

PESE Lab - 1

- We got introduced to our faculty, Dr. Anulha Pundir.
- Dr. Pundir discussed various topics briefly, touching several aspects of the subject PESE. These topics are as follows:-
 - Basic discussion on the importance of time management.
 - Importance of a constructive feedback.
 - Learning as a dynamic process.
 - Some constructive vocabulary that should be used as feedback.
 - Why to stay calm and composed?
 - Forming teams and preparing 20 companies for interview purpose.
- Activity :-

Dr. Pundir told us to think of a song that we like the most. Most of us thought about some Hindi or regional songs that we like. Dr. Pundir asked us to convert the lyrics in English and sing the song in English lyrics one-by-one.

This activity was intended to open-up the students with the faculty and their classmates, and the activity indeed justified its goal.

Through this activity, Dr. Pundir hinted on the significance of communication and the ease of doing it, meanwhile breaking the ice amongst us.

→ Feedback :-

Dr. Pundir also suggested us to provide a feedback to every session of the lab. This way, we can be aware of our surroundings, the lecture we attend, simultaneously building up some new vocabulary. The feedback was supposed to be constructive and honest so that the faculty can also reflect on those feedbacks, improving the future sessions.

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- Dr. Pundir insisted on the importance of the first impression, and how one's attire/appearance makes the difference.

Activity:-

Dr. Pundir asked us to think and analyze the first 3 seconds when she met us for the first time and provide the session with the first impression she imposed on our minds. As a result, we all bombarded with a stream of thoughts.

Some of the single-worded thoughts about the faculty include elegant, detail-oriented, beautiful, spiritual, patient, deep thinker, straight forward, mechanical teacher, ~~and~~ ~~scary~~, tired, serious, and so on.

This activity was enough for us to know the huge spectrum of thoughts on just the appearance of the first few seconds of an individual. We got to understand the dimensions of one's imagination.

- Dr. Pundir told us about the "gut" of the individual and how does it present one's personality.
- Dr. Pundir briefly discussed ~~about~~ goal-setting. She emphasized on setting SMART goals for oneself, where SMART stands for specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound.
- Dr. Pundir differentiated Job Specification and Job Description. She also discussed Job Profile and mentioned their importance in an interview.

Ques.- What is the dream job you're looking for in the next 6 months?

Ans.- I want to become an ML engineer in the coming 6 months. This will take me learning advanced ML algorithms, EDA, data-visualisation and story-telling skills. This goal is achievable in 6 months.

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- Dr. Anubha Pundir acquires a Masters degree in classical dance. She tells us the importance of interweaving hobbies with our professional life and training.
- She elaborates on SWOT Analysis, and resume building.
- A good resume is often bulleted, with points starting on action verbs.
- She emphasizes on the importance of an effective self-introduction. A good introduction often comprises of :-
 - ⇒ A formal greeting.
 - ⇒ Name, location, internship being undertaken, qualifications, additional certifications, adjective to yourself, hobbies and passion, fun fact (optional).
 - ⇒ How well does one fit this job?
- My Introduction:-

My name is Siddharth Popwyal and I am pursuing B.Tech in Computer Science and Engineering from Graphic Era Hill University, Dehradun. Currently, I am in my 6th semester. I am keenly interested in the field of AI and Machine Learning and I've built projects on the same, one of which involves Facial Emotion Recognition using neural networks. I've completed a certification in Machine Learning through SWAYAM portal. Apart from this, I am also interested in UX design. In my free time, I indulge myself in singing, reading books, and studying Mathematics.
- Dr. Pundir shared the requirements for various job profiles that can be used to design a roadmap for oneself.

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Quotes of the week :-

- The only thing worse than being blind, is having sight but no vision.
- Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light.
- But safety does not come first. Goodness, truth, and beauty come first.

words/phrases of the week :-

Eloquent / Articulate → one with a good vocabulary.

Just another day → A usual / ordinary day.

Go with the flow → Adapt

→ Dr. Pundir emphasized on the attire / appearance of an individual. She told us about various layers of clothing in formals.

