

# VESLang CIRCLE

**Staff in-charge:** Dr. Geeta Ajit

**Student head and coordinator:** Grusha Shetty (D11A)

**Senior deputy in-charge:**

Mohit Khiani (D17A)

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Parag Coimbatore (D8)

The VESLang circle began the course of its journey in Feb 2021, under the guidance of Dr. Geeta Ajit. The logo of the VESLang circle designed by Abhiram Phadnis (D6) accurately depicts the essence of this team and its objective which is, to assist the students of VESIT to improve upon their linguistic and soft skills. This job was executed by organizing a 'Personal and Professional Achievement' program that comprised of a set of sessions spread along a course of 6 weeks. Two sessions were coordinated per week, on Mondays and Thursdays. The session on every Monday was led by VESIT alumni and the other session, by the VESLang team. Specific activities and exercises were devised and implemented in every session that guided the attendees to enhance their skills. The P&PA program covered areas like extempore, group discussions and personal interviews.

## SESSIONS AND ACTIVITIES:

The P&PA program was expanded over 6 weeks with two sessions per week. The first session of each week was directed by VESIT alumni and a similar session was arranged by the team on Thursdays. The program commenced on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 with its first session led by Padmaja Borwankar from 2020 batch of computer science department. The first session was intended to be a conversation starter wherein the participants became more acquainted with one another and were made to feel comfortable. The session commenced with Padmaja asking the attendees about what they were expecting from this program after which she proceeded with the first activity for the session, wherein all the attendees were asked to talk about one happy memory in their lives. After been given some time to

contemplate over it, the attendees were asked to first introduce themselves and subsequently share the happy memory with everyone. In the second activity the attendees were expected to ask the next person on the list a random question and the answers to the same were expected to be elaborative as opposed to a yes/no. The first session seemed to be a success as the objective, of ensuring that all the attendees spoke without the fear of public speaking, was met. The second session was conducted by the team and Geeta ma'am. The team had arranged two exercises for the day, the first one being BOTS that is, battle of thirty seconds. For this, the students were divided into 3 groups and one member from each group was to go against each other. This activity helped the students to efficiently shape their thoughts. The second activity for the day was 'excuses Berwanger'. This was to help the students think creatively and put their creativity into words. The activity involved us giving the attendees a sticky situation that they had to escape by giving a very convincing and creative excuse, hence the name.

The third session of the program was directed by Gayatri Belapurkar from 2020 batch of information technology department and Sonali Gaitonde from 2020 batch of instrumentation department. For the first exercise that was arranged, the attendees were paired up and were expected to introduce each other. They were required to discuss about the other individual, their inclinations, desires, and even make assumptions about them. The subsequent exercise was more disposed towards improving their abilities of extemporaneous talking. The alumni had arranged a ppt presentation with a variety of pictures and themes. Each participant was first given a theme and then was presented with a picture that they had to talk about while relating it to the given theme which proved to be exceptionally engaging. This ensured that they could share their point of views without hesitating and hence, it assisted them with their confidence. The fourth session was arranged by the team and Geeta ma'am and the goal was to conduct some exercises that would assist them with their speaking skills. For the first activity, the students were given a set of fictional characters wherefrom they had to choose a pair and afterwards frame and narrate a story revolving around them. The second activity, 'danger word' was more of a fun activity. Apart from proving to be entertaining and engaging, this activity also required the students to think quicker and smarter. The fourth session was the last of the ice breakers and speaking exercises.

The fifth session was led by Anahita Goswami and Akshara Sarfare from 2020 batch of EXTC department. Their course of action was to acquaint the attendees to group discussions and its protocols. Subsequently, the attendees were divided into 4 groups for mock group discussions. Each group was assigned a topic and some time to mull over it after which every group spoke about their respective topics for 8 minutes. After each GD, Anahita, Akshara, and Geeta ma'am gave them some feedback on the areas they can improve upon. The students were told to keep these feedbacks and suggestions in mind so that they can apply them in the impending sessions. The sixth session was conducted by the team. The main aim of this session was to conduct mock group discussions with the attendees to provide them with some insight into how they are regulated. All the suggestions and feedback from the previous sessions were taken into account and worked upon by them. The team also made sure that there were no pending doubts or queries about group discussions. Geeta ma'am also helped the participants and pointed out areas for improvement. The entire session was

dedicated to ensuring that all the participants are confident enough to be a part of various kinds of group discussions which, by the end of it they were.

