

Annual Report (Jan 2021 - Dec 2021) The English Literary Society, KNC

The English Literary Society of Kamala Nehru College organizes the annual literature festival Litluminous along with events like Collective Rubbish. Monthly events like academic lectures and workshops are also held to help students get familiar with various academic topics. It is a society that works closely with the English Department.

Student Conveners (2021-22)

Nandini Iyer (President)

Deeksha Pareek (Vice President)

Tripti Vashisth (General Secretary)

Teacher Conveners (2021-22)

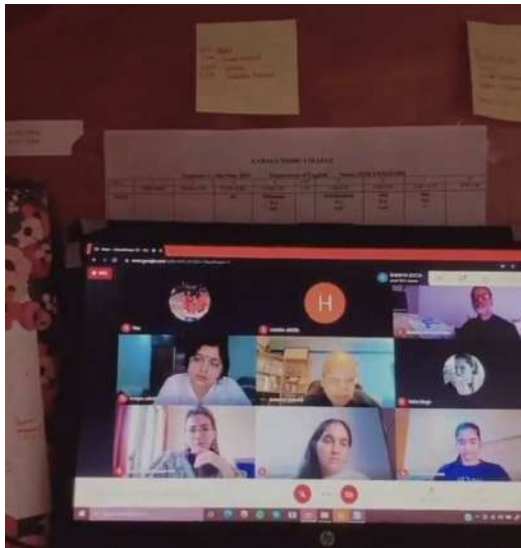
Kavita Dhanak (Assistant Professor, English Department)

Rupali (Assistant Professor, English Department)

Litluminous 2021: Violence and Literature (February)

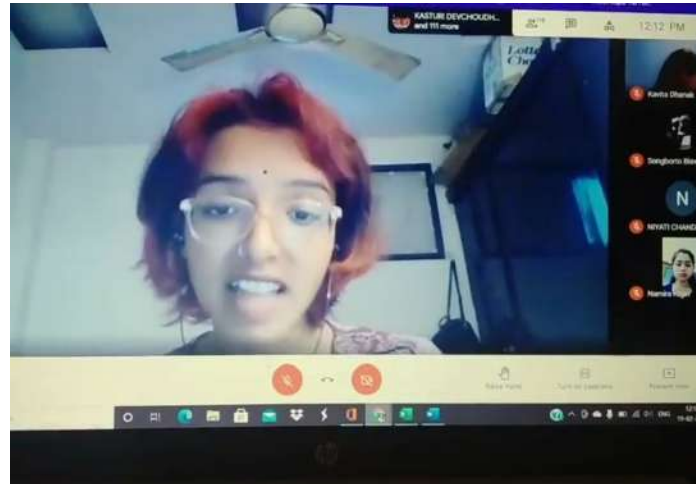
Litluminous'21, Annual Literary Fest of Kamala Nehru College, was conducted on 19th February 2021. The fest focused on the theme of 'Violence and Literature'. The day bustled with engaging events and competitions, and all the programs saw active participation; even though the fest this time was conducted through online mode due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, there was no lack of enthusiasm in any sphere whatsoever. All communication was carried out through mediums like Google forms, WhatsApp and Instagram.

The Panel Discussion was the first event of the day. The panelists for the discussion were Professor Kishalay Bhattacharjee, School of Journalism and Communication, Nidhi Kalra, Department of Humanities and Language, FLAME University and Subarno Chattarji, Department of English, University of Delhi. All the speakers explored the link between violence and literature and supported their arguments with stimulating narratives.



The Paper Presentation event was next, and the event saw ten participants from across the nation present papers pertaining to the theme of 'Violence and Literature' which made a deep dive into the unacknowledged horrors of society and the manifestation of violence as a tool of both oppression and rebellion. Topics of linguistic violence, caste violence, gender violence, state sanctioned violence, and digital propaganda as tools of violence were amongst the many topics of discussion for the day, leading to a tough competition. Shruty Yadav from IIMC and Mehnaz

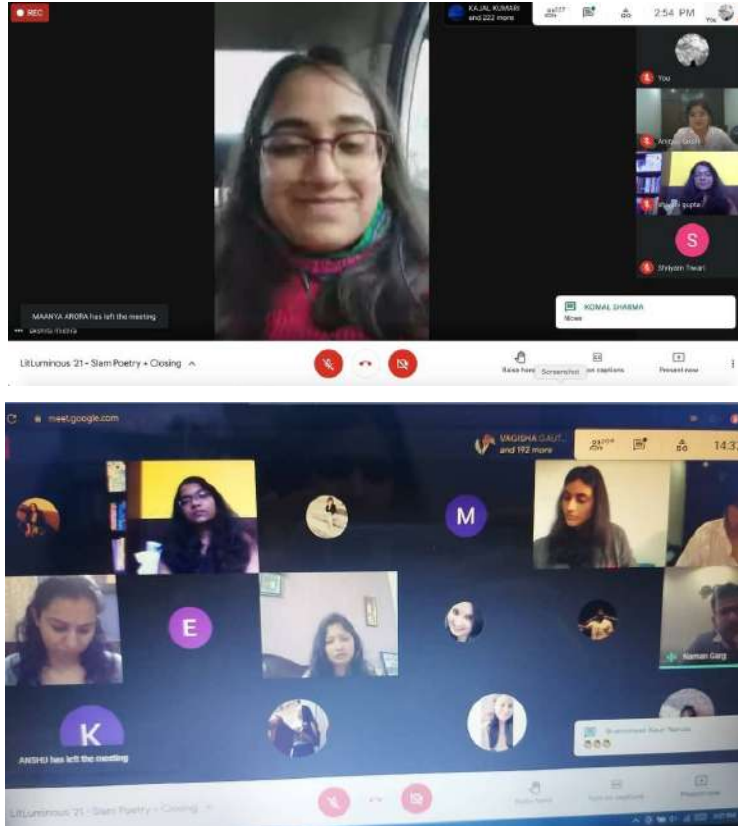
Hussain from Jamia Millia Islamia were awarded the first prize, and Kritika Nautiyal from Ambedkar University was awarded the second.



This was followed by a highly successful Slam Poetry event which saw enthusiastic participants from a variety of colleges. The online platform turned into flames as the participants performed their pieces with vigour one after the other. Even though the theme was one, meanings were sundry. From the idea of 'Virodh' to the media being mute at tyranny, the poems left the audience speechless at the rhetorical questions of the persistence of war. The use of allusions and beautiful metaphors, like coffee cups denoting the country's soil, left an imprint in the hearts of the listeners so much that they cheered for the contestants in the comment section throughout and constantly asked for encores. The first prize was bagged by Utkarsh Tripathi from PGDAV

college, while the second and third by Alisha from SNU and Mani Agarwal from Gargi College shared with Brahmaneet Narula from Christ University respectively.





LitLuminous '21 also played host to a Meme Making competition and a Creative Writing competition. The MemeWars added the required zing to the chain of events of LitLuminous'21. It pushed the participants to discover their new shades of creativity. The memes left the judges with great laughs and us in anticipation of what the upcoming editions of such competitions are going to look like. The participants had created extremely amusing memes on the very eminent topic of 2020: the coronavirus, while some had taken up different layers of the pandemic and represented it in a fun way. In due course, the judges awarded the first position to Sneha Sharma of Daulat Ram college, and the second position to Bashundhara Jana of Indraprastha College of Women. Both the winners succeeded in incorporating the theme in their novel ways.

With the Creative Writing event, the participants have demonstrated that their words can still be so strong and have the same influence even if they are not there in person to say it. The event was organized virtually and responses were gathered by circulating a Google form. The form of writing was not bound and could be in any form, whether poems or prose, word limit for which was 300. Participants were asked to choose only one of the four prompts. The two participants, whose voice was stronger than any, came out victorious; Arpita Chowdhury of LSR bagged the 1st position and Prachi of SPMC bagged the second.

Even though the open platform of physical encounter was sorely missed, the participants enthusiastically used the virtual platform to express their point of view against the various

scandalous violence suffered in society. The entire fest was a huge success that left everyone wanting for more.

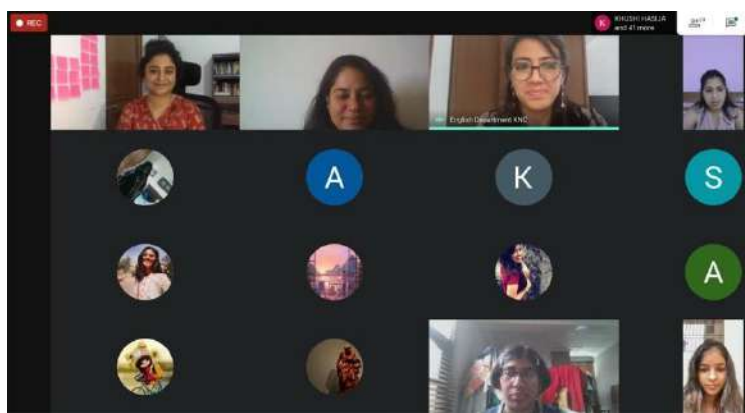
Academic lecture on Prison Literature by Ms. Swarnim Khare

The English Literary Society of Kamala Nehru College organised an academic lecture 'Across Hindi, Urdu and English- Genres of Prison Literature in North India' on 1st April 2021. The speaker for the lecture was Ms. Swarnim Khare who is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Ms. Khare started her lecture by talking about her research and went on to discuss the value and nature of prison narratives. Being an English literature professor herself, she talked about the struggles she faced while trying to place prison literature in the English literary tradition.

She mentioned how archives are extremely pivotal when it comes to prison literature and finding stories that have been erased. She also described the kind of relationship she developed with languages and translation while she was trying to work on her research.

After the discussion, the students were asked to pose any questions that they might have for the speaker. Questions around being able to access archives or prison literature, validity of texts like 'Discipline and Punishment' in the Indian context and the mainstream perception of prison literature were asked by the students. Ms. Swarnim gave honest and detailed answers for these questions and encouraged students to read more prison narratives!



Blackout Poetry Competition (April 2021)

“Do you understand the sadness of geography?”

- Michael Ondaatje (The English Patient)

Poetry wields the power to give meaning to the most mundane things. It houses multiple meanings even when it seems otherwise. Blackout poetry presents to the readers a poem that is as visual as it is verbal. It aims to make poetic pieces by redacting words from already established texts, like a newspaper.

The English Literary Society of Kamala Nehru College organised a Blackout Poetry Competition on 11th April 2021. The competition, themed ‘sense of home’, was open to all the students of Kamala Nehru College. The aim was to usher the students to make poetry out of a mundane newspaper clipping. We saw a wide variety of interpretations of the theme and were glad to receive an overwhelming number of poems. Our judges for the event were alumni students of Kamala Nehru College, Hiral Goyal and Pratibha Nigam.

[REDACTED] the feeling returned [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] him at the time. That showed one must not be too
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the bushes, the high water had left a wash
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] smoke. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] along the creek trail
[REDACTED] and looked toward
[REDACTED] none [REDACTED] had
known [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] family knew.
And it knew what was to come. [REDACTED] said. It
was [REDACTED] time to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the man. The
[REDACTED] slave of [REDACTED] The [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]
fear [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] looked toward the fire. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] followed [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] the trail. The [REDACTED] more tobacco [REDACTED] started
[REDACTED] Again [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] He looked around [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] no
sign [REDACTED]

B's Book Love

Poem by Mansi Plaha (English Hons. Third Year)

THE ENGLISH LITERARY SOCIETY,
KAMALA NEHRU COLLEGE

BRINGS TO YOU

A Blackout Poetry Competition

DATE AND TIME OF THE EVENT:
2:00PM ON 11TH APRIL, 2021

REGISTRATION DATES:
8TH-10TH APRIL, 2021

THEME: SENSE OF HOME

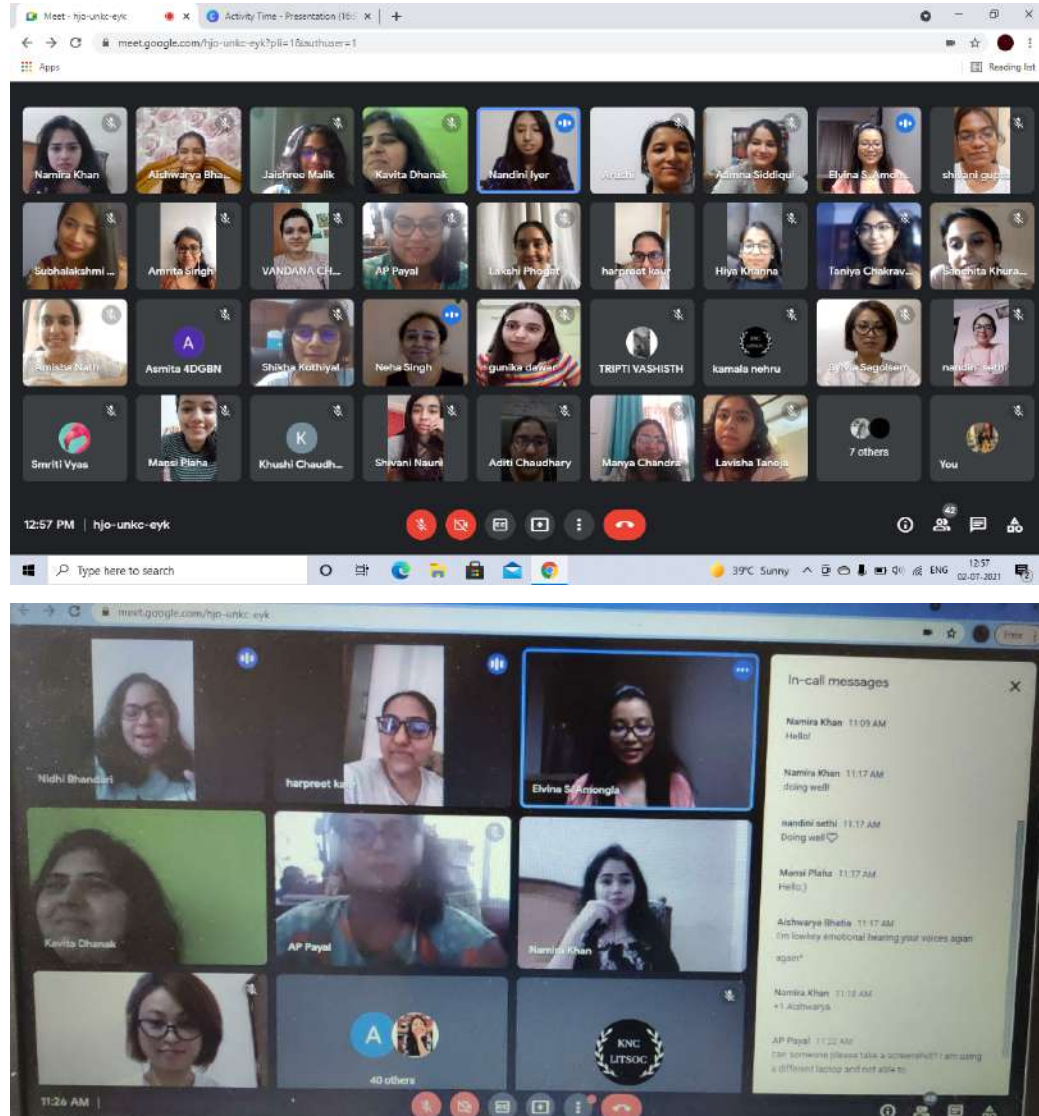
REGISTRATION LINK:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/AVFRt2QDfMjDHC66](https://forms.gle/AvFRt2QDfMjDHC66)

PLATFORM: ONLINE

NOTE: THIS COMPETITION IS ONLY FOR THE
STUDENTS OF KAMALA NEHRU COLLEGE

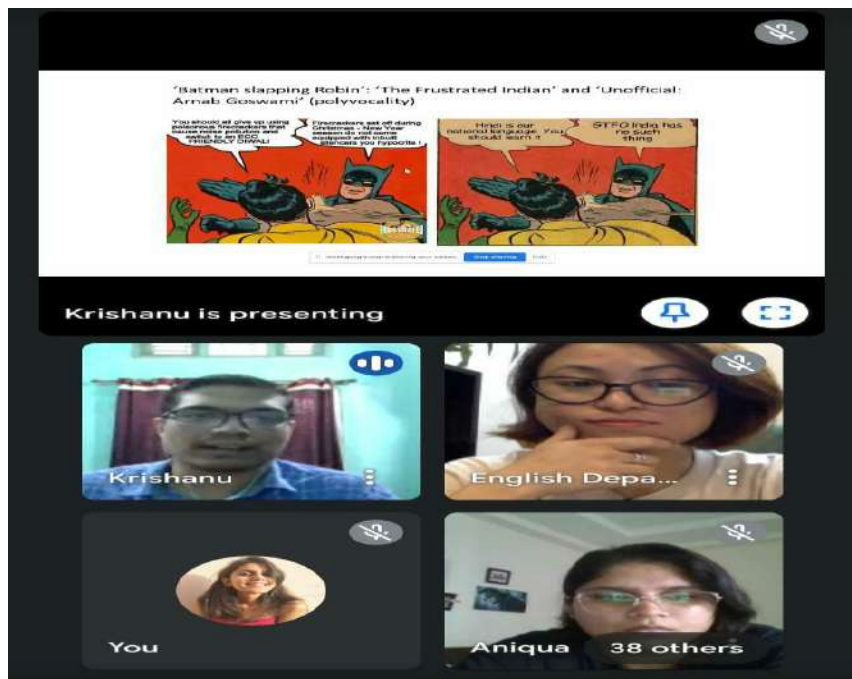