- Fresher's Self Introduction :- (30 seconds)
- ⇒ Name, education, hobby (e.g., I'm passionate about -).
- ⇒ Briefly mention 1-2 achievements / skills (relevant).
- ⇒ Enthusiasm) — why you're a good fit (1-2 sentences).
- ⇒ End with gratitude for the opportunity.
- ⇒ Incorporate conciseness, confidence, and relevance to the role.

Appearance is a tool. It can be used to attract attention and create an authoritative or welcoming look.

- A good introduction inculcates these 7 Cs:-
- ⇒ Character
 - ⇒ Competence
 - ⇒ Concern
 - ⇒ Creativity
 - ⇒ Commitment
 - ⇒ Communication
 - ⇒ Courage

→ Activity:-

Dr. Pundir shared some sample introductions and asked us to read them aloud one-by-one, and then simulate our own introduction using the same format.

Another activity:-

LOVE = 54%.

LUCK = 47%.

MONEY = 72%.

LEADERSHIP = 97%.

HARDWORK = 98%.

KNOWLEDGE = 96%.

ATTITUDE = 100%. → Attitude is Everything

SKILLS = 82%.

→ Holi Assignment:-

Watch two movies (one Hindi and one English) and analyze them thoroughly. Prepare a summary to both of them.

Holi Week

Quotes of the week:-

- And those who were dancing were thought to be insane by those who could not hear the music.
- Whether you think you can — or think you can't — you're right.
- Vision is the art of seeing things invisible to others.

Words/Phrases of the week:-

★ Picture-perfect → Everything as expected.

Smooth sailing → Easy.

Rollercoaster → Lots of ups and downs.

Holi Assignment:-

- Hindi movie → Mughal-e-Azam
- English movie → LaLa Land

(A mechanical)

Mughal-e-Azam (Summary) :-

Mughal-e-Azam is a Bollywood movie directed by K. Asif. It is one of the masterpieces of the Indian cinema and is a cult classic since ages. The movie is based on the well-known story of the prince of the Mughal Sultanat, Saleem and a kaneek (or courtesan) named "Anarkali". However, these two characters are important, the main focus of the lens resides on King Akbar and his son's lover, Anarkali, on how Anarkali's pure, selfless love for Saleem compels Shahenshah Akbar to bow against it. The notes have Akbar has been played by Prithviraj Kapoor, Saleem by Dilip Kumar, and Anarkali has been played by the

Venus of Indian Cinema, Madhubala.

The movie starts with the child Saleem who's indulged in a lavish, spoiled childhood. As his father finds this, he sends him for training of warfare. Saleem returns after several years as a young, responsible adult. ~~He see~~ Anarkali enters the welcome ceremony of Saleem, disguised as a ~~wax~~ white marble statue, mesmerizing everyone, especially Saleem. Both of them get arrested in each other's love. As Bahar (another courtesan of the Mughal court), jealous of Anarkali ~~knows~~ gets the knowledge of their love, she tells everything to King Akbar, who then arrests Anarkali, sending her to the prison. Even on facing tremendous atrocities Anarkali stays adamant about her affection and true love for Saleem. Akbar tries to convince Saleem to leave Anarkali but he doesn't. At the end, Akbar has to let Anarkali go, but since she was pure and selfless, she offers to help Akbar get rid of herself. She tricks Saleem to unconsciousness and leaves to court of Akbar forever. Akbar helps her escape through a hidden route, ~~posture~~ portraying as if she is dead.

At the end, Akbar praises Anarkali for her ~~is~~ true and selfless love and announces that she will be remembered through ages with her name, forever attached to the Mughal empire.

be like this o' better you
be like this o' better you
be like this o' better you
be like this o' better you

Quotes :-

- You are not what you think you are. But what you think
YOU ARE!
- You can't always control circumstances. But you can control
your own thoughts.
- There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so.

Words / Phrases :-

Benevolence → Kindness.

Scrooge → Miser, selfish.

Omniscient → One who knows everything.

PESE Lab 5 → our mid-term practical was scheduled on the 5th PESE Lab. Every student came with his resume and presented an extempore. Dr. Pundir gave various topics for extempore. On the basis of the student's performance, Dr. Pundir evaluated them. She also considered the PESE notebook for evaluating students and give them feedbacks.