The seventh session was likewise directed by the team and Geeta ma'am and the arrangement for the day was to lead an interactive activity and hence we decided to attempt debates, however with some changes. The activity was that the team would give the participants a few assertions. The participants were relied upon to disclose to us whether they agreed or disagreed with the assertion, after which one of them was chosen and was expected to elaborate on their point of view. All the attendees were able to present their perspectives without any reluctance, which showed genuine difference in their confidence in public speaking. The team and Geeta ma'am directed the eighth session and the plan for the day was to lead an intriguing activity wherein the participants could connect themselves to real-world problems. This was pointed toward guaranteeing that every one of the participants was ready to communicate as well as tackle genuine issues in a productive way. The team had come up with some real-world case studies that required some action. The participants were expected to put themselves in the character's position and to find a way out of the problem. The team and Geeta ma'am witnessed high spirited debates and conversations among the participants who were successful in thinking like their respective characters. This proved to be a very engaging and efficient way of forcing them to think hard and in a realistic way whilst putting their points in a persuading way.

The ninth session was led by VESIT alumnus Yash Keskar. The session aimed to acquaint the attendees with personal interviews and their format and methodology. Yash was the ideal individual to lead this session as he has a huge load of involvement in interviews and could accordingly furnish the participants with tips and tricks on the most proficient method to go about it. He started by briefing the participants on what sort of questions they can expect during an interview and then continued to talk about how they were required to answer the same. After ensuring that all the attendees had a clear idea of what points to include, he went on to inquire as to whether they had any questions. After acknowledging all the queries, the session was concluded by asking the attendees to prepare a 1 min long introduction, that would help them in their interviews. The tenth session was led by the team and Geeta ma'am. The goal of the session was to arrange mock interviews with the attendees with the aim that they could acquire some insight about personal interviews. The attendees were asked to introduce themselves after which one of the team members posed a pertinent question based on their respective introductions. The participants were then asked to tweak their introductions based on the feedback that they had received.

The eleventh session was led by two of the VESIT alumni Tarleen Dand from 2017 batch of EXTC department and L. Sowmyasree from 2017 batch of computer science department. The alumni commenced the session by asking all the participants to introduce themselves after which Sowmyasree proceeded to ask them a follow-up question related to the same. The team saw immense progress and improvement in the members' abilities as the entirety of their answers were exact and viable. After the mock interviews the attendees were asked to present their queries about interviews that were then answered by Tarleen and Sowmyasree together. The last session was aimed at bringing together all the speaking skills that the attendees had

acquired throughout the course of this program. The session was led by the team and Geeta Ajit ma'am and two activities were arranged for the same. The first one being a speech that each participant was given abundant time to prepare for. Once the participants began with their respective speeches, the team could notice that each one of them had improved and progressed in their unique way, for instance, some of them exhibited increased confidence while others had improved on their development of content. The second activity BOTS that was already conducted in the second session was to draw out a clear correlation in their talking abilities from the start to the furthest limit of the program.

The headways that every one of the participants had made since the start of the program was praiseworthy and it was evident that the entire program was productive and thus, a triumph.



VESLang LOGO



VESLang CIRCLE Members

**VES Lang Circle**  
**Alumini**

**Akshara Sarfare**  
EXTC 2020

**Padmaja Borwankar**  
CS 2020

**Anahita Goswami**  
EXTC 2020

**Tarleen Dand**  
EXTC 2017

**Yash Keskar**  
INST 2020

**Gayatri Belapurkar**  
IT 2020

**Sonali Gaitonde**  
INST 2020

**L. Sowmyasree**  
CS 2017

Alumni speakers for P&PA program



# VESLang Circle

## Personal and Professional Achievement Program

### Attendees



|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| <br>Aakanksha Kadam<br>Instrumentation | <br>Gaurav Dhande<br>Electronics     | <br>Harsh Falak<br>Instrumentation | <br>Rahul Maurya<br>Instrumentation | <br>Vedant Hattte<br>Instrumentation   |
| <br>Harsh Raut<br>Electronics          | <br>Samyak Pardhe<br>Instrumentation | <br>Mihir Bhagwat<br>Electronics   | <br>Ashwini Gawhale<br>Electronics  | <br>Tanmay Shinde<br>Electronics       |
| <br>Shoaib Ahmed<br>Instrumentation    | <br>Kiran Ramgiri<br>Electronics     | <br>Yash Tadkar<br>Instrumentation | <br>Tarun Venkatesh<br>Electronics  | <br>Ritiksha Mhatre<br>Instrumentation |

P&PA program attendees