DEVELOPMENT OF SKILLS IN ENGINEERING STUDENTS THROUGH THE STUDY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

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ABSTRACT

Technological change in all fields has made the mind of engineering students mechanically busy that is detrimental to the development of the technology and industry. Worldwide, there is an urgent need to make engineering education more relevant, exciting and instinctually rigorous. I intend to provide an overview and perspective that the study of English literature proves a great tool to approach and look at different facets of life. It is through reading of great literary and poetic work, technical students may understand the life well. In many ways the study of English literature can change the perspective of these technical students towards life. The paper concludes by discussing different aspects of life that have been proposed to cope with engineering change in today’s unethical environment of the society. The approach to teacher to this art form therefore is important for these students can be transmitted while bringing delight and pleasure to growing mature students to think critically and logically to come to terms with their emotions attitude and prejudice. Literature is sometimes perceived as a study of taken in for these students to encounter the ideas and experiences of people throughout history. Students at this level of cognitive development have recently developed the intellectual skills needed to read, along with those required to decode. Literature is not only about the artistic and imaginative works of writers, it is about life and living; it is about human experiences so values can be communicated to these students through the study of English literature for their successful life.

KEYWORDS: Technology, Engineering, Detrimental, Development, Unethical.

INTRODUCTION

Through this research paper I Intend to make some observation regarding the need and importance of studying English Literature for engineering students. According to me, there is an initial need of studying English literature for engineering students to balance the technical skills as well as social skills. This will surely serve the purpose as English literature not only introduce engineering students to a range of aspects but also help them to develop moral values and discover life’s purpose. Literature includes poetry, drama, biographies, and prose
works etc. In every form, however, the idea of a story is present, and it is this, that ensures its value for young reader as well as pleasure and understanding. Benjamin DeMott approves this when he says that the whole scope of language, which includes literature, has to do with “individual human feeling, human response, and time, as these can be known through the written expression (at many literary levels) of men living and dead.”

HOW LITERATURE INFLUENCES ENGINEERING STUDENTS?
The main objective of this research paper to enthusiast engineering students to know more about live resources that may provide them the real success of their life. As “Literature just adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the desert that our lives have already become” C.S Lewis (British Scholar and Novelist, 1898-1963)

As we know that the field of engineering is becoming increasingly interdisciplinary, and there is an ever-growing need for engineers to investigate engineering and scientific resources outside their own area of expertise. However, studies have shown that quality information-finding skills often tend to be lacking in the engineering profession. The study of English Literature may be a guide to the wide range of resources in all fields of engineering to inculcate the different aspects of life.

IMPORTANT ASPECTS FOR INCLUDIND ENGLISH LITERATURE IN THE STUDY OF ENGINEERING:

- English Literature can deepen the thoughts of students because it interprets simplifies and focuses our experiences which realize the real facts of life.
- English Literature can see the things in a concrete and vivid way.
- It also inculcates a new way of thinking in the minds of technocrats about the world.
- Through the study of Literature, engineering students not only able to improve their vocabulary but also the language that can be used for specific purpose to deal with in their different career.
- Prose, poetry, drama, and fiction of the ancient times provide engineering students with the guiding principles of life.
- The study of English literature also helpful to inculcate the moral Values among these technocrats.
WHY LITERATURE IS IMPORTANT?

Basically English literature is defined as the collection of written work of language through different periods and different cultures by authors. The advent of writing marked a great step inhuman civilization for many reasons such as transmitting, ideas, events and even feelings. Through observing on the work of literature the readers can get a sight of the human beings and the society because, work of literature conveys emotions, experiences, and psychological explanations of human behaviors.

The literature of today’s world holds such great historical, intellectual, and social importance that these students can learn perseverance and strength that will help them to overcome adversity of life. As the famous George R.R martin once wrote, “a reader lives a thousand lives before he dies.” It’s extremely important for these technocrats to reach their instincts and follow their gut because sometimes they worst nightmare may be true, even if they are scared to face it So Self discovery of reading literature can take some time, but when they finally discover who they are, they’ll become inexorable because Sometimes It may be complicated for these students to see the light at the end of the tunnel but if they keep going through literary books eventually they will find it.

Apart from emotional quotient man is also equipped with Intelligence quotient and spiritual quotient. As per the present discussion, it is important for us to improve both our emotional and spiritual quotients on par with the intelligence quotients. One has to understand that all the above three, put together, can only make an excellent human being. And to emphasize more on emotional quotient is that it makes one understand how the others might get affected by his/her acts directly or indirectly, which is the most important quality that will spring the sense of social responsibility in everyone. Literature is really beneficial for promoting the following senses in the mind of these technocrats:-

- It promotes ethical Sensitivity.
- It is a great source of inspiration.
- It is also helpful in improving Communicating Values
- It is a high source of generating valuable emotions to be necessary in technology development also.
Stories have great appeal to children because they are so closely tied to experience. Stories inspire initiation and can take young minds into a world of imagination and wonder. Spalding and Hare say stories give pleasure, teach truth, and they add that God has put it into our nature to be interested in other people, and stories are the record of what other people have done. (1) Stories teach truth by the way in which good characters and bad characters are rewarded or punished.