In this session, Dr. Pundir took a motivational turn. She told us various stories of her life. Her experiences were one ~~of~~ ~~but~~ ~~of~~ truly inspiring. There are various learnings in her stories. In fact, it subtly suggests that every experienced person has a lot to teach others. She also discussed the future track of the lab.

Quotes:-

- Vision is the art of seeing things invisible to others.
 - One person with a commitment is worth more than 100 people who have only an interest.
 - Your day goes the way the corners of your mouth turn.
- ⇒ As Hugh Downs has said:⁶⁶ "A happy person is not a person in a certain set of circumstances, but rather a person with a certain set of attitudes." That's a powerful statement — and it's the truth. When it's all said and done, you, and you alone, control your attitude.

Words :-

Anthropology → Study of human races.

Omnipresent → One who is present everywhere.

Ornithology → Study of birds.

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Dr. Pundir discussed the importance of extempore. She also gave us a group assignment on extempore. She instructed the whole class to prepare a booklet of extempore topics and preparatory material on those topics.

Apart from this, she also started with essay writing. She briefed us about essays and instructed us to write an essay on any topic of our choice. She also told us to submit those essays so that she can evaluate those essays and give us feedback.

Quotes:-

- A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.
- If you're all wrapped up in yourself, you're overdressed.
- The secret of happiness is to count your blessings while others are adding up their troubles.

words/phrases :-

Claustrophobia → Extreme fear of confined spaces.

Acrophobia → Extreme fear of heights.

Thalassophobia → Extreme fear of sea.

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In this session, Dr. Pundir introduced us with concept of GDs and Debates, she also curated a class activity. She divided the class students into 3 equal groups and suggested one team to decide a topic while the other two debate on that topic. Then, she switched the roles cyclically. This cycled three times. Ma'am also inquired the task updates for the tasks she had already given us.

Quotes:-

- If you're positive and enthusiastic, people will want to spend time with you.
- Failure is only the opportunity to more intelligently begin again.
- He who loses wealth loses much; he who loses a friend loses more; but he who loses courage loses all.

Words/Phrases:-

Aquaphobia → Extreme fear of water.

Polytheist → One who believes in multiple deities.

Oligarchy → Government/Rule by a small group of people;

In this session, Dr. Anubha particularly mentioned Group Discussions. She emphasized on the need and process of group discussions, teaching the code of conduct of an effective GD.

She coined this session as one of her master sessions as she also shared some useful insights of hers with us. Such sessions are not just academically, but philosophically rich as well.

Quotes:-

- Do the thing you fear and the death of fear is certain.
- A mirror reflects a man's face, but what he is really like is shown by the kind of friends he chooses.
- We become part of what we are around.

Words / Phrases:-

~~Aristocracy~~ → Government by the small, privileged group.

Plutocracy → Government by the wealthy.

Anarchy → Absence of government.

→ Consider yourself an immediate winner when you take the step and do the thing you fear. That's right. You're a winner just by entering the arena and participating regardless of the result.

→ So when you get right down to it, there is no such thing as "failure" — there are only results, some more successful than others. Failure doesn't mean you've reached the end of the line and that success isn't possible. The only time success is impossible is when you quit. Quitting is final. But continued attempts, with commitment and diligence, can be turned into success.

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Dr. Pundir has also suggested some key attributes for the candidates participating in GDs in PESE Lab 9. Those are as follows:-

- (i) Eye work is important (strong/experienced eye contact).
- (ii) Attire/Appearance is crucial.
- (iii) Body language.
- (iv) Adaptability.
- (v) Assertive and consistent communication.

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- We submitted our extempore journal to Dr. Pundir as both hard copy and soft copy.
- She instructed the teams to prepare a PowerPoint presentation for pitch deck.
- She emphasized on debate, GD, and interview skills. She introduced us to profiling sheet that contains several interview questions that test the employability of a candidate in a personal interview.
- Dr. Pundir also showed us the resume of some of her bright students who have already cracked huge packages through on-campus/off-campus placements. She subsequently elaborated on resume-building.
- In resume-building, she defined the STAR method to explain any experience/project on oneself in one's resume. She advocated for its effectiveness.

