Cultural Heritage Preservation and VR technology to gain insights into the practical applicability of VR in Bangladesh. The collected data was analyzed using pattern matching, explanation building, and cross-case synthesis to identify key findings and insights. The possibilities regarding the preservation of lost and extinct Bengali Cultures were also explored as the preservation of historical places using VR provides similar benefits in the restoration of lost Bengali music, dance, festivals, and sports. The expert interviews revealed that there is a significant need for digital preservation of Bengali culture, which is at risk of being lost or extinct due to various social, economic, and political factors. VR can be a crucial tool for preserving and disseminating this cultural heritage, particularly for younger generations who are more technologically proficient and may find traditional methods of learning about cultural heritage unappealing. This paper, with its substantial research significance, not only unveils the potential of Virtual Reality for preserving Bengali cultural heritage but also offers a comprehensive roadmap, including Digital Infrastructure Development, Technical Training, Funding Mechanisms, Public-Private Partnerships, and Digital Literacy Promotion, thereby informing strategies and initiatives for the larger goal of building a Smart Bangladesh.

Confronting Postcolonialism in Academia
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Postcolonial criticism didn't become a major force in literary studies until the early 1990s. The term "postcolonialism" migrated from social sciences, particularly History and Political Studies, to the discourse of literary criticism in the late 1970s and flourished in the 1980s and 90s by scholars like Spivak, Bhabha, Aijaz Ahmed, Fanon, and others. Spivak perhaps used the term "postcolonial" in 1990 in the The Post-Colonial Critic and then Vijay Mishra and Bob Hodge in 1991. In the recent decades till date "postcolonialism", as a theoretical base and as a tool of literary approach, has enjoyed a guaranteed growth in the hands of both Eastern and Western scholarship and thus emerged as a new genre. By the grace of their mastery in the field, we came to know about various moves in our perspectives, e.g. "orientalism"/orientalization, "writing back", "contrapuntal" mode of narrativization, "subversive engagement", "counter discourse", "hybridization", "Caliban paradigm" and so on. For the redundant availability and widespread access to the study materials, it stepped in our (especially in South Asia) daily academia. Juvenile scholars and aspiring researchers find it a comfortable ground for pursuing their purpose. Postcolonialism, that could have been an enabling factor, that could function our deeper understanding and give voice the voiceless mass, has now become another hegemonic monopoly by these scholars and researchers who encash postcolonialism for thickening their portfolios. These pseudo colonialist fellows not only demonize the academia with their "chutneyfied" knowledge of postcolonialism, they also season/eternalize them to the imperialist publishing industries and become psychological refugees in this highly metropolitan mill of theory. The paper, however, necessitates a different look and invites the emerging researchers to decenter their respective fields other than colonial/postcolonial arena and embark on a more politicized approach towards research and academia and be a partaker in true intellectual enterprise.

Multidimensional Images in Two Celebrated Films *Aguner Poroshmoni and Shyamol Chaya*
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Humayun Ahmed (1948-2012) is an underrated filmmaker and writer in south Asia. Just because his works have got enormous popularity many critics tend to consider him as an ordinary literary figure. Actually Humayun Ahmed is a great writer and filmmaker. In this paper I will examine two of his celebrated films *Aguner Poroshmoni* and Shamol Chaya with their multidimensional images which prove him as a great literary figure. *Aguner Poroshmoni* (1994) was the first movie directed by Humayun Ahmed.The film won National Film Award in eight categories including Best Picture, Best Director and Best Plot. Here we see a Guerrilla freedom fighter Bodi took shelter in a very common govt.officer's house. Then the filmmaker skilfully sketched the picture of fear, love, courage, hatred in these films. Another famous war film Shamol Chaya (2004) shows us the journey of twelve people from different sections of the society. The boatman is taking them far away from the fierce clutches of war. Humayun Ahmed skillfully portrayed the real picture of that period by presenting Pitamber, his blind father, Katim, his daughter in law, Mawlana, Gourango, Fuli and her mother. Unconventional plot, humorous dialogues, lively characters and unique style of story line were the landmarks of those two films. The filmmaker sketched the multidimensional images in these two films which is unique in the film industry. This is qualitative research and the researcher has used a qualitative method here.

The Presence of Toxic Masculinity in *Pride and Prejudice* and *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*
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The paper is an attempt to show toxic masculinity that was present in Pride and Prejudice and Tess of the d'Urbervilles. By talking about 'Man', people tend to visualize a figure of rough and tough nature, macho-like appearance, egoistic from inside and outside. However, does a man always have to be like this? Or is it fixed from the celestial world for men to pursue such things? One cannot even think that this kind of thing ends up making a man toxic. In essence, speaking of toxic masculinity, then it is basically promoting the toxic traits like a man being dominant, cruel, manipulative, abusive and so on. On that note, it is needless to say that toxic masculinity was quite prominent in the late nineteenth century and more visible in that period's novels like Jane Austen's *Pride* and *Prejudice and Thomas Hardy's Tess of the d'Urbervilles*.

Interaction and Involvement: Motivational Issues in Teaching & Learning
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Training the teachers involved in different sectors is a challenging issue. When educators play the role of learners in any training session, their activities and engagement in the training activities provide valuable insights based on their learning preferences. This event has been designed considering the practical teaching and learning output from several teacher training programs, especially the motivational issues of the teachers. It is expected that this event can enrich the knowledge of the prospective participants from the findings of several ToT programs conducted by EfL in 2023. It can also be significant for passionate teachers since it can provide a wonderful opportunity to perceive some common but interesting teaching-learning strategies including learning motivation.

Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*: A Posthumanist Way of Revealing the Possibility of Cosmic Interconnection
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It is no secret that conflicts and discrimination among humans exist in every recognized civilization. However, with the unprecedented development of industry and technology, apart from impacting the lives of their own, humans are now able to influence the entire planetary ecosystem. In light of this reality, Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being* raises questions about the dualistic vision of humans that creates opposing binaries. The novel explores the place of humanity within the interconnected web of living and nonliving things. Its posthumanist perspective challenges traditional notions of human identity and promotes a sense of responsibility. Through the lens of quantum physics and Zen philosophy, Ozeki reveals the intricate nature of cosmic interconnection and a new concept of self that transcends notions of superiority or inferiority. This paper argues that Ozeki's integration of science and philosophy as posthumanist instruments underscores the imperative of harmonious coexistence between humans and nonhuman entities, highlighting the profound interconnections that bind all aspects of existence.

Examining University Students' Disconnection between Acquisition and Application of Academic Writing Skills in Bangladesh

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At the tertiary level education in Bangladesh (in both public and private universities), some foundation level writing courses are offered to improve students' overall academic writing skills. However, observations reveal that many students fail to apply their knowledge and skills gathered from these courses to their writings. In this regard, this study examines the possible reasons behind students' lack of connection to writing courses and its negative effects. Data for this qualitative study was collected through observation and semi-structured interviews of 20 students selected by purposive sampling. Moreover, 10 teachers were interviewed to investigate the effects of this disconnection on teaching. Thematic textual analysis discloses students' neglecting attitude, dependence on memorization, lack of practice, and ignorance of the importance of academic writing skills as some of the reasons why they fail to apply these skills into their writings. The effects are poorly constructed write-ups, and poor results of the students along with extra teaching load and frustration on the part of the teachers. Overall, the study intends to raise awareness and autonomy among the students so that they always connect the skills learned in writing courses to their academic writing in general.

A Psycholinguistic Study on Bangladeshi Children in Learning English Language

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Bangladeshi children usually start learning English as a Foreign Language (EFL) academically from grade-1, and continue to do so, to an increasingly greater extent, till higher education at the tertiary level or more. Despite learning English for at least about 12 years since English is a compulsory subject of study from grade-1 to grade-12 in the national education system of the country, there are mixed findings regarding the accumulated English language performance of Bangladeshi children. This research aims to explore Bangladeshi children's psychological facts regarding their learning English Language. The research intends to raise and explore some epistemic queries such as: do the learners consciously strive to learn English, or, do they do it by being forced to do so by their parents or any other agent? Are they aware of the benefits of learning a lingua franca, or are they compelled to learn it because of the existing social pressure or peer provocation? These are the questions this research attempts to find the answers to. The study applied the mixed-methodology involving both qualitative and quantitative approaches to gain a comprehensive and more in-depth understanding of the research problem. The sample population of the research was 50 primary school students from grade-4 and grade-5 from across the country. A semi-structured questionnaire was provided to the sample, and focus group discussions were conducted for data collection. The findings reveal that the majority of the school-going children do not nurture any substantial consciousness regarding learning English. They just go with the flow, although a little portion of them understand the significance of learning English.

The Impact of Overdependence on Chatbots in Autonomous English learning

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This research investigates the terrain of autonomous English learning focusing on the burgeoning role of chatbots and the potential repercussions stemming from excessive reliance on these tools. As artificial intelligence becomes increasingly

entwined with language education, comprehending its impact on learners becomes imperative. The research employs a mixed-method approach. It amalgamates quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews to find out the diverse aspects of chatbot dependence. The research includes 37 participants from the department of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), University of Dhaka to investigate the frequency and nature of their chatbot interactions. Concurrently, 10 participants offer diverse perspectives on their reliance on chatbots in interview sessions. Initial analysis reveals their perceived effects on autonomous learning. It is found that over-reliance on chatbots in autonomous English learning impedes creative problem-solving, diminishes intrinsic motivation, and introduces a psychological dilemma in learning motivation. The research recommends that combating overdependence on chatbots in autonomous English learning necessitates implementing a balanced framework.

