

REPORT OF ENGLISH LITERARY ASSOCIATION (SHIFT - I) - (2017-2018)

The English Literary Association (ELA) commenced its activities with the inauguration of the **SPEAKPARK**, an innovative venture initiated on 27 July 2017 with Mr. A. Dinakar, Assistant Professor of English, The American College, Madurai in the chair. Around 55 students utilised the opportunity and showcased their skills in speaking. The learned faculty from various departments encouraged the students by their presence and suggestions for better performance. All the participants were encouraged with tokens of appreciations and certificates.

As part of the activities of the English Literary Association, the Department of English organized its tenth edition of **THEATRE FEST**, an inter-departmental drama competition on 16 February 2018. The event had been conceived to unlock the hidden theatrical potentials of the students and in particular to induce in them a fervour for English language. Dr. Uma Maheswari, Assistant Professor, Department of English, P M T College, Usilampatti and Mr. T. Moses, Assistant Professor of English, The American College, Madurai were on the jury. In their remarks, they offered valuable suggestions like space management in theatre, adapting one's appearance to costume and makeup, using relevant and essential stage properties. They also highly commended the initiative launched by the Department and applauded the performance of the dramatic personae. Students from seven departments showcased their multi-skills of theatre arts and exhibited their proficiency in communication besides entertaining the audience with their expert performances choosing an array of themes. The first, the second and the third prizes were bagged by the students of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics respectively. Rev. Dr. S. Basil Xavier, S.J., Principal delivered the presidential address. Rev. Dr. K. Amal Kulandaisamy, S.J., Rector offered his felicitations. Dr. S. Jesurajan, Head, Department of English welcomed the audience. Mr. Gokul, Secretary, English Literary Association thanked all.

English films were screened regularly for all I & II UG students to enhance their spoken skills and theatrical aptitude. With a view of promoting the presentation skills of the students, documentaries and audio CDs were played periodically. These documentaries and audio lessons helped developing their communication and the analytical skills. The ELA also displays words and inspiring quotes on the board for everybody's view under activities named **Wordsworth** and *Wisdom EverGreen* respectively. The Valediction of Speakpark was held on 22 March 2018 and Rev Dr Maria Joseph Mahalingam S.J., Assistant Professor of Social Sciences was the chief guest.