



Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College

Rahara, Kolkata 700118

College with Potential for Excellence (CPE)

Accredited by NAAC with Grade A

Department of English Language
Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College, Rahara

Project work in English classroom:

The Parcel

A short film

To illustrate the features and skills of Speaking

By

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Learner

1st Year 1st Semester

B.Sc. Physics (Hons.)

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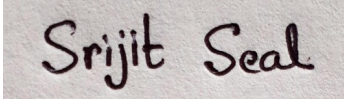
1st Year 1st Semester

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January 10, 2022

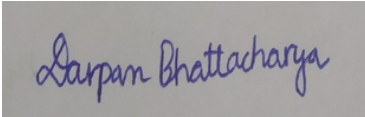
Declaration

I declare that I, Srijit Seal, a student of B.Sc. 1st Year 1st Semester of Physics Department, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College, Rahara worked on my English project on my own and I used the resources which are mentioned in the bibliography.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Srijit Seal".

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I declare that I, Darpan Bhattacharya, a student of B.Sc. 1st Year 1st Semester of Computer Science Department, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Centenary College, Rahara worked on my English project on my own and I used the resources which are mentioned in the bibliography.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darpan Bhattacharya".

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Introduction

Since the first outbreak in March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has claimed millions of lives across the world. Many more have been seriously ill and down with contracting the virus. As the numbers rise every single day, we all hope for a friend, a companion to help us during these tough and lonely times.

The short film, “The Parcel”, tells a story about how a friend, who, on learning that his friend has contracted the virus, lends a helping hand out for him. He helps his friend in all possible ways that he possibly can, offering help both through delivering food and medicines, and comforting him through regular conversations. He lends a much desired, and very welcome “helping hand” to his friend in need, who has been in quarantine for the past eight days, and will remain so for the next six.

Set in the cold and chilly month of December on the occasion of Christmas eve, we can see the friend consoling his friend, and encouraging him to make it through these tough days. Through various type of help, both physical and mental, he truly helps his friend survive the virus. The caring words and help, indeed help to bring a little bit of warmth and comfort light up his friend’s life.

We see a red box which was given to his friend, containing a letter. The box sent is a metaphor for hope, a symbol that there is still the light of hope in these dark times of adversity. There is still hope that one day, the world will return back to where it was, and people will meet again. There will come a day when there will be no more numbers counting, no more lives lost due to the virus. Students will return to schools and colleges, and adults will return back to their workplace. People will again be able to socialize and meet and greet each other in person, and share the joyful and happy moments of life together. We will no more be confined to an interaction confined to a digital screen and will be able to cherish life with one another again, with our friends, families and loved ones.

The two friends, who happen to be the only characters in the story, are kept nameless throughout the duration of the film. This is symbolic of the fact that it is not two specific friends who happen to have this experience, it can be any two people in the world. We must care and support our loved ones and friends during these tough times, in whatever way we possibly can. In these days of social distancing and home quarantining, a friend’s help is indeed very much desired and longed for.

Besides portraying the friendship between two friends, this short film also helped us develop and portray the essential skill of communication. It helped us develop and improve our communication skills and improve our communication fluency in the English language.

1.1 About Project Work

1.1.1 Pedagogical references of project work in the past

1.1.1.a What is speaking as a language skill

Speaking is the delivery of language through the mouth. To speak, we create sounds using many parts of our body, including the lungs, vocal tract, vocal chords, tongue, teeth and lips.

This vocalized form of language usually requires at least one listener. When two or more people speak or talk to each other, the conversation is called a "dialogue". Speech can flow naturally from one person to another in the form of dialogue. It can also be planned and rehearsed, as in the delivery of a speech or presentation. Of course, some people talk to themselves! In fact, some English learners practise speaking standing alone in front of a mirror.

Speaking can be both formal and informal:

- Informal speaking is typically used with family and friends, or people you know well.
- Formal speaking occurs in business or academic situations, or when meeting people for the first time.

1.1.1.b Listening as a language skill

Listening is receiving language through the ears. Listening involves identifying the sounds of speech and processing them into words and sentences. When we listen, we use our ears to receive individual sounds (letters, stress, rhythm and pauses) and we use our brain to convert these into messages that mean something to us.

Listening in any language requires focus and attention. It is a skill that some people need to work at harder than others. People who have difficulty concentrating are typically poor listeners. Listening in a second language requires even greater focus.