Examining the Gaze Dilemma: A Comparative Analysis of Lacanian and Mulveyan theory of Gaze
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Embarking on a captivating journey, this study delves into the intricate realm of the gaze, exploring its complexities through Lacanian and Mulveyan theories. Rooted in psychoanalysis and feminist thought, Jacques Lacan and Laura Mulvey have significantly shaped our understanding of visual perception and its societal implications. The research aims to elucidate the intersections and distinctions between these influential perspectives on the gaze. Employing a multidisciplinary approach, insights from film theory, psychoanalysis, and gender studies dissect how the gaze operates in cinematic narratives and broader cultural contexts. The study systematically analyses Lacan's symbolic and imaginary gazes alongside Mulvey's concept of the male gaze, seeking commonalities, disparities, and potential synergies in their frameworks.

Influence of Social Media on Linguistic Trends
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This research focuses on the impacts of social media on linguistic trends. Social Media has become a part and parcel of human life. This paper explores how it has shaped linguistic use in new generations and social media users. Comprehensive online interaction has brought a change in sociolinguistic usage. This research highlights how various platforms of social media shape linguistic evolution. The study also delves into the roles of social media in creating new language norms, highlighting linguistic diversity and offline communication patterns. The different use of language in the new generation is focused on abbreviation, code-mixing, innovation, acronyms and all. This research explores how social media language has fabricated the way we talk, communicate and write. It also inquires into the social media language patterns such as hashtags, hyperbole and intensifiers, phonetic spelling, meme language etc. Mixed-method approach has been employed to conduct the research. This research contributes valuable insights into the evolving landscape of contemporary linguistics by exploring the dynamic interplay between digital communication and language.

Navigating Connection and Disconnection in a Post-Capitalist Society as Portrayed in the Film *Her*
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Spike Jonze's film *Her* (2013) redefines the traditional notion of human relationships. The film gives a glimpse of a futuristic

post-capitalist society where human beings are having a romantic relationship with an operating system. Using the Marxist framework, the commodification of the relationship between an operating system (Samantha) i.e., a non-physical entity, and the protagonist (Theodore) can be addressed. The purpose of the study is to critically analyze how the film explores the theme of connection and disconnection in a world where the relationship between technology and humans is blurred. The objective of the study is to analyze the recurring theme and motif of connection and disconnection that is dispersed in the film. The method of the study employs a qualitative approach with a close examination of the prominent scenes and dialogues from the film. The findings of the research aim to understand Jonze's perspective on technology in the context of a post-capitalist society which results in illusion and alienation. The approach of the study is conducted from a Marxist perspective on alienation and commodification. The film contributes to the change in the dynamics of human relationships in post-capitalist society.

Fitzgerald's Biased Portrayal of 'New Women ' in *The Great Gatsby*: A Comparative Analysis of the Female Characters

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This paper delves into the critical analysis of the presentation of the feminist ideal of the 'New Woman' in *The Great Gatsby*. As a flapper girl, Jordan seems to fit into the character of New Women and is criticized by the novel's author through the biased portrayal of her character in the reader's mind. Having grown up in a patriarchal mindset, Fitzgerald positions Daisy in the upper hand over Jordan due to her traditionalist aspect. The paper explores the controversial portrayal of Jordan and Daisy within a contentious patriarchal framework which raises questions about the author's concerns about the prejudices and traditional mindset. Upholding the intricate dynamics of women's roles, the paper scrutinizes the idea of the voiceless projection of the New Woman in the Jazz era. While judging women based on a male perspective, the paper sheds light on women's gender-based role in a sexist society. Bringing light to the interpretation that women's empowerment is still a thorn in the eye of a male-dominated society, the paper illustrates how Jordan and Daisy are portrayed differently to readers because of their contrastive roles in a chauvinistic society.

Detachment as the Common Trait in Gatsby, Pecola, and Loman: Analyzing the Role of Isolation in *The Great Gatsby, The Bluest Eye and Death of a Salesman*

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This paper aims to portray the role of detachment in F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel *The Great Gatsby*, Tony Morrison's novel *The Bluest Eye* and *Arthur Miller's play Death of a Salesman*. Isolation plays a significant part in the lives of Jay Gatsby, Pecola Breedlove and Willy Loman. All of the three characters were disconnected from their family and the society in different ways. This disconnection led to the death of Gatsby and Loman. Moreover, it is one of the major causes behind Pecola's self-hatred and insanity. Gatsby lived an isolated life for many years as he struggled to create a false identity for him. He never really connected with anyone. Through Gatsby's life, the disunion of the 20th century can be seen. Similarly, Willy Loman was a companionless person even though he had his wife and children. He never connected with his family members or other people in the society. In the case of Pecola, the sense of disconnection is more severe. The eleven year old girl had no one to

share her problems with. She struggled immensely with her own identity which eventually led to her mental illness. This paper will focus on the aspects of detachment or disconnections found in these three literature pieces.

Ambiguous Ethics of a Shunned Living

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Shirley Jackson's 1962 mystery novella *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*, gives an experience of psychological mystery looking at to what extent estrangement can last and ethics can be bent. Mary Catherine and her elder sister Constance live with their unwell uncle Julian at a massive isolated house, after the murder of their family, the suspect of which is Constance. In this paper, Mary and Constance's existence will be discussed through Simone de Beauvoir's *The Ethics of Ambiguity*. As the title of Beauvoir's work suggests, she discusses the ambiguity between freedom and restrictions of human existence. The questions of the authenticity of free will, conflicted with the conscious repulsion of the same as a defence against fearsome uncertainty, are analyzed by Beauvoir. In the story, eventually, Mary accepts murdering the family in the past but chose to let the truth remain ambiguous, deliberately tolerating the excluding treatment of the villagers and embracing a wishful detachment from the world in solitude with her sister. Here, Mary uses her freedom to suppress the freedom of her sister to be bound in her twisted comfort of isolation. With Beauvoir's explanation of shaky ethics of wishful ambiguity, this study attempts to understand the chosen but also imposed living of exclusion of the two sisters in their open castle.

Exploring Vocabulary Learning Strategies Among Bangladeshi Higher Secondary Level Students

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The study investigates the Vocabulary Learning Strategies utilised by higher secondary level students in Bangladesh. The study focuses on the vocabulary learning strategies of these students in both classroom and real-life settings, as well as the challenges they encounter while learning vocabulary. A qualitative study with a multiple-case study approach was conducted in two colleges in Bangladesh. Nonetheless, a vocabulary workshop was conducted with eight participants before a semi-structured interview. The workshop had two phases: 1) assessing the students' vocabulary knowledge, and 2) recalling vocabulary through word matching and short write-ups. The researcher found that participants used different vocabulary acquisition strategies in different settings. In classrooms, they used memorisation, L1 to L2 translation, mnemonic strategies, and synonym-antonym usage to acquire vocabulary. On the other hand, for real-life settings, the most favored strategies were watching movies, using social media, vocabulary learning apps, and learning through online games. During the vocabulary workshop, the participants faced some notable challenges, including spelling issues, difficulties in putting words in proper context, and problems with memorising and remembering words. The study's outcome is crucial for English teachers who can use the findings to help ESOL learners in Bangladesh improve their vocabulary.

An Analysis of the Role of Connection, Disconnection and Misconnection in Colleen Hoover's *It Ends with Us*
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This paper concentrates on the concept of connection, disconnection and misconnection in Colleen Hoover's renowned novel *It Ends with Us*. The concepts of connection, disconnection and misconnection drive Ryle, Lily, and Atlas's lives, the lead characters of the novel.In Ryle's and Atlas's lives connection and disconnection play a significant role.In Ryle's case, he deals with an unresolved childhood trauma which is related to the tragic death of his brother whom Ryle accidentally shot and killed.Although he is connected with his family,a destructive nature still exists in him. On the other hand, Atlas is kicked out by his mother and stepfather which leads him to an unstable financial condition. Despite staying away from the family being mistreated by his mother and struggling with depression and difficulties, still he is more calm and stable than Ryle. Disconnection from family made him independent. Lily the protagonist, whose childhood passed by seeing her father's abusive nature towards her mother. As a result, when her adulthood hit, she decided to stay away from her family. Lily and Atlas the teenage lovers got detached from each other because of destiny which they never wanted, this shows the concept of misconnection.

The Revival of Book Reading through Social Media
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Reading books is slowly becoming a dead practice in Bangladesh. Especially, COVID-19 facilitated people's access to digital platforms, significantly turning the young generation away from books. This paper aims to study how we can use social media as the most effective tool to bring us back to books. A survey of book reviewers and readers from Instagram, YouTube, and Facebook has been recorded to achieve this aim. Moreover, as a book reviewer for over two years, I will be showing new structures that can appeal to young readers. This study will be helpful for the teachers and policymakers in Bangladesh to comprehend the mindset and needs of students as well as design appropriate learning methodologies and spaces. This study will project that with the help of social media, we can relive the book-reading tradition and save coming generations from the darkness of ignorance.