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This session was dedicated to group discussion. Dr. Rundia set the ambience for GD and then called groups of 10 one-by-one for GD. Each group got 10-15 minutes for discussion and ma'am also gave feedback to each participant of every group. The GD topics were as follows:-

Pahalgam Attack:-

- Locals' involvement
- 4 militants - living with villagers
- Pak shaming (unsolicited)
 - ↳ Drugs
 - ↳ Brainwashing
 - Pakistan as the main culprit
- Importance of Kashmir for India, China, and Pakistan
- Failure of Indian Intelligence and lack of judgement.
- Sympathy for Pahalgam victims and the dead.
- Pahalgam as an easy target.
 - ↳ Secluded region.
- Be humble. Ask others if they have to speak. Even before concluding.

Live-in Relationships:-

- Helps knowing each other.
- Uttarakhand Govt. on live-in relationships.
- Exemplary story.
- Compatibility check.
- Parents' generation.
- Ethics
- Dating apps
- Mutual responsibility
- Sushant Singh Rajput's Case

→ Panel's gesture (time - please gesture) hints on concluding the discussion.

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Dowry vs Alimony :-

→ Female foeticide and Infanticide.

→ Dowry - Illegal "gifts"

→ Mutual discussion (gifts, not dowry).

→ Personal story about dowry.

→ Burden on girl's father - dowry.

→ Subtle aspects for dowry.

→ Alimony.

→ Exemplary case in alimony.

too

Quotes :-

→ Your friends will stretch your vision... or choose your dreams.

→ The secret of happiness is to count your blessings while others are adding up their troubles.

→ If you're all wrapped up in yourself, you're overdressed.

Words/Phrases :-

Polygamy → marrying multiple people at once.

Monogamy → marrying a single person at a time.

Foeticide → killing of a foetus.

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This was another session that involved group discussion among students. Dr. Pundir set up the previous classroom setting and we initiated the GD.

Should Reservation be banned?

- Snatches opportunities.
- People take unethical profit of reservation.
- It helps the weaker.
- It increases caste difference instead of reducing it.
- It should be fair for all castes/categories.
- It should check family/financial background.
- Everyone already has facilities and basic life-sustaining amenities.
- It must be banned.
- Equal cutoffs for everyone.
- Money manipulates (high corruption).
- shouldn't be banned but norms for reservation should be changed.

Are political parties using religion as a vote bank?

- Religion as a vote bank in democracy.
- Not votebank, but a medium to connect.
- It's not a flaw. Constitution doesn't restrain it.
- Connecting everything to religion is not good.
- Empathy is there in the same religion.
- Only the majority religion is favoured.
- Parties manipulate people around religion (even if leader is not capable).
- It's not the party's problem, but the people's.
- It should be the government's problem.
- People must be capable to vote for the good, not for the party/religion.
- Some use religion as vote bank while some genuinely interest in helping their community.

Is trolling culture good or bad?

- Trolling and criticism are different.
- Trolling hampers freedom of speech while criticism doesn't.
- People get paid to troll others.
- Trolling has its own pros and cons.
- People chase fame and short-term popularity.
- It depends on perspective / platform / intent.
- Carryminati, Samay Raina Controversy.
- Audience is wrong to consume this content.
- There's a line between trolling and roasting.
- Trolling culture has both pros and cons, depending on the perspective / intent. Let's define it. Let's emphasize on positivity, not fame and relevance.

Quotes:-

- A smile is an inexpensive way to improve your looks.
- Your day goes the way the corners of your mouth turn.
- We must all face the choice between what is right and what is easy.

Words / Phrases:-

Homicide → Killing of a human being.

Pulmonology → Study of lung / respiratory diseases.

magnum Opus → The greatest single work of an artist.

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This lab involved a group activity of arranging people in the right numeral order. Dr. Pandur also discussed the interview questions from the last sessions.

Write your career objective.

AI/ML Engineer - - -

Write two or three of your favourite subjects. why them?

Computer Networks - - -

Machine Learning - - -

Theory of Computation - - -

Tell us details about a project/training you've done along with your learnings.

FER - - -

Diabetes Predictor - - -

What would you consider a significant achievement and why?