Like babies, we learn this skill by listening to people who already know to speak the language. This set may or may not include native speakers of the language.

To become a fluent speaker in English, one needs to develop strong listening skills. Listening not only helps one understand what is being said to them, it also helps one to speak clearly to other people. It helps one learn how to pronounce words properly, how to use intonation, and where to place stress in words and sentences. This makes one's speech easier for other people listening to them to understand.

1.1.2 Project work in a language classroom

The project work has been designed to improve and enhance the speaking skills, and in general, communication skills of the students. Speaking is an essential element of communication, and this project works helps us to improve and develop our speaking and communication skills.

1.1.3 The advantages of project work

Project work helps to expand the boundaries of education, beyond the textbooks. It helps us to explore real life skills, and improve our practical skills in life. This project has helped us improve and develop our communication skills, enhancing our speaking and expression.

1.1.4 Benefit to the learners

The project work has been greatly helpful to the learners, as it has helped them to develop and improve their communication skills. Communication is an essential practical skill in everyday life, and this project has benefited the learners by improving their communication skills.

1.1.5 Role of the teacher

Our English language and communication skills teacher, Prof. Manas Moulic constant support and help has been an essential element in the successful completion of this project. We are very grateful to him for his constant support and help in the duration of the project.

1.2 Stages of the project

The story of this film was finalized after exploring many different ideas. Inspired by the effect that the pandemic has had upon the world, we finally zeroed in on our plot. Both of us sat down and wrote the script for the film over a course of two days.

The entire film was shot over a span of two days, in multiple rooms inside our homes. The scenes were then put together and edited using a media editing application, and then the film was finally completed.

The project took a total of over ten working days, with multiple hours of work put in by both of us. We have tried to act and put on a performance best suitable to the topic of the project “Helping Hand”, to the best of our abilities.

2.1 Introduction to the project “The Parcel”

The COVID-19 pandemic has claimed millions of lives across the globe since early 2020. Many families were lost, many households were ruined. Many people lost their lives, and even more have lost their livelihood during this deadly pandemic.

“The Parcel” is a short film which portrays how a friend comes forward to lend a helping hand to another friend when he finds out that the latter had contracted the deadly virus. Set in the cold month of December, the film tells a short story of how a friend, through digital communication and material help, helps his friend to cope and overcome the effect of the deadly virus and brings warmth in his life.

2.2 Motivation for the film

The deadly pandemic has claimed millions of lives across the globe in these couple of years. We have all seen our friends and relatives, contract the virus, and some of them even lose their lives fighting it.

Since we have felt the pain of the virus, and experienced the problems, and situations that come with contracting the virus and eventual home-quarantine first-hand, we decided to set our story around that situation. The helping hand of a friend is always a welcome and well desired privilege during these tough and lonely times.

2.3 The film, “The Parcel”

2.3.1 Storyline

The film opens with the friend, who has been infected with the virus, hearing a knock at the door. He opens the door to find no one, but a red box outside his door. We come to know that the box was sent to him by none other than his friend, who has been helping him throughout his sickness.

The next scene cuts to a conversation between the two friends. Through the conversation between them, we come to know that he had helped his sick friend throughout the time period when he was down with the virus. It is just six more days of quarantine, and he would be healthy and would recover from the effect of the deadly virus. The friend has indeed extended his helping hand, and has gone out of his way to help his friend in need.

Set in New Year’s eve, symbolizing a new beginning, we reach the end of the film, when there is a knock on the door again. The friend opens the door to find a red letter, which contains “I hope you will pass it on”. He opens it to find the message “Helping Hand”.

2.3.2 Cast

Srijit Seal as the sick patient suffering from COVID-19

Darpan Bhattacharya as the person who helps his friend suffering from COVID-19

2.3.3 Technical specifications

Camera : Samsung Galaxy M30 (mobile phone)

Tripod : Digitek Lightweight DV Tripod DTR 340 LT

Editor : VSDC video editor

Video Resolution : 1920x1080 (Full HD)
Frame Rate : 24 fps
Duration : 2 minutes
Video Size : 364.55 MB

Conclusion

The short film tries to depict how a friend helps another friend in need when he contracts the COVID-19 virus. It tries to conform to the topic assigned for this project “Helping Hand”.

It has been a pleasure and a great learning experience to complete this project, and we are very grateful to be given the opportunity to do a project on such a wonderful topic. We have tried to complete the project to the best of our abilities.

Resumé

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<https://www.epidemicsound.com/>