

**A Report of**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Live Panel Discussion Session**  
**at BISAG under GTU's ALVCOM Initiative**  
**on**

**Problems and Remedies of Teaching English in Technical Education**  
**and**  
**Methodologies for Teaching English in Technical Education**

*On 18<sup>th</sup> January 2015*

*Organized by*

**Gujarat Technological University**



**In an Association with BISAG**



# GUJARAT TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

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GTU has started the venture of Video Lecture Telecasting Series- ALVCOM with the help of technical aid from BISAG since September 2012 and successfully completed its 1<sup>st</sup> phase with a live broadcast of more than 148 lectures and continuing with its 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase with a broadcast of 400 lectures.

Under the same banner, GTU then planned for a Panel Discussion for English (Language and Communication) with the formal approval from honorable Vice Chancellor, Dr. Akshai Aggarwal.

For this, GTU invited 5 young English teachers as experts from four different Engineering Colleges of Gujarat. These experts got together at BISAG, Gandhinagar under GTU Active Learning Banner to discuss on two relevant topics:

- I. Problems & Remedies of Teaching English in Technical Education
- II. Methodologies for Teaching English in Technical Education



**Experts of the Panel Discussion Session**

**Brief Profile of Experts**

	<p>M.A. (English &amp; Comparative Literature) B.Ed. (English) Research Scholar (ELT)</p> <p>Teaching Experience: more than 6 years Areas of Interest: ELT, CS, Teaching Literature</p> <p>Asst. Prof. in English, Om Institute of Engineering &amp; Technology, Junagadh.</p>
<p><b>Mr. Imran Khan</b></p>	<p>M.A. M.Phil. (English &amp; Comparative Literature) M.Ed. (English)</p> <p>Teaching Experience: more than 8 years Areas of Interest: English Language Teaching</p> <p>Asst. Prof. in English, Marwadi Education Foundation's Group of Institutions, Rajkot.</p>
	<p>M.A. in English &amp; Comparative Literature Ph.D. (pursuing)</p> <p>Teaching Experience: 4.6 years Areas of Interest: English Literature and Language</p> <p>Asst. Prof. in English, Shantilal Shah Government Engineering College, Bhavnagar.</p>
<p><b>Ms. Dhwani Vaishnav</b></p>	<p>M.A. in English &amp; Comparative Literature Ph.D. (pursuing)</p> <p>Teaching Experience: 5 years Areas of Interest: Translation Studies</p> <p>Asst. Prof. in English, Marwadi Education Foundation's Group of Institutions, Rajkot.</p>
	<p>M.A. in English &amp; Comparative Literature Ph.D. (pursuing)</p> <p>Teaching Experience: 3.5 years Areas of Interest: Literature &amp; Indian poetics</p> <p>Asst. Prof. in English, Lukhdhirji Engineering College, Morbi.</p>
<p><b>Ms. Jagruti Bheda</b></p>	

The discussion was kept open by Mr. Imran Khan. He introduced GTU Active Learning Initiative in nutshell and made the viewer's aware all about this project and its sound result produced by GTU.

After the formal introduction of the experts, Mr. Imran Khan requested them to put their opening remarks on and for the topic, which was "Remedies & Problems of Teaching English to the Technical Students". The discussion was then kept open and the experts where not only they shared their experience of teaching English to the technical students but also brainstormed on some very relevant issues which could otherwise be untouched.

There were two sessions designed for two different topics to discuss. Each session ran for 90 minutes. The points they discussed are as below:

## **Session 1 (11:30 am to 01:00 pm)**

### **Problems and Remedies of Teaching English in Technical Education**

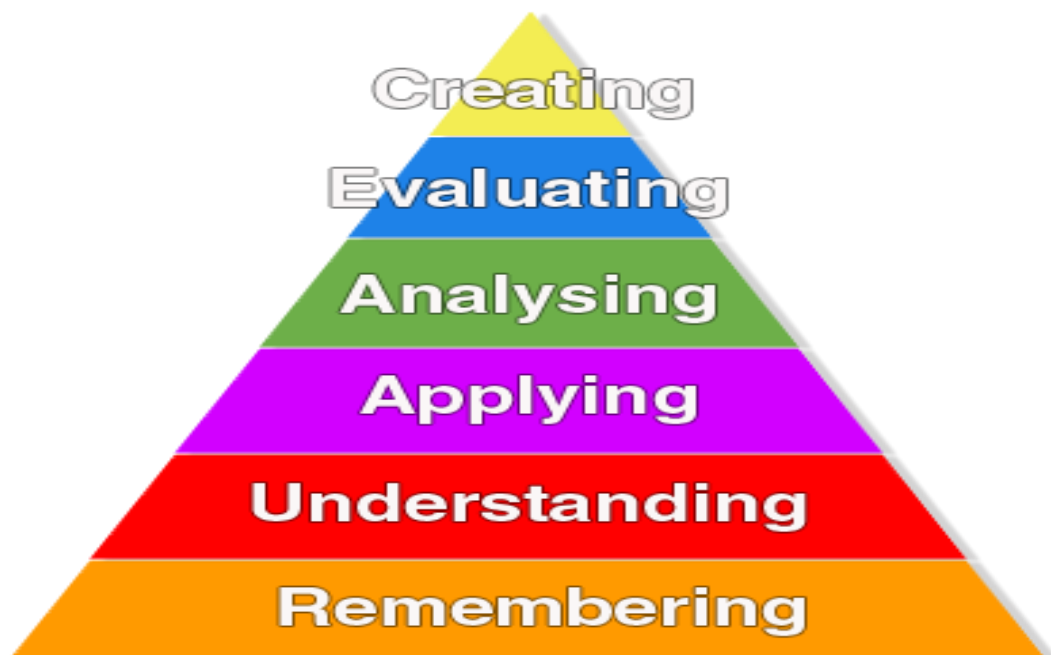
<b>Points discussed:</b>	<b>Problems:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Vernacular Background of the students</li><li>• Lack of awareness and orientation</li><li>• Dearth of ELT teachers at school level</li><li>• Technical faculty members</li><li>• Structure if the prescribed syllabus and its effects</li><li>• Workload and number of lectures allocated</li><li>• Students poor schooling and their reception</li><li>• Students' inferior attitude for English</li></ul> <b>Remedies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understand: What? Why? and How?</li><li>• Adequate Orientation</li><li>• Bridge Course</li><li>• Need based teaching</li><li>• Class Activities &amp; Teacher's Role</li><li>• Create an Environment</li><li>• Peer Group Learning (FDPs)</li><li>• ICT and its utility</li><li>• Understand ESP: English for Specific Purpose</li></ul>
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Session 2 (02:00 pm to 03:30 pm)

**Methodology for Teaching English in Technical Education**

<p>Points discussed:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Different Methodologies for English Language Teaching</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Grammar Translation Method</li><li>• The Direct Method</li><li>• The Indirect Method</li><li>• Functional Notional Approach</li><li>• Communication Language Teaching</li><li>• The Audio-Lingual method (ALM)</li><li>• The Silent Way (SW) (Caleb Gattegno)</li><li>• Community Language Learning (CLL)</li><li>• The Communicative Approach (CA)</li></ul></li><li>2. <b>Bloom's Taxonomy</b></li><li>3. <b>European framework</b></li><li>4. <b>Activity based learning</b></li><li>5. <b>Mode of Assessment</b></li></ol>
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**Bloom's Taxonomy**



## **Concluding Remarks:**

Good discussion is one, which ends with some new questions rather than just answers; so was this. The points discussed throughout the discussion really paved way to think and rethink on and about the teaching English to the technical students. The experts highlighted the role of proficiency and efficiency of language English by ESP – i.e. English for Specific Purpose.

We look forward for better understanding so far these two topics are concerned. GTU is committed to produce quality Engineers and in this venture each and every stakeholder has an equally significant role to play; ELT is one such stakeholder.