What did you learn?

Anxiety noema — DAKSHAM 2.0 - - -

What would you consider to be your strengths? Tell us one or two instances where you've demonstrated your strengths.

Leadership

Adaptability

Intellect

Tell us about of weakness, what are you doing to overcome your weakness?

Overthinking → meditation/breathing exercise - - -

what was the most difficult moment you faced in your life? what qualities helped you overcome it?
COVID-19 → Education → discipline
→ Patience
→ Awareness

Apart from your academics, what else are you interested in? List separately in terms of extra-curricular activities, sports, etc.
Singing, reading, writing.

Give an example of an area, concept or thing that you are truly passionate about.

AI/ML, Deep Learning, mathematics.

What kind of people do you enjoy working with?
Passionate.

What are the things that frustrate you?
Lethargy.

What would people say when asked about you as a person?
Empathetic, energetic, friendly, passionate, - - - .

In the past year, what have you been dissatisfied about in your performance? What have you learnt from your activities in the college?

dissatisfied → my own book not completed yet.

learnt in college → affective computing, deep learning, statistics, GD skills, reading books, - - - .

What do you look for in a job? Prioritize and write in order.
Work-life balance > Salary that justifies my efforts.

Where do you see yourself in the next 6 months

6 months → Junior SDE

2 years → Senior SDE

5 years → Project Lead

10 years → Branch manager/head

15 years → CXO (CEO, CTO, etc.)

What motivates you?

Learning, Knowledge, Upskilling.

Who is your role model and why?

Not defined.

Tell us something more about yourself.

Habit — avid learner, passionate, enthusiastic, etc.
design/creative thinker

Quotes:-

→ Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope.

→ Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadows.

→ The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart.

Words / Phrases:-

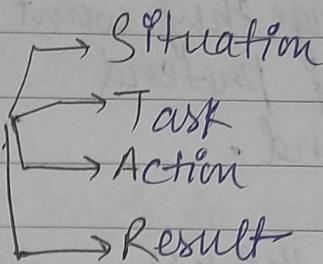
Nyctophobia → Extreme fear of darkness.

Bibliophile → one who loves books.

Etymology → Study of word origins.

PESE Lab - 14

STAR Method to answer situational questions



- Eg:- Tell me about a time you had to work under pressure.
- S { In our university's XYZ Project, we had to develop an e-commerce website with a team of 6.
- T { I was responsible for integrating the payment gateway while ensuring team coordination.
- A { I facilitated daily stand-ups to track progress and proactively helped a teammate who was struggling with UI integration.
- R { We completed the project on time, scored an A+, received praise from the faculty for the smooth team collaboration.

Eg:- Describe a time when you solved a difficult problem.



S { During my internship, our analytics dashboard kept crashing during peak hours.

T { I was asked to find the root cause and fix it without affecting the live application.

A { I conducted node testing, identified a memory leak in data fetching logic and optimized the query structure.

R { The crash issue was resolved and the performance was improved by 40%, reducing client complaints significantly.

Ques. - Have you ever worked in a team? How did you contribute to the team?

Ans. → Our team participated in an idea-presentation challenge organized by JAGSOM. We're a team of 3 and I was the team leader.

→ Our team was supposed to present a business idea that can survive the market in the year 2045. The idea was expected to outperform AI in an era where AI would've taken control of nearly everything. This suggested that we must refrain from using AI in our business.

→ As the team leader, I conducted online sessions with my team, brainstorming ideas and their feasibility as a business. Our team collectively came up with the idea of a web platform that bridges the gap between therapists and their patients, who need psychological help. We prepared a Figma design of the platform and we also developed a working prototype of the platform. As deliverables of the competition, we created a detailed report of the business plan and a PowerPoint presentation. I delegated all the tasks amongst us such that we submitted our model way before the submission deadline.

→ As a result of our consistent efforts, we cleared that round and became the finalists. We competed among 7200 participant teams and ranked among the top 72 that were selected for the last round. Since, the final round was in their campus in Bangalore, we unfortunately couldn't make it to Bangalore due to logistic issues, but we're happy as we made it to the finals in such a ~~short~~ close deadline.