Children between grades three to six can enjoy literature. As they face life's experiences in the reading of imaginative works, they are constantly called upon to respond. Often, this response involves moral judgments growing out of a values system.

When we focus on the human conscience we can never forget William Shakespeare's great tragedy Macbeth. The play gives us a psychoanalytical explanation of the main character Macbeth who is driven and deceived by the over ambition. Through Literary techniques like soliloquies and asides Shakespeare shows how Macbeth is ambitious to get the kingship. Before Macbeth assassinates King Duncan he sees an air drawn dagger which is created by his own imagination. "Is this a dagger which I see before me, the handle toward my hand?" (Macbeth, 2.1) Macbeth vacillates to take a decision and it confuses him to see hallucinations. Thus Shakespeare uses the power of language and Literature to manifest the inner conflict of his tragic hero.

**What sense does literature makes in the contemporary world?**

In this rapidly globalizing world, the community of readers and writers has discovered a whole new concept of ‘World Literature’, which although originated in 1820s, has gained pretty good significance only in the contemporary times. This idea of ‘world literature’ unfolds and redefines every classic text in a fashion that touches human feelings and emotions which are common everywhere surpassing the barriers of race, religion, region or ethnicity etc. It dissolves the regional or the religious framework of the text and escalates what emotions and dilemmas, a character has subject to. In other words, what Goethe has written in German in late 18th century may have its reflections in 21st century in India. Or what Rabindranath Tagore has written in the early 20th century in India might have its reflections in 21st century in Iran.

As far as the present argument is concerned, I would like to confine the domain of Indian context and argue upon what sense does world literature makes in our lives.
In the past 10 years, Indian economy has undergone drastic reforms and has set a stupendous pace of 8% GDP to itself, which gave a surge to the demand of skilled human resources in the area of science & technology. This is a very positive growth which has lessened the unemployment and is expected to wipe away poverty in the coming decades. This is also a growth of demand for scientific knowledge in the student community who seek to pursue their career in the fast growing industrial sectors like IT, software, engineering and management. As a result of which today’s life has become an unending pursuit of technical knowledge and applied skill. Students are asked to take extra hours in reading Physics and Mathematics. It’s a very well known fact that this passion to enter the field of science and technology has percolated down to the high school level, and of course there are institutions in our country which provide engineering or medicine oriented academic programs at the school level itself.

At this juncture an important question of what sense does English or regional language novel makes for a student has risen not only in the minds of teaching community but also among the parents and students. The question of why one has to read an English story when he/she is in 12th standard preparing for an entrance examination, or why an engineering or science student has to read English literature even after learning a lot of English grammar at high school level is the crux of our argument. What sense does classic novel makes in our lives? If we can learn Grammar through some relevant books there is practically no need of reading a story, then why do we need to have stories as a part of our curriculum when we don’t have any use of it? Why do I need to read of Kafka or Leo Tolstoy when I am a Project Manager in a software company; how does that be useful to me or my profession?

Or even if we are jobless, some of us find it a difficult task to take out a book and read through it, we would rather prefer to watch a movie or leisurely pass away time. Some of us really might have read through some books, but I assure, both of them have still enough reason to read through the rest of the article and digest this very little piece of text. I do not ask anyone to forgo movies or your favourite pastime and make book reading a daily ritual. But I would like to convey how important it is for us, and what kind of book makes difference.

**Imagination**

Bill Clinton always uses a line that says: “Children can’t be expected to live a life they can’t imagine.”
Apart from emotional quotient man is also equipped with Intelligence quotient and spiritual quotient. As per the present discussion, it is important for us to improve both our emotional and spiritual quotients on par with the intelligence quotients. One has to understand that all the above three, put together, can only make an excellent human being. And to emphasize more on emotional quotient is that it makes one understand how the others might get affected by his/her acts directly or indirectly, which is the most important quality that will spring the sense of social responsibility in everyone.

To explain with a better example, let us understand why should one read about Anne Frank or Lakshmi Kaur? How a book works on the mind of a reader is, that it virtually reconstructs every scene of the story or autobiography around him; and this depends on the level of imagination of the reader. After which, the characters and dilemmas of the story or novel, impinges on the reader more powerful than imagination. When one is reading about Anne Frank, one should be able to get under the skin of her and look at the world through her eyes, and experience the discrimination she was subject to, the agony and pain which she felt, and the reason why she had to, and the justification, that just because she was a Jew, should she die? One should be able to feel the suffering of the soul of Anne Frank reflecting in her words. One should be able to judge, and assimilate the conception of Nazis or someone else responsible for the event being unfolded by the book. That widens one’s moral horizons, not only to the extent of Anne Frank but in our everyday life. It is when we start thinking about the other person our emotional quotient comes into play. One should develop empathy to be a rational and more humanistic in nature. And as you keep reading more and more books each book has a plenty of characters of and plenty of dilemmas and each book exposes you to them in its own fashion. Thereby, one can get experiences of different complex situations, one might face in his/her life without actually experiencing them, and when such a situation actually comes, the experience nurtured by the book in your mind enhances your ability to handle the situation in matured way.