Transitioning Horizons: Crisis Dynamics in the Local-to-Global Evolution of John Millington Synge's *Riders to the Sea*
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In contemporary times, our planet is often referred to as a global village, a transformation catalyzed by the Industrial Revolution and its associated factors. The adoption of neoliberal strategies, focused on singularly accumulating capital, disrupts the well-established local socio-political-economic framework. Instead, these very strategies enable the dominance of the vast global economy and political structures over local agencies. This essay aims to elucidate the critical aspects of transitioning from locally oriented socio-economic policies to global politico-economic policies, as evident in John Millington Synge's *play, Riders to the Sea*. The analysis underscores the adverse consequences of embracing

neoliberalism and capitalism. A qualitative research approach is employed for data collection, with the primary source being the play itself, Riders to the Sea. Complementary data is sourced from various secondary outlets such as books, research articles, newspapers etc

The Great Derangement of the Marginalized Bangladeshi
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In April of 2023, Bangladesh experienced one of the hottest days in its history which is a direct consequence of the transgressions against nature for the development of urban landscape. Such transgressions are due to the recent deterioration of numerous rivers of Bangladesh which this paper outlines through Amitav Ghosh's novel, The Great Derangement. Here, Ghosh identifies capitalism and imperialism as the root cause for climate change in South Asian countries; while I acknowledge that human-induced climate change impacts all individuals at the macro-level, further research conducted at the micro-level reveals that climate crisis is directly proportional to the economic disparities of the marginalized individuals. Through the context of Bangladesh, this paper argues that the day-laborers and poverty-stricken individuals in the rural and urban areas are the victims of strange weather conditions such as heatwaves. The affluent policymakers of the country may initiate mitigation methods in the form of shrimp aquaculture, but their self-interest is revealed in the form of lucrative export opportunities which declines soil fertility and exploits farmers who are never paid after leasing their land for cultivation. Thus, this paper utilizes the theory of social atomism to highlight how the disconnect between affluent and marginalized Bangladeshis entrenched in a cyclical nature of exploitation is the root cause of climate change.

Examining the Use of Technology in Teaching English as a Second Language in Bangladeshi Tertiary Level Classroom: Effectiveness and Challenges
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This study delves into the integration of technology in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) at the tertiary level in Bangladesh, surveying effectiveness and challenges. Engaging a mixed-methods approach, it conducts comprehensive interviews with ESL instructors, engaging thematic analysis to reveal distinctions in technology integration. Surveys distributed among students quantitatively assess the impact of technology on language learning outcomes, with statistical analysis identifying patterns and correlations. The research aims to assess the effectiveness of tools like language learning apps and online resources while also highlighting challenges faced by instructors and students in integrating technology. Findings contribute to ESL education knowledge, offering insights into technology's effectiveness in Bangladeshi tertiary classrooms. Connecting the qualitative and quantitative realms, the study addresses gaps in understanding. Implications extend to educators, policymakers, and researchers, providing practical insights to optimize technology use and overcome challenges. This paper aims to provide an overview of how this comprehensive mixed-methods approach offers a nuanced examination of technology use in tertiary-level ESL teaching in Bangladesh, shedding light on both efficacy and challenges for a holistic understanding of technology integration in the ESL learning environment.

Multimedia Applications for Teaching and Learning Phonetics at the Graduate Level: A Sustainable Approach to Education

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This paper investigates the use of multimedia in teaching and learning phonetics at the master's level of our country for sustainable education. The study is grounded on the importance of phonetics learning, Constructivism, and Cognitive Load Theory. The mixed-method research which is descriptive and exploratory in type is carried out by students' survey, students' interview, and teacher's interview. The sample population is the graduate students and the course teacher of English Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics in Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP). The sample size is 23. The research carried out to investigate the current teaching pedagogy of phonetics teaching and the use of multimedia in teaching and learning phonetics, showed that the use of multimedia in teaching phonetics has several advantages, including increased student engagement, language skill development, improved comprehension, and enhanced retention of information helping in sustainable teaching and learning. The paper promoting SDG 4 concludes by recommending the establishment of a language lab for the proper implementation of multimedia for better teaching and learning experience.

Cognitive Dissonance in George Orwell's *1984*: Navigating Contradictory Realities under Totalitarianism

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This paper explores the psychological turmoil of political oppression in Orwell's *1984* through the lens of cognitive dissonance. This study navigates how the tormenting policies and threatening rules make the citizens of an authoritarian state psychologically so dysfunctional that they are, at a state bound to accept the re-created, distorted reality of the ruling elites. Through a critical analysis of the characteristics of the protagonist and the imposed activities of the state, the theme of Doublethink is also explored as it is an assisting term in explaining the mechanism of the main study of dissonance. Moreover, a vivid discussion of the novel's characters and their gradual transformation has aided in pursuing a better understanding of a new cognitive canon of the text. Altogether, this paper projectiles the misconnection between the political elites and commoners. offering a unique lens through which to comprehend the citizens' acceptance of a distorted reality imposed by authoritarian rule.

Identities and Politics of Religion in Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines* and Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan*

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The political construct of the separation of India in creating religiously dominated states, in an alternate view, is considered as one of the most "obnoxious and monstrous holocausts ever witnessed" in South Asia and that very event has remained as the reason for the collective trauma, communal violence, massive migration and unforgettable memories for millions of people (Grover 238). Literature has responded in this regard from the very beginning of the postcolonial era. This work brings the discussion from two of the modern Indian historiographic partition novels Amitav Ghosh's *The Shadow Lines* and Khushwant Singh's *Train to Pakistan* focusing on the historical past, complexities on events and facts, the collective experience of trauma, lack of political precession and problematization of reality. Moreover, it aims to give understanding of

the politicization of religion and religious identities, investigating the reason for rising conflicts and riots among religious communities. It also shows a postmodernist outlook towards nation-state and the identities of its citizens. The ideas of imagined communities, bio-politics, ideological state apparatus, geo-culturalism and psychoanalysis are incorporated to understand the complexities of the modern nation-states and the linked politics of ideologies, identities and religion in the context of two of the novels.

Exploring Educational Priorities in Post-Pandemic Era: Tertiary Level EFL Context of Bangladesh
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An educational priority in a curricular approach to education is an idealistic assertion that defines what students will learn due to participating in educational opportunities provided by an institution or division at a particular college or university (What Is Educational Priority | IGI Global, n.d.). There is no denying that the COVID-19 pandemic has created the necessity of many educational priorities (beyond traditional teaching-learning practices) at different levels of education, which can play a significant role in ELT pedagogy in the present time. Therefore, this study follows a qualitative approach where I conducted semi-structured interviews with 6 tertiary-level EFL teachers from 5 private universities and 4 TESOL students from 2 private universities in Bangladesh, to determine the extent those institutions have incorporated the post-pandemic educational priorities, mainly digital resources, empathy, mental well-being, blended classrooms, alternative assessments, 21st-century education and skills, SDG (Sustainable Development Goals), and benignant usage of AI (Artificial Intelligence) in ELT. I analyzed the interview data through a thematic analysis while considering the participants' beliefs, attitudes, insights, and experiences. Finally, this research has explored all these priorities and provided pertinent recommendations on incorporating such priorities for further development of the Bangladeshi EFL context.

Exploring the Essentially of the Process Approach to L2 Writing
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This research explores the essentiality and utility of the process approach to L2 writing at tertiary-level. This research is vital in that it traces and depicts whether the process approach is useful – according to the teacher-candidates' opinions and the teacher-educators' experience– to evolve writing at the tertiary level. A mixed method, therefore, was employed to conduct the research. Through a survey questionnaire the quantitative data was collected from 36 teacher-candidates studying in the TESOL program at NSU, DU, and BRAC University. The qualitative data was collected by interviewing 6 tertiary-level teacher-candidates and 3 teacher-educators. The teacher-candidates acknowledge that the process approach is useful and essential. They have the time to think deeply and critically as they write. They can refine their produced draft by re-writing. They have enhanced their writing following the process approach. As per the teacher-educators' experience, the process approach is the appropriate avenue to teach writing. They also recommend that the insight and instructions of composition-- or writing--- studies should be enacted in tertiary-level education in Bangladesh.

Denial and Acceptance of Self: Study of Kamala Das's Selected Poems and *My Story*
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Indian English poets are part of a glorious and long tradition of Indian English writing, which has a 150 years long history. In Indo-Anglian poetry, Kamala Das is the first Indian woman poet who not only wrote extensively about the struggles of being a woman in a male-dominated society but also openly wrote about female sexuality, gender ideas, the desire of modernity and the position of women in the Indian context. Her poetry deals with a wide range of global concerns. She exposes how the patriarchal culture always tries to rule and try to emotionally control a woman in the name of love and responsibility. Through her poetry, she presents the world via the eyes of women, who are portrayed in a variety of positions, such as wife, lover, mother, and daughter, each of which has its requirements and viewpoints. She assumes all the roles and channels her traumatic experience and uses fantasy to portray the feelings, relationships, and desperation of several other Indian women. This paper aims to analyze Kamala Das's poetry and her biography through the lens of feminism, exploring the theme of the discovery of self and acceptance in the context of a patriarchal society. The study also explores the poetic techniques explored by Kamala Das to express the idea of emotion, and woman sexuality. Additionally, this paper also investigates the influence of Kamala Das's personal traumatic experience and identity formation on her poetic expression and the development of her feminist consciousness.

Writing is a Craft, not an Art
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The notion of academic writing is to elaborate ideas and to influence readers about the writing genuinely. The entire process needs to follow some directions. There are some linguistic features of a text. Academic writing scholar Helen Sword has a 10-point rubric about what great stylist academic writers do. These features are strongly maintained in academic writing. These are no abstractions. Her explanation of all these features of academic writing is very concrete. These features come out as a result of research, and that model of research is replicable. I would like to present Helen Sword's methodology of academic writing and thoroughly unfold. According to the level of analysis and dimensions, Helen Sword unravels 10-point rubrics, which she provided in her book "Stylish Academic Writing". These features are very basic and crucial for academic writing. Helen Sword is a passionate advocate of creativity and craftsmanship in scholarship, teaching, and the arts. Her book showcases a range of scholars from the sciences, humanities, and social sciences who write with vividness and panache. Individual chapters take up specific elements of style, such as titles and headings, chapter openings, and structure, and close with examples of transferable techniques that any writer can master.

Bare Bodies and Defiant Spirits: Exploring Resistance of the Bare Lives in the Naxalbari Movement and Partition Narratives of "Draupadi," "Khol Do," and "Thanda Gosht"
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This paper explores the profound area of human subjectivity and its relation with power dynamics in the context of the Naxalbari movement and the Partition of 1947, as depicted in the short stories of Devi's "Draupadi" and Manto's "Khol Do" and "Thanda Gosht." The central theme revolves around the symbolic bare bodies of the protagonist, which is a metaphor that

signifies the stripping of humanity from the protagonists. This paper examines the responses of these non-political subjects, who, in their state of bare-naked life, challenge repressive authority and redefine their role as political subjects. The paper critically examines the transformations experienced by Dopdi in "Draupadi," Sakina in "Khol Do," Ishar Singh and the unnamed Muslim girl in "Thanda Gosht". By analyzing their actions, non-actions and reactions in the face of oppression and extreme calamity, this paper argues that these individuals transcend their disempowerment, and then reshape their agency and political significance. This research seeks to illuminate the agency of the marginalized, as well as the inherent resilience of the human spirit. It asserts that the undressing of these characters is not only symbolic of dehumanization but also a way for their assertion of dignity and resistance. In doing so, this research contributes to a broader discourse on human rights, power dynamics, agency and ultimately emphasizes the capacity of individuals to challenge and redefine oppressive structures.

The Connection Between Artist and Audience: A Close Look at This Relationship As Seen in Kafka's "A Hunger Artist" and Its Relevance Today

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This paper explores the influence art has on its audience and the artist, how each side perceives each other, and the dependency that is crucial for both parties. According to the context of 'A Hunger Artist', the presence of the audience is much appreciated and compelling for the existence of an artform and its artist. Nevertheless, secondary literature occasionally delves into the artist himself, his sacrifices, and his isolation from society. Little work is done determining the perspective of the aesthetes, how they view the self-sacrifices of the artist, whether they discern if a sacrifice was made in the creation of a performance. Scholarly recognition of the hunger artist and his significance in the society is much appreciated, however, diving into the perspective of the audience and the dynamics of this relation is something to be discussed in order to get a thorough understanding of how art is appreciated in the society. The success of an artform is determined by its clientele, for whom the art is pressed into a suitable form, which eventually sets various boundaries beyond which the artist scarcely ever gets to exceed their limits. This paper will analyze the sentiment of the audience, how their role sets standard in entertainment consumption, how the commercialization affects the artist, and how the same dynamics can be applied in 21st century media consumption as well.

Politics of Modernity: A Postcolonial Reading of *I Will Marry When I Want*

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Modernity is a multifaceted and complex phenomenon. This cannot be reduced to a simple binary of progress or regression. Hence, this paper aims to provide a socio-political commentary on the nuances of modernity in traditional African society in the play *I Will Marry When I Want* by Ngugi wa Thiong'o and Ngugi wa Mirii. The paper will discuss how modernity is seen in postcolonial Africa. The faulty definition of modernity which was served in the text paved the path of new sort of colonization and created a new colonized army labeled as neo colonizer. Thus, the study will decolonize modernity that would demonstrate the wrong usage of modernity by neo colonizers of the text. By using Homi K. Bhaba's theory of 'Cultural Hybridity', this paper will focus on the interplay between tradition and modernity. Therefore, the multi layers of modernity would be addressed in the paper. Correspondingly, it will also utilize Marxsist's 'False Consciousness', to elucidate the perpetuation of oppressive power in the name of modernity. These theoretical frameworks serve deep insights of the

complex ways by which modernity operates in the play to connect the characters in a way to make them more disconnected. Overall, the prime focus of the paper is to dive into the broader discussion about modernity and its ways to hold the third world in the prison of inferiority.

Patriarchy as an Embodiment of Disconnection: A Feminist Study of Honour Killings in Light of *Othello* and *The Duchess of Malfi*

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Research on Honour killing (the murder of woman by man due to a gendered understanding of values and dignity) gained momentum in different contexts. This research investigates the theme of honour killing in two prominent Renaissance plays, William Shakespeare's Othello (1622) and John Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi* (1623), focusing on the politics of patriarchy and gender inequality in contemporary English society. Disconnections are manifested through the lack of communication between male and female characters in these texts. When societal expectations of individuals receive more importance than anything else, men become disconnected from their families, and themselves. A content analysis method was followed to elucidate the themes in both texts based on the feminist theory in connection with Marxism. The analysis indicates that patriarchal domination, uneven access to education and employment, absence of legal protections and awareness in woman rights, commodification and objectification of women, moral and religious values, class consciousness, jealousy, and miscommunication are the grounds of honour killings in these plays. This study reveals that honour killings in literature are but inspirations from real life phenomena and that legal reforms, women empowerment, community counseling, breaking taboos and other relevant initiatives would be beneficial to eradicate this dehumanizing practice.

Humans, Nature, and Culture in Bhatiyali Songs and Meyeli Geet: An Ecocultural Analysis of North-Eastern Bengali Folk Songs

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Since the previous studies on Bengali folk songs predominantly concentrated on the socio-cultural aspects, this paper explores the ecocultural perspectives of north-eastern Bengali folk songs, especially Bhatiyali songs and Meyeli Geet, and the interconnection between humans, nature, and culture of this region. By incorporating a mixed method, this paper attempts to shed light on the ecocultural elements of these songs associated with the topographical features of the large water body called Haor in the two regions of the Kishoreganj district— Nikli and Mithamoin. The quantitative data based on a survey confirms the hypothesis that the cultural practices are interwoven with the environmental features of this region. The analysis chapters include qualitative data which, firstly, assist in critically examining the ecocritical concepts of 'eco-consciousness' vs. 'ego-consciousness', landscape as a continuous history, Bakhtinian 'dialogism' and non-human voices, and wilderness reflected in the selected Bhatiyali songs and Meyeli Geet. Secondly, the next chapter, with an ecofeminist approach, focuses on the connection between heteronormative culture and the gendered perceptions of nature reflected in the Bhatiyali songs sung by men and Meyeli Geet sung by women. Through establishing an ecocultural canon, this paper aims to enforce 'ecocentrism' in the study of north-eastern Bengali folk songs.

Sign Language: Bridging the Voiceless with the Voices

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No man is an island,/Entire of itself,/Every man is a piece of the continent,/A part of the main. What if you have no voice to connect and your voicelessness becomes your barrier to connect through people? What if you cannot hear music but can see and feel it through your heart? What if you can hear music but cannot express your joy in listening to it? What if you cannot listen and express your joy for music at all? But you can see music with your eyes and express your joy by gesturing hands using sign language. Yes, sign language can become the bridge maker between you and the world around you by connecting you with the other living bodies around you, turning you into a specially abled body, can't it? Hence, this paper qualitatively evaluates sign language through its users, barriers resulting from not using it, consequences of using it, and thoughts intertwined with the area. The research paper tries to explore sign language in a new light of hope, expression, and identity creator.

Layers of Neocolonialism in *I Will Marry When I Want*

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This paper aims to show neocolonialism through the play *I Will Marry When I Want* written by Ngugi Wa Thiong'o and Ngugi Wa Mirii. The play deals with various themes but neocolonialism is a prominent one. According to Nkrumah (1965), The essence of neo-colonialism is that the state which is subject to it is, in theory, independent and has all the outward trappings of international sovereignty. In reality, its economic system and thus its political policy is directed from outside. The paper tries to show this indirect oppression. Furthermore, it points out the layers of neocolonialism from a social, cultural, and religious point of view with emphasis on neo-colonizers. The neo-colonizers also disrupt collective resistance that makes Kenya prone to continuous subjugation. Lastly, it shows that neocolonialism is an ongoing phenomenon that festers and affects the descendants of a country pushing them towards a bleak future.

Analyzing Victorian Male Psychology in Relation to Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess" and "Porphyria's Lover"

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A good literary work demands gradual and thorough development of the characters which somehow connect to the reality of that particular era. An individual's psychological development is highly influenced by the society, which later on determines the thoughts, perspectives, and reasoning. Similarly, male dominating society of the Victorian era affected the psychology of men which directly or indirectly helped them to maintain the patriarchal dominance in the society. In these poems, Robert Browning portrayed patriarchal male psychology perfectly along with its consequences in the society through marriage, love, and perspective of the speakers. Throughout the study, the main aim was to explore the male psychology incorporated within these poems by analyzing the societal background, and also by evaluating the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud. Certainly, besides id-driven desires, ego and superego played equal roles. His theory related to "Phallus", also helped to explore the possible and logical connection with the subject matter. Finally, to accomplish the purpose of the study,

a qualitative method has been followed, where the poems used as primary source of data and some journal articles used as secondary source of data.

Exploring Chat GPT in English Language Learning: A Study on ESL Learners from Public Universities across Bangladesh

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This research conducts a comprehensive investigation into the exploration of Chat GPT (Generative Pre Trained Transformer) for enhancing English language proficiency among ESL learners, with a specific focus on its usage, potential benefits, and challenges within the educational landscape of Bangladesh. The study involves students enrolled in English language-based programs at various public universities as active participants, employing a rigorous data collection methodology that includes Google-based questionnaires alongside face-to-face and virtual interviews, adhering to a mixed-methods approach. The research findings illuminate a spectrum of advantageous applications and overall usage of Chat GPT in English language learning. Despite its considerable potential benefits, the integration of Chat GPT-based learning confronts formidable hurdles. To effectively address these challenges, this research presents a set of strategic recommendations. Through the judicious implementation of these recommendations, the barriers impeding the seamless assimilation of Chat GPT into the English language learning milieu in Bangladesh can be systematically mitigated, ultimately fostering a more effective and triumphant English language learning experience.

The Usability of PWIM Materials in Bangladeshi Secondary-Level Learners' Language Learning

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Materials significantly facilitate language learning by providing visual input, attracting learners' attention, and making the class more interactive. Therefore, this study analyzes how PWIM materials can improve language education practices for secondary-level learners in Bangladesh, addressing gaps in the country's education system. The study involved ten secondary school learners in Parbatipur, Dinajpur who participated in a workshop and had a face-to-face interview with the researcher. The study findings indicate that PWIM based materials are preferred by the learners, the materials enhance students' engagement and language acquisition by utilizing their prior knowledge, through this material, they can gain new lexical knowledge, and break down rote learning processes through free-hand writing exercises. The study highlights challenges such as learners lacking prior knowledge, poor understanding, a tendency to copy, and increased anxiety during new experiences. The PWIM based materials can be implemented with the traditional textbook material to increase the learners' interest in learning.

The Role of Misconnection in the Colonial Encounter in E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India*

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E.M. Forster's novel A Passage to India explores the complex relationships between the British colonizers and the Indian natives during the colonial era. The novel explores the theme of misconnection between the two cultures, which is a result of British colonialism in India. The British colonizers are unable to connect with the Indian culture and people, which leads to

misunderstandings and conflicts. It examines the role of misconnection in these relationships and how it reflects the larger issues of cultural and political miscommunication between the colonizers and the colonized. The paper argues that the inability of the characters to connect with each other is a reflection of the larger issues of identity and belonging that were prevalent during the colonial era. Through a close reading of the novel, the paper explores how the characters' struggles with misconnection are a reflection of their own struggles with identity and belonging. The paper also examines how the theme of misconnection is used to critique the larger political and social issues of the time. Overall, this paper provides a unique perspective on the role of misconnection in the colonial encounter in E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India*.

The Harsh Insight of Capitalism: A Comparative Study on the Tragic Fate of Willy Loman in *Death of a Salesman* and the Garments Workers of Bangladesh during Pandemic

Susmita Farhin Pinak
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Death of a Salesman by Arthur Miller highlights the burden of capitalism which leads to many internal and external conflicts. The text depicts how much the capitalists cherish material means and lack humanitarian values. This paper aims to critically analyze the conflict between Howard Wagner and Willy Loman and the adverse relationship between the garment workers and their owners which is seen during the pandemic in Bangladesh. This study creates a comparison between the dismissal of Loman and employee layoff in the RMG sector due to Covid crisis. This study portrays the picture of the sufferings of the employees after their dismissal and criticizes the brutality of capitalism. This article further studies the characteristics of bourgeoisie society through the character of Wagner. The present discourse also demonstrates how the character of Wagner resembles the attitudes of the garment owners of Bangladesh during the pandemic crisis in 2020. The paper discusses the psychological conflict of the protagonist, Loman and reveals the unbearable mental pressure of garment workers of Bangladesh in the Covid crisis through his character. Furthermore, this research illustrates the role of the Bangladesh government in safeguarding the due rights and salaries of workers.

Jane Eyre and Chandara from Tagore's "The Punishment": Desire for Equality

Tabassum Ahmad
Student, English Department, University of Dhaka

Jane Eyre (1847) by Charlotte Brontë and "The Punishment" (1893) by Rabindranath Tagore demonstrate two strong female characters Jane and Chandara who aspire to become independent from the patriarchal shackles of 19th century society. In Spite of having two different continental and social contexts: England's higher middle class and India's rural Hindustani lower class, Jane's and Chandara's deep dormant desires of getting financial, familial and social equality like their male counterparts and their protest against unjust treatment draw similarities between them. Using the thematic analysis method, this paper demonstrates how they become warriors, where Jane leaves Rochester's house without money and does not consent to his proposal of elopement after being betrayed in marriage while Chandara accepts the death sentence willingly as she does not choose to return to her abominable husband who can defame her for a murder case to save his brother. These courageous decisions undoubtedly reinforce their individual female power, strong sense of self respect and unconventional boldness. This paper aims to highlight the feminist perspectives which became evident in the 19th century not only in Europe but also in the Indian subcontinent with distinct and individual perspectives. Thus, this paper holds

significance in introspecting the interdisciplinary aspects of literature and gender studies in two different continents, holding different socio-economic and sociocultural backgrounds.

Teachers' Beliefs and Impacts of Practice Teaching Course in Developing Teaching Skills in English Departments of Bangladesh

Tanjila Hossen
Lecturer, Department of English, Southeast University

Teaching Practicum courses in IML and BA/ MA in English Language programs is a very recent addition to the universities of Bangladesh. Very few universities in Bangladesh, pre-service teacher education programs, including TEFL, TESOL, and ELT that offer Teaching Practicum courses. Albeit the Teaching Practicum (TP) course significantly aids in teacher preparation, it nevertheless falls short in several crucial areas. This study unveils the magnitude of impact the Practice Teaching course in the Department of English in the universities of Bangladesh has on developing teaching skills, shedding light on teachers' perspectives. This paper follows the qualitative method to analyze data taken from six university faculties of six universities and through observation of twelve classes by implementing three theories: Stoynoff's (1999) TESOL Teaching Practicum Model, Kolb and Kolb's (2005) Experiential Learning vs Constructivist Approach, and Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge Framework (Mishra & Koehler, 2006). Reflecting on the findings, the paper unleashes a set of recommendations: modification in the Teaching Practicum course curriculum, liaison between universities, schools, and colleges to ensure teaching practice platform for trainee-teachers in real classroom context, integration of peer feedback and technology.

Global Chessboard: Power Dynamics and International Relations in Agatha Christie's *They Came to Baghdad*

Tasmia Islam Aurin
Undergraduate Student, Department of English, Northern University Bangladesh

Agatha Christie's novel, *They Came to Baghdad*, serves as a captivating literary lens through which to explore the intricate power dynamics and international relations prevalent in a global chessboard. This paper delves into the diverse aspects of power depicted in the novel, analyzing the interplay between nations, individuals, and ideologies. Utilizing a theoretical framework derived from international relations, this study investigates how the characters and events in Christie's work mirror real-world power struggles and geopolitical complexities. By examining the motivations, actions, and interactions of key players, this paper uncovers the underlying dynamics driving international relations in the novel. Furthermore, it explores the implications of these power dynamics for the broader understanding of international relations, shedding light on the nuanced interweaving of politics, diplomacy, espionage, and cultural correlations.. Ultimately, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of global politics and diplomacy.

Language Barriers in Multilingual Communication: Exploring the Dynamics of Connection and Disconnection

Tabassum Mahmud Ornab
Graduate Student, Department of English, Jahangirnagar University

In our increasingly globalized world, multilingual communication is a pervasive aspect of daily life. This study focuses on the impact of language differences on multilingual communication, exploring how linguistic diversity can either connect or

disconnect individuals across various contexts. Investigating scenarios from interpersonal interactions to international settings, the research examines language as both a unifying force and a potential barrier. The study identifies factors influencing effective communication, including linguistic proficiency, cultural sensitivity, and technological facilitators. By shedding light on these dynamics, the findings contribute to the development of strategies that leverage linguistic diversity to build stronger cross-cultural connections, fostering a more inclusive global society.

Internalized Misogyny Shaping Pecola Breedlove's Tragic Odyssey in *The Bluest Eye*
Tahsin Tabassum
Undergraduate Student, Department of English, East West University
Beyond the overt themes of racism and white supremacy, the research unveils the intricate layers of suffering stemming from internalized misogyny within Toni Morrison's novel, "The Bluest Eye," encapsulating the tragic odyssey of Pecola Breedlove. Through lenses of vertical oppression, the queen bee syndrome, and scapegoating, the pervasive influence of internalized misogyny on Pecola's fate is meticulously examined. Characters like Maureen Peal and Geraldine exemplify how systemic biases lead to microaggressions and self-devaluation of Pecola within a marginalized community. Moreover, Pauline Breedlove's transformation into a "queen bee" illustrates the result of isolation exacerbating Pecola's already fragile state, underscoring how the syndrome amplifies the vulnerability of society's most marginalized individual. Additionally, the cycle of scapegoating further emphasizes the insidious ways that ultimately propel her toward the tragic culmination by becoming the object of society's contempt, particularly at the hands of women who were supposed to be her protectors. The paper highlights the profound impact of internalized misogyny on Pecola Breedlove's life within Morrison's narrative, emphasizing its interconnectedness with external biases and internalized self-doubt and how these factors result in this devastating trajectory.

Moral dilemmas in Muhammed Zafar Iqbal's Juvenile Fiction: An Analysis of *Dipu Number Two*
Tamal Nag
Lecturer, Center for Language and Cultural Studies, Green University of Bangladesh
This paper wants to analyze the moral dilemmas represented in Muhammed Zafar Iqbal's juvenile fiction, Dipu Number Two. Muhammed Zafar Iqbal is a Bangladeshi author and scientist known for writing science fiction and juvenile literature. His works represent a wide range of subjects and characters dealing with moral dilemmas. This paper aims to understand themes, character representations, and narrative structures in his novel *Dipu Number Two* that try to provide moral characteristics such as honesty, integrity, empathy, and social justice. Through a qualitative framework, this study aims to explore the cultural and social backgrounds as well as the relationships and moral choices made by the characters in this novel. Finally, the goal of this research is to acquire a deeper understanding of how literature can be used to develop the moral qualities and ethical wisdom of juvenile readers.

Perception of English Language Teachers' on Adapting and Implementing the New Curriculum (NCF2021) in Khulna District
Tasmania Nawrin
Undergraduate Student, Department of English Language, University of Dhaka
From the academic year 2023, the National Curriculum Framework 2021 (NCF 2021) has been implemented in grades 6 & 7,

emphasizing student-centered and experiential learning, in line with global educational trends. This study dives into the English language curriculum reform at the junior secondary level in Khulna District, using a qualitative design. It employs in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, classroom observations, and document analysis to investigate educators' perspectives. The findings show that the curriculum promotes creativity, linguistic competency, and process-oriented learning. However, difficulties develop as a result of large classrooms, complex assessments, and a lack of writing and listening skills. Due to limited training and time restrictions, teacher preparedness difficulties arise. Balanced evaluations, progressive introduction, content upgrades, and comprehensive training are among the recommendations. Curriculum improvements at the elementary level, as well as increased parent and community involvement, are fundamental to success. This study is an essential resource for optimizing curriculum improvement in English language education in Bangladesh.

Storytelling as a Teaching Method: Effects on Vocabulary Development in Young Learners
Tasnim Rahman
English Teacher, Premier School Dhaka, Mohammadpur

Tahia Rahman
Undergraduate Student, Department of Economics, Southeast University
Young learners benefit from stories not just in terms of learning but also in terms of social interaction. The objective of this study is to determine the effects of the storytelling approach on young learners' vocabulary development and to identify which storytelling method maximizes young learners' expansion of vocabulary. This is a quantitative research where a convenience sampling technique method was used. A survey questionnaire with 20 items was used to collect data from the primary level teachers in Bangladesh. The major findings of the study shows that 67.7% teachers strongly agreed that storytelling has positively impacted on young learner's English vocabulary development and 66.7% strongly agreed that combining multiple storytelling methods boost children's vocabularies. Moreover 66.7% teachers also agreed with the fact that visual storytelling methods play an important role in developing children's vocabulary. However, 16.7% teachers are not sure about the fact that combining multiple storytelling methods boost children's vocabularies. Another 5.8% of teachers disagreed that students use vocabulary in their daily life which they learn from listening stories. Using storytelling as an educational tool can significantly enhance a child's language skills. However, further studies and practical applications are needed to fully understand its long term impact and effectiveness.

Unveiling Minds: Connection and Disconnection in Dorian Gray and Patrick Bateman
Tazri Rahat
Undergraduate Student, Department of English Language and Literature, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh
Oscar Wilde's Dorian Gray from *The Picture of Dorian Gray* and Patrick Bateman from Bret Ellis' *American Psycho* both portray vivid psychological complexities within the characters and invite psychoanalytic study. This paper deals with the two characters' complex psyches through the light of "Spaltung theory". In the context of this psychoanalytic theory, which focuses on the idea of psychological fragmentation or splitting, Dorian Gray's narrative unfolds as a consequence of his hedonistic character. His internal struggle between societal norms and personal desires is like a divided self. The portrait serves as a symbolic representation of this psychological division, embodying the hidden and deteriorating aspects of his psyche. On the other hand, Patrick Bateman's character reveals him as a reflection of the extreme and isolating nature of

1980s culture. His psychopathic tendencies, extreme narcissism, and violent impulses can be analyzed by considering the influence of societal norms and the impact of his upbringing on the split state of his mind. The notion of a split or fragmented psyche helps illuminate the complexities underlying Gray's and Bateman's actions and behaviors in this study.

Analyzing Partition's Impact on Survivors' Resilience in Bangladesh through Hasan Azizul Huq's Short Stories

Tuhin Uddin Roni
Undergraduate Student, Department of English, Daffodil International University

This paper seeks to delve into the ultimate impact of the partition on the resilience and survival of individuals in Bangladesh, mainly utilizing the phenomenon through the prism of survival commencement. This study is mainly based on three short stories authored by Hasan Azizul Huq namely 'Athmaja Ebong Ekti Korobi Gach,' 'Uttor Boshonte,' and 'Khancha'; in these stories, Huq portrays the aftermath of the manifests of partition through the characters by exploring their struggles, fortitude and their adaptive mechanisms in the face of adversity. Through a broad qualitative approach, this study employs close literature analysis and thematic examination to uncover the multifaceted effects of historical upheaval on human consciousness. Hasan Azizul Huq's narratives vividly depict the emotional and psychological landscape of post-Partition returnees, reflecting their resilience amidst chaos and displacement. These stories serve as microcosms, illuminating the larger socio-cultural fabric of post-Partition Bangladesh. The research identifies recurring themes such as loss, displacement, and the search for belonging, highlighting the complex interplay between individual resilience and the larger socio-political context. By dissecting the nuances of the narrative and contextualizing them in a historical context, this analysis aims to contribute to a deeper understanding of human responses to catastrophic events, emphasizing the enduring strength and adaptability of survivors amid the turmoil of partition.

Navigating Transnational Reading of Abdulrazak Gurnah's Text as A Gateway to Challenge Nationalism

Umma Maimuna Alam
Undergraduate Student, Department of English and Humanities, BRAC University

Transnationalism can be defined as an outcome of diverse dispositions and multiple belongings emerging together without reducing either the social context nor the national distinction. This paper examines how transnationalism provides altered space to the stories of displaced people or migrants beyond embedding their stories with nationalism. Gurnah is known as an 'immigrant writer', and his works shed light to the different perspectives of displaced people. This paper exemplarily analyzes the narratives of Abdulrazak Gurnah's characters in Paradise and argues that Gurnah successfully incorporated ambivalent experiences, displacement realities and hybrid identity strategically to contribute within the transnational narratives. Transnationalism provides extended attempts to depict the stories of migrants or displaced people. With the development of nation state and national identity, within the postcolonial contexts, nationalism plays a vital role while representing individuals or communities' identity and sense of belonging. Using postcolonial theory, this paper also focuses on investigating how Gurnah's novel contributes to transnational studies by not limiting character's categorization and dependence on nationalism for identification. Within the postcolonial readings, the narratives of displaced migrants are often seen through the lens of conventional migration theory as it limits the social context and sentimental effects of migration within nationalism confining the understanding of the migrated individuals' narratives. This paper attempts to contribute to extending Gurnah's work within transnational studies.

Exploring TBLT and Its influence on the Secondary ESOL Learners' Writing Skills in Bangladesh

Zarin Tasnim
Graduate Student, Department of English and Humanities, BRAC University

Globally, English language skill is a prominent competency for sustaining both in the academia and professional sector and as a result, English language teaching is becoming versatile with the passage of time. In second language acquisition, writing skill is considered one of the most difficult skills to acquire for language learners. Effective writing is a compelling way to become skillful in discourse, composing, analyzing, and critical thinking. However, the learners from the ESOL setting are most likely to lack sufficient knowledge of vocabulary, grammar structure, syntax, and semantics of the English language and encounter hardships in writing coherent ideas in academic tasks and these problems create writing blocks for composing well-organized thoughts in English. Usually, young learners are instinctive to perform literary tasks and creative activities to flourish their skills and the constant practice of language learning based on task-based techniques can accommodate to foster the writing skill. However, there are limited practices of implementing TBLT to enhance writing skills among students in the ESOL context like Bangladesh. The study has been conducted in a qualitative approach based on classroom observation, interviews, and discussions. The findings and discussion will associate the English teachers of secondary level in ESOL context to implement different task-based language teaching techniques based on the requirement of their learners.

Exploring the Cultural Canvas: Public Perception of Arts and Culture in Bangladesh

Zarin Tasnim
Undergraduate Student, Department of English, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh

The public perception of arts and culture in Bangladesh reflects a complex tapestry of attitudes and beliefs that have evolved over time. This analytical study delves into the prevalent negative perception of arts and culture in the society, shedding light on the age-old stereotypes that have contributed to this consequential view. Through an in-depth analysis, this research uncovers the underlying reasons behind the pervasive negativity and provides theoretical frameworks that offer a comprehensive understanding of this phenomenon. The negative perception of arts and culture in Bangladesh can be attributed to deeply ingrained age-old stereotypes that have perpetuated misconceptions and biases. These stereotypes often depict artistic and cultural pursuits as frivolous, impractical, or even detrimental to societal norms. Moreover, historical socio-economic factors, educational paradigms, and religious influences have played significant roles in shaping these negative perceptions, contributing to a lack of appreciation for the intrinsic value of arts and culture within the public sphere. One prevalent theoretical framework supporting the necessity of arts and culture in society is the "Functionalism Theory." This perspective posits that arts and culture serve as vital components of societal cohesion and progress, enriching communal life and fostering a sense of identity and collective purpose. Furthermore, proponents of this theory argue that a robust cultural landscape is essential for the holistic development of individuals and the advancement of a nation. Conversely, the "Cultural Capital Theory" provides insight into the factors fueling the negativity towards arts and culture. This theory suggests that entrenched societal structures and disparities perpetuate a devaluation of cultural pursuits, particularly among marginalized or economically disadvantaged segments of the population. As a result, these individuals may internalize negative perceptions of arts and culture, perpetuating a cycle of underappreciation and disengagement from these vital aspects of human expression and heritage. In conclusion, this analytical exploration illuminates the multifaceted landscape of public perception of arts and culture in Bangladesh, uncovering the impact of age-old stereotypes and underlying reasons for negative attitudes. By contextualizing these insights within theoretical frameworks, this study provides a nuanced understanding of the complexities surrounding this issue, offering a foundation for further discourse and strategies aimed at fostering greater appreciation and support for arts and culture within Bangladeshi society.

SCHEDULE
National Symposium
ENGLISH CONNECTS
December 8, 2023

8.45 am -9:00 am	**CONFERENCE INAUGURATION** *Address*: Arifa Ghani Rahman, Head & Associate Prof. Department of English & Humanities, ULAB *Address*: Prof. Kaiser Haq, Dean, School of Arts & Humanities, ULAB *Address*: Professor Shamsad Mortuza, Professor of English, University of Dhaka and Special Advisor, Board of Trustees, ULAB *Address*: Prof. Jude William R. Genilo, Pro-Vice Chancellor, ULAB
9.00 am -9.45 am	**KEYNOTE SPEECH** **Prof. Kaiser Haq** Dean, School of Arts and Humanities, ULAB **Connecting the Dots**
9:45 am -10:00 am	**TEA BREAK**

PARALLEL SESSIONS: 10.00 am - 12.00 pm							
ROOM	PD 101	PD102	PD103	PD 104	PD 105	PD 108	PD 109	PD 110
CHAIR	**Muntasir Mamun** Assistant Professor, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Nusrat Tajkia** Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Tanzia Siddique** Senior Lecturer, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Al Mahmud Rumman** Senior Lecturer, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Anika Tahsin** Lecturer, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Mehek Chowdhury** Lecturer, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Oliur Rahman Sun** Lecturer, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Jahanara Tariq** Lecturer, Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB
10:00-10:15 am	Rise of the AI: The Question of Authorship, Creativity, and Originality in Writing Courses. *Akibur Rahman Khan & Priyanka Akhter, AIUB*	Mirror that Swallows Palestine: Hidden Colonial Discourse in Levy's *The Other Son* *Abdullah Al Mamun, ESS School*	Exploring the Challenges in Implementing New Assessment Procedure in Secondary School Level of Bangladesh: A Case Study *Alia Rawshan Banu, Daffodil International College*	Unveiling the Limitations: An In-depth Analysis of Testing Flaws in EFT Books of NCTB *Abida Alam & Samira Khan, ULAB*	Reconnecting Nature with Human Beings through Unschooling: Contextualizing Local is Our Future (L.O.F.) by Helena Norberg-Hodge (H.N.H.) *Abida Sultana & Md. Imran Mia, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, Gopalganj*	Teaching the Art of Communication - Listening and Speaking: A Reflection Journey in Teaching *Kazi Bushra Orpy, ULAB*	Denial and Acceptance of Self: Study of Kamala Das's Selected Poems and My Story *Sabikun Nahar Mim, Daffodil International University*	The Usability of PWIM Materials in Bangladeshi Secondary-Level Learners' Language Learning *Sudhaditya Mondal,, BRAC University*

10:15 – 10:30 am	Denying the Truth: Approaching Albert Camus's The Stranger from an Existentialist Perspective *Afroza Khan, DPS STS School*	Capitalizing Aesthetics: The Intersection of Literature and Marketing in the Global Marketplace *Abdullah Al Mamun, International Standard University*	Turbulence in the Body and Mind: A Dissection of Al Mahmud's Jonakir Basha in the Light of Medical Humanities *Farah Binte Bashir, Uttara University*	A Psychoanalytical Examination of Pecola Breedlover in *The Bluest Eye*: Deconstructing Imposed Beauty Standards *Fariha Umme Anika Bushra, NSU*	Jean Piaget's Theory of Cognitive Development : A Comparative Study on Bangladeshi Children *Lata Moni, Green University of Bangladesh*	Writing is a Craft, not an Art *Sadia Tahsen Trisha, NSU*	Analyzing the Effectiveness of E-learning Platforms in Enhancing English Language Skills among Bangladeshi Secondary School Students *Abu Obaida, University of Dhaka*	The Role of Misconnection in the Colonial Encounter in E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India* Sumon Sikder, Northern University Bangladesh
10:30 – 10:45 am	Accreditation Body for the Mushrooming English Language Centres: A Call of Time? *Md. Jahirul Islam, Benchmark International School*	Chromatic Visions and Affective Landscapes: Exploring Emotion and Colour in Alfred, Lord Tennyson's "Mariana" and "The Lady of Shalott" *Afsana Rahman, International Standard University*	Connecting Tertiary Level Students through Teaching English in a Private University *Ilias Ahmed, Z H. Sikder University of Science and Technology*	Examining Process and Product based Writing Approach of Bangladeshi L2 Learners at the Tertiary Level *Abu Yousuf Musa, IML, University of Dhaka*	The Quest for Identity: A Comparative Study between Franz Kafka's "A Hunger Artist" and Mohsin Hamid's The Reluctant Fundamentalist *Faysal Ebne Zaman Rupok, East West University*	Mental Health and Gender Issues in the 21st Century as Reflected in Jonathan Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*: Social Perspectives *Mahabuba Nishat Tamanna, Northern University Bangladesh*	Politics of Modernity: A Postcolonial Reading of *I Will Marry When I Want* *Samia Afroz Ria, East West University*	The Harsh Insight of Capitalism: A Comparative Study on the Tragic Fate of Willy Loman in *Death of a Salesman* and the Garments Workers of Bangladesh during Pandemic *Susmita Farhin Pinak, Daffodil International University*
10:45 – 11:00 am	The Normal By-products of Imperialism?: A Chaotic Reading of George Orwell's "Shooting an Elephant" *Sultana Musfika Rahman & Syeda Bhumika Mahmud, International Standard University*	Translingual Pedagogy in English Language Teaching and Learning: Fostering Linguistic Diversity and Intercultural Communication *Kazi Humyra Wazeda, Daffodil International University*	The Reflection of Feminism and Freud's Sex-Desire in Sir Gawain & the Green Knight *Mainul Islam, Dhaka International University*	Navigating Educational Landscape in Bangladesh regarding Plagiarism: Teachers' Perception, Knowledge, Academic Responsibilities and Consequences in the Tertiary Level *Anika Sikder, Southeast University*	Artistic Mindset of Victorian Poets Influenced by Renaissance Artists *Horayra Fatima & Afnan Fatema Rodoshi, Southeast University*	The Impact of Overdependence on Chatb ots in Autonomous English learning *Muntaha Noor Meem, University of Dhaka*	Patriarchy as an Embodiment of Disconnection: A Feminist Study of Honour Killings in Light of Othello and *The Duchess of Malfi* *Samira Siddiqua Shiti & Abida Sultana, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, Gopalganj*	Detachment as the Common Trait in Gatsby, Pecola, and Loman: Analyzing the Role of Isolation in *The Great Gatsby, The Bluest Eye* and *Death of a Salesman* *Nazala Ryza Hossain, East West University*

11.00–11.15 am	Men, Loneliness and the Cosmopolitan City: Broken lines of connection in Teju Cole's *Open City* and Caleb Azumah Nelson's *Open Water* *Joutha Monisha, BRAC University*	Interaction and Involvement: Motivational Issues in Teaching and Learning *Mohammad Osman Farhan Al Harun, English for Life (EfL)*	Cognitive Dissonance in George Orwell's 1984: Navigating Contradictory Realities under Totalitarianism *Romana Ruhin Ridi, Notre Dame University Bangladesh*	Professional Writing Practice: Scenario of a Private Bank in Dhaka *Arpita Saha, IML, University of Dhaka*	Examining University Students' Disconnection between Acquisition and Application of Academic Writing Skills in Bangladesh *Monisha Biswas, East West University*	Magical Realism as a Mode of Political Resistance in Akhtaruzzaman Elias' Khwabnama: An Alternative Retrospect of the Bengal Bifurcation of 1947 and the Tebhaga Movement *Mahafuza Ahmed* *East West University*	Humans, Nature, and Culture in Bhatiyali Songs and Meyeli Geet: An Ecocultural Analysis of North-Eastern Bengali Folk Songs *Sanjida Akter, ULAB*	Language Barriers in Multilingual Communication : Exploring the Dynamics of Connection and Disconnection *Tabassum Mahmud Ornab, Jahangirnagar University*
11.15–11.30 am	Cultural Chasms and Misconnection in E. M. Forster's *A Passage to India*: A Semiotic Analysis *Md. Abu Sayed, Northern University Bangladesh*	Bare Bodies and Defiant Spirits: Exploring Resistance of the Bare Lives in the Naxalbari Movement and Partition Narratives of Draupadi, Khol Do, and Thanda Gosht *Sakif Mahmud Sobhani, BRAC University*	Influence of Social Media on Linguistic Trends *Nafisa Nawar Tanha, University of Dhaka*	Rural Tapestry of Bengal in Syed Waliullah's Lalsalu: A Colonial Perspective Dalia Naushin Ima, *Northern University Bangladesh*	Effective Strategies in Teaching Speaking Skills at the Secondary Level *Jannatul Fariha Mim, ULAB*	Unchained Butterfly Effect: a Critical Analysis of how Anger Suppress Other Emotions in A Passage to India *Mahmudul Hasan Safin & Ayasha Olieava, Jahangirnagar University*	Layers of Neocolonialism in I Will Marry When I Want *Shamim Ahmed, East West University*	Internalized Misogyny Shaping Pecola Breedlove's Tragic Odyssey in The Bluest Eye *Tahsin Tabassum, East West University*
11.30–11.45 am	Hybridity and Mimicry in E. M.Forster A Passage To India: A Postcolonial Reading *Lutfunnaher Keya, Northern University of Bangladesh*	The Presence of Toxic Masculinity in *Pride and Prejudice and Tess of the d'Urbervilles* *Miftahul Jannat Maliha, East West University*	The Connection Between Artist and Audience: A Close Look at This Relationship As Seen in Kafka's "A Hunger Artist" and Its Relevance Today *Samia Saba Arpi, East West University*	Unraveling the Enigma of Cholly Breedlove in Toni Morrison's *The Bluest Eye*: Victimhood or Perpetration? *Fariha Tabassum Tanwi, East West University*	The Effectiveness of Shadowing Techniques for Enhancing Speaking Skills among Undergraduate Level Students *Lubna Jahan, Green University of Bangladesh*	Teachers' and Learners' Vocabulary Paradigm: The Need for Effective Vocabulary Strategies in Tertiary Instruction *Mahzabeen Rahman Mahi, NSU*	Analyzing Victorian Male Psychology in Relation to Robert Browning's "My Last Duchess" and "Porphyria's Lover" *Sharmin Akter Sadia,* *East West University*	Teachers' Beliefs and Impacts of Practice Teaching Course in Developing Teaching Skills in English Departments of Bangladesh *Tanjila Hossen, Southeast University*

| 11:45 am – 12:00 pm | Exploring the English Language Learning Process of Ethnic Minority Communities' Students in Rangamati Area: Challenges and Prospects

Md. Asrafuzzaman University of Dhaka | Ruth Ozeki's *A Tale for the Time Being*: A Posthumanist Way of Revealing the Possibility of Cosmic Interconnection

Mohammad Yasin, East West University | Fitzgerald's Biased Portrayal of 'New Women' in *The Great Gatsby*: A Comparative Analysis of the Female Characters

Nahida Jannat Oishe, East West University | A Comparative Exploration of Parent-Child Relationship in Dickens' and Martin's World

Rafia Tasnim Rodela & Samanza Hasan Mahin, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh | Exploring Vocabulary Learning Strategies Among Bangladeshi Higher Secondary Level Students

Noshin Tabassum, BRAC University | Academic Success – Are My Parents' Educational Background Playing a Part?

Maimuna Shafiqul Islam, BRAC University | Exploring Chat GPT in English Language Learning: A Study on ESL Learners from Public Universities across Bangladesh

Sonali Rani Roy & Bony Gain, IML, University of Dhaka | Perception of English Language Teachers' on Adapting and Implementing the New Curriculum (NCF2021) in Khulna District

Tasmania Nawrin, University of Dhaka |

12:00 – 12:30 pm	**PLENARY SESSION** **Prof. Syed Manzoorul Islam** Professor Emeritus, University of Dhaka **English Studies in the Digital World: Restoring Human Connection**
12:30 – 2:00 pm	**LUNCH BREAK**
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	**PLENARY SESSION** **Dr. Abu Saleh Mohammad Rafi** Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities, ULAB **Monolingual University Meets Multilingual Students: Connection, Disconnention, and Translinguistic Fiesta**

PARALLEL SESSIONS: 02:30 pm – 3:45 pm							
ROOM	PD 101	PD102	PD103	PD 104	PD 105	PD 108	PD 109	PD 110
CHAIR	**Muntasir Mamun** Assistant Professor Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Dr. Mohammad Mahadhi Hasan** Assistant Professor Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Tanzia Siddique** Senior Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Al Mahmud Rumman** Senior Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Anika Tahsin** Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Mehek Chowdhury** Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Oliur Rahman Sun** Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB	**Jahanara Tariq** Lecturer Dept. of English & Humanities, ULAB

02:30–02:45 pm	A Joyful Odyssey: Illuminating Moments in Kindergarten Teaching: A Teacher's Everyday Story *Adneen Rahman, Sunnydale School*	Teaching English Writing to Bangladeshi Young Learners *Maliha Rahman, Yale International School*	Significance of Moral Education and the Ethics of Sufism in 21st-century's Human Life: An Analysis Based on Syed Waliullah's *Tree Without Roots* *Mahabuba Nishat Tamanna, Northern University Bangladesh*	The Revival of Book Reading through Social Media *Nafis Ahmed Bhuiyan, Comilla University*	A Comparative Analysis of Ideological Perspectives: Kazi Nazrul Islam and Henry David Thoreau *Ajrin Jahan, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	The Absurdity of Temporal Existence: A Camusian Analysis of Time in the Novel *The Stranger* by Albert Camus *Al Shahriour Udoy, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University*	Unveiling Minds: Connection and Disconnection in Dorian Gray and Patrick Bateman *Tazri Rahat, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	Intergeneration al Trauma and the Formation of Identity through a Diasporic Lens in Susan Abulhawa's Mornings in Jenin *Fatema Tuj Johora, BRAC University*
02:45–03:00 pm	Paradox of (Pseudo) Connectedness: Enigmatic Post-truth in Post-apocalypti c Fictions *Dr. Abdur Rahman Shahin, Khulna University*	Confronting Postcolonialism in Academia *Md. Naeem Imtiaz, Pundra University of Science & Technology, Bogura*	Multidimensiona l Images in Two Celebrated Films Aguner Poroshmoni and Shyamol Chaya *Md. Nurul Ameen, CCN University and Science and Technology, Cumilla*	Jane Eyre and Chandara from Tagore's "The Punishment": Desire for Equality *Tabassum Ahmad, University of Dhaka*	Virtual Reality: Preserving Lost Bengali Cultures and Historical Places – Unlocking Potentials and Charting a Comprehensive Roadmap for Smart Bangladesh *Md. Maruf Hassan Fahim, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	Threading the Pangs of Partition in Saadat Hasan Manto and Ritwik Ghatak *Fahmida Akter, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	Analyzing Partition's Impact on Survivors' Resilience in Bangladesh through Hasan Azizul Huq's Short Stories *Tuhin Uddin Roni, Daffodil International University*	'This is the Time of Sweet Sweet Change for us all': An Analysis of Lizzie Borden's 1983 Classic 'Born in Flames' Based on Nancy Fraser and Linda Nicholson's theory of Postmodern feminism *Ahnaf Md. Shafee Rahman, BRAC University*
03:00–03:15 pm	On the Problematic of Bangladeshi Anglophone Literary Tradition: Towards a Resolution *Kazi Shahidul Islam, Bangladesh Army International University of Science and Technology (BAIUST)*	Ambiguous Ethics of a Shunned Living Noshin Nisa, Independent Research *Ahmad Mahbub-ul-Alam, Bangladesh University of Professionals*	Storytelling as a Teaching Method: Effects on Vocabulary Development in Young Learners *Tasnim Rahman, Premier School* *Tahia Rahman, Southeast University*	An Analysis of the Role of Connection, Disconnection and Misconnection in Colleen Hoover's It Ends with Us. *Nusrat Jahan, Eden Mohila College*	Examining the Gaze Dilemma: A Comparative Analysis of Lacanian and Mulveyan theory of Gaze *Nadia Afrin Nigar, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	Connection and Disconnection in Philip Larkin's "Aubade": from the Perspective of Existentialism *Humaira Ferdous & Ishsath Jahan Khanum Sheuly, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	Navigating Transnational Reading of Abdulrazak Gurnah's Text as A Gateway to Challenge Nationalism *Umma Maimuna Alam, BRAC University*	"The Past is the Present": Disconnected Present in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey into Night* *Afnan Bintey Helal,* *East West University*

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03:15-03:30 pm	Exploring Connection, Disconnection and Reconnection: Ecocritical Analysis of K.J. Fowler's We Are *All Completely Beside Ourselves* *Liton Chakraborty Mithun, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, Gopalganj*	Transitioning Horizons: Crisis Dynamics in the Local-to-Global Evolution of John Millington Synge's Riders to the Sea *Piklu Kumar Paul, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, Gopalganj*	The Great Derangement of the Marginalized Bangladeshi *Raina Isabela, BRAC University*	Examining the Use of Technology in Teaching English as a Second Language in Bangladeshi Tertiary Level Classroom: Effectiveness and Challenges *Rasna Amin, University of Dhaka*	Navigating Connection and Disconnection in a Post-Capitalist Society as Portrayed in the Film Her *Nafisa Tabassum Aaleen, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	Identities and Politics of Religion in Amitav Ghosh's The Shadow Lines and Khushwant Singh's Train to Pakistan *Rupak Saha, University of Dhaka*	Exploring TBLT and It's influence on the Secondary ESOL Learners' Writing Skills in Bangladesh *Zarin Tashnim, BRAC University*	Politeness in Interaction: A Discourse Approach to Bangladeshi Politeness Marker *Farhana Ahmed Tonima, East West University*
3:30 – 3:45 pm	Global Chessboard: Power Dynamics and International Relations in Agatha Christie's They Came to Baghdad *Tasmia Islam Aurin, Northern University Bangladesh*	Moral dilemmas in Muhammed Zafar Iqbal's Juvenile Fiction: An Analysis of Dipu Number Two *Tamal Nag, Green University of Bangladesh*	Exploring Educational Priorities in Post-Pandemic Era: Tertiary Level EFL Context of Bangladesh *Shaikat Das, BGC Trust University Bangladesh*	Multimedia Applications for Teaching and Learning Phonetics at the Graduate Level: A Sustainable Approach to Education *Ridwana Islam Ruhama, Bangladesh University of Professionals*	Sign Language: Bridging the Voiceless with the Voices *Shabnam Musarrat, Jahangirnagar University*	Exploring the Essentially of the Process Approach to L2 Writing *Srejon Datta, NSU*	Exploring the Cultural Canvas: Public Perception of Arts and Culture in Bangladesh *Zarin Tasnim, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, Mymensingh*	A Psycholinguistic Study on Bangladeshi Children in Learning English Language *Mst. Asha Moni Ritu, Pundra University of Science & Technology, Bogura*

3:45-04:15 pm	**PLENARY SESSION** **Professor Shamsad Mortuza** Professor of English, University of Dhaka and Special Advisor, ULAB Board of Trustees **Stories beyond Armageddon: Rethinking Human and Nonhuman Interdependency**
4:15-05:00 pm	**OPEN FORUM** **Moderator: Dr. Mohammad Mahadhi Hasan** Assistant Professor, Department of English and Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)
5:00 - 5:15 pm	**Vote of Thanks** **Closing Remarks**
5:15 pm	**TEA & SNACKS**

Acknowledgments

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