

Workshop on Creative Writing

Indiana University- India Gateway

It was eight in the morning and the sun was already very bright. All five of us along with Monika Ma'am and were waiting at the reception for the cab which we had booked. Within fifteen minutes, the cab arrived and we left for our destination- Indiana University- India Gateway, Defence Colony. The place was so newly built that we were even able to smell the plaster on the walls. On the first floor we went inside a large conference room where there were students from other schools as well. The resource persons- Brianna, Samrat and Sully were there to welcome us. Within half an hour, all the schools had arrived and at around 9:30 we commenced the workshop. Mr. Samrat, one of the organizers, started the programme by giving a brief introduction about himself.

Soon after that we started with the first exercise. It was called 'Metaphor-making'. It was the most interesting activity of all and one I found the most challenging. We were asked to note down the emotion that we were feeling at that point and describe it with the help of a concrete image. Mr. Sully, a scholar and Assistant Professor at Indiana University asked us to make three metaphors with the same word. He later remarked, "we writers never get the best metaphors at one single go, we keep on polishing and try to bring out the best."

The next activity was 'Make a Character'. Brianne, our second resource person asked us to jot down 20 things about ourselves. After we had listed the things, we exchanged our notebooks with our partners and picked out one characteristic that revealed the most about the other person.

After a short break, Mr. Sully began with the activity 'Descriptive Writing' He asked us to list down five most important spaces in our lives. He then asked us to encircle the most important space out of those five. We had to mention the most important room of that building and imagine that we are seated there and list down the things we could see, hear, smell, and feel. We wrote a short paragraph imagining ourselves to be present at that point of time. One student from each school read out what they had written. At the end of the exercise they suggested that if we want the readers to be a part of our story we need to use all five sense organs and provide specific concrete details.

The workshop got over at 12.00p.m after which there was a short interactive session. At around 12.30p.m we dispersed for lunch and got a chance to befriend students from other schools. We thank Koshi ma'am for giving us the opportunity to be a part of the workshop. It helped us to hone our writing skills and gave us the time to enjoy and interact with students from all over the city.

K. Archit

Divisha Makker

Ishan Jain

Pratyusha Biswas

V. Srinidhi