I would like to end this article with a word of caution, that every book necessarily does not make such an impression. Just like movies, even some books are also commercial in nature, solely made to entertain the reader make the book a bestseller. One simple way to make a judgment about the healthiness of a book is, if you find at least one leaf of the book reflecting your life or your relations, or at least if it makes you think that why such a scene has happened, leaving a lasting impression on the consequences of the scene, then that book had something in store for you!
Well, literature is written by human beings, and so it is about life at its core. People write about literally everything... there is no part of life that has never been written about, and so... it reflects and mirrors what people think. Sometimes badly, sometimes well, depending on how well whoever is writing can translate his or her experiences into words for others to read. In essence... literature *is* life... what remains of many lives after the authors have passed away, and the only descriptions we have sometimes of events that other people witnessed. Even fiction reflects life... deals with real human problems and emotions, and situations, even when in a fictional setting.

If you want to learn something, most of the time you read about it first. Hands-on is often important too, but we need literature in our lives just to get to that stage. How do you find someone to teach you something without reading about it, or reading about the person who can teach you?

Literature is even important if you never pick up a book, and only watch TV. ... Someone has a question about a television show... where do they go? Usually the Internet... and this is literature too. It is a bunch of people getting together and writing literature about whatever comes to mind. It's a sort of literature that appeals to almost everyone, because there are so many subjects and so much information, whether you prefer non-fiction, or whether you like your truth a little more diluted.

"Why Literature is important in our lives?"

Explanation through the works of Literature

When we focus on the human conscience we can never forget William Shakespeare's great tragedy Macbeth. The play gives us a psychoanalytical explanation of the main character Macbeth who is driven and deceived by the over ambition. Through Literary techniques like soliloquies and asides Shakespeare shows how Macbeth is ambitious to get the kingship. Before Macbeth assassinates King Duncan he sees an air drawn dagger which is created by his own imagination. "Is this a dagger which I see before me, the handle toward my hand?"(Macbeth, 2.1) Macbeth vacillates to take a decision and it confuses him to see hallucinations. Thus Shakespeare uses the power of language and Literature to manifest the inner conflict of his tragic hero

How often has one heard the question mostly posed by current students, Why must I know and take courses in literature? The question itself is not too surprising because many students do not feel they need any of the education they are getting to continue their life. What is surprising is how the answer to this question is not near as obvious to them as the thought of
asking it in the first place. The question of why literature matters can be answered in so many different ways and examples, but the answers are too often wasted by those of a cynical mindset. The literature of today’s world holds such great historical, intellectual, and societal importance that within the remaining text, as one student to another, I will explain why it may be important and should matter greatly to them. One key importance literature holds for its readers is a reflection of our history. Books and other literary works, set in certain time periods, often refer to the events, acceptances, and understandings of its particular era. As stated in the poem The Chimney Sweeper by William Blake, “And my father sold me while yet my tongue could scarcely cry…so your chimneys I swee

Dear parents!
Attendance of your ward is below 75% till 9-3-13 So plz pay attention otherwise he/she will not able to appear in minor test
II and his result well be poor.
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Can it help them develop moral values and discover life's purpose? Can literature be taught in a way to provide pleasure and benefit for young readers?
Literature is not only about the artistic and imaginative works of writers, it is also about life and living; it is about human experience and humanness. Benjamin DeMott endorses this when he says that the whole scope of language, which includes literature, has to do with "individual human feeling, human response, and human time, as these can be known through the written expression (at many literary levels) of men living and dead."

CONCLUSION
Since, English literature appeals to our feelings and senses, it also enriches our emotional and social life. It is through reading such great literary and poetic works that one can understands life thoroughly as all these literary works help these youngsters to take a closer look at the different facets of life. In many ways it can change one’s perspective towards life. Life of brilliant writers, novelist, dramatists and poets, who have made a valuable contribution to society through their writing, are sketched in their biographies. These works give the readers
an insight into the lives of these eminent people. Thus, literature is concrete and appeals to
wake up our senses. The approach to adopt this art form for these students therefore is
important in helping these youngsters to think critically and logically to come to terms with
their emotions, attitude and prejudices. Thus, this paper proves to examine the variety of
perspectives on the role of literature in moral education and importance of literature in the
life of these modern engineers.

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