

CREATIVE WRITING THROUGH LITERATURE

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Answer:

In some ways we all have been related to literature, be it a grandmother story we listen to or explaining some curious question to a toddler. Often human beings have dwelled in some imaginative world where there are no limitations. These are expressed as stories or poems that are passed on verbally or in a written text. Some of these become a masterpiece. So how can one be as creative as the masters of literature? Of course it doesn't have 'the answer', but my experiences in reading some of the best books have given me some insight on how we can become a better creative writer.

With over 500 million copies sold worldwide and translated to almost 80 languages, Harry Potter series have been one of the most read novels. Written by J. K. Rowling in the span of 17 years, the books have captivated readers into its magical world.

'Character is plot of the story' and it has been proved very well in regards to Harry Potter Books. We have Harry, Ron and Hermione as the main characters. Ron is fun and humorous but also who is likely to get scared in challenging situation. We have Harry who is brave but doesn't know everything. That is when Hermione comes, she is brilliant and clever, and she knows the solution of the problem or knows where to find them.

In a creative writing portraying a character is equally important to plotting the story. Here the story revolves around these characters that have their own charm. While reading any challenging part you know that Ron is going to freak out, Hermione trying to figure out the solution and Harry who has courage to fight against the evil. This is what excite the readers and keep them going on.

The next literary figure I admire is Laxmi Prasad Devkota. He was born in 1909 AD in a beautiful Kathmandu valley in Nepal. He is known to be one of the most prolific writers and who is also honoured with the title Mahakavi (Great Poet) in Nepali Literature.

His episodic love poem 'Muna Madan' written in 1936 AD is still one of the most beloved classics in Nepal. It is about a typical Nepali family where the husband

goes abroad to earn money and leaving his family behind. So how was Devkota able to write such fantastic writings? To find out it's important to study his childhood.

Devkota's father name was Til Madhav Devkota. He was a renowned Hindu priest (pandit). He used to recite the Sanskrit and Nepali shlokas and Devkota used to write it down using a bamboo pen. This was his daily activity in the evening from 4-6 for many years. It is because of this he fell in love with language and started writing poems.

From this we can infer that Creativity needs nurturing and exposure. Because Devkota was exposed to Nepali and Sanskrit language in his childhood he was able to nurture it by writing poems and stories and even reading aloud to his friends.

The other literary figure I learned most from is Jhamak Ghimire. She was born in 1980 in Dhankuta, Nepal. She is the author of 'Jeevan kada ki phool' translated as 'Life, a thorn or a flower.' The book is about her life story from a girl not able to speak, not able to move her hands to the one winning the prestigious Madan Puraskar award for her contributions in literature.

Ghimire in her biography describes how as a small kid born with cerebral palsy couldn't walk properly and was entirely dependent upon her parents and grandmother. Her small brother used to go to school and when her brother came back home she used to sit beside him and see him write. She was very fascinated by it and used to practice the same in the soil with her only moving part, her left foot. She writes, how difficult it was for her to write with her foot and initially how she even bleed her toes while inscribing letters on the ground.

Her passion for literature wasn't hindered by her speechless voice nor by her differently able body. She used her blessed foot to write, brush her teeth and even eat. She has said in her biography that she likes to do her own work rather than depend upon other people.

Reading the book makes anyone think about their life and their achievements. We are rarely grateful for our moving hands and feet, most of the time in a dilemma

on how to use them. Ghimire has given me a beautiful lesson that creativity isn't hindered by physical disability.

My own experience with writing isn't long. I always have loved writing but at the same time I have been scared enough not to put it on papers. Signing in for creative writing with literature class has given me a push against my constant fear of writing down my imagination. For instance, we had two exercises on writing a story. One was about writing a children story involving some natural phenomenon while the other was creating a story with the given cover. I was surprised at the results. It didn't turn out to be the best but it was good enough to be told as a story. I was amazed at my capability of writing stories.

From this I can infer that sometimes we need a push in order to do something we are afraid of, in this case to be a creative. Because most of the times we dwell in our upcoming 'perfect future' but rarely feel the beautiful change we are undergoing, we give up. I imagined to be one of the bestselling authors but was either too intimidated from my peers or was too scared if someone found a mistake in my writing. I felt terrible not being able to write. But now from a gentle push of my professor I am able to come out of my dream zone and work in my real life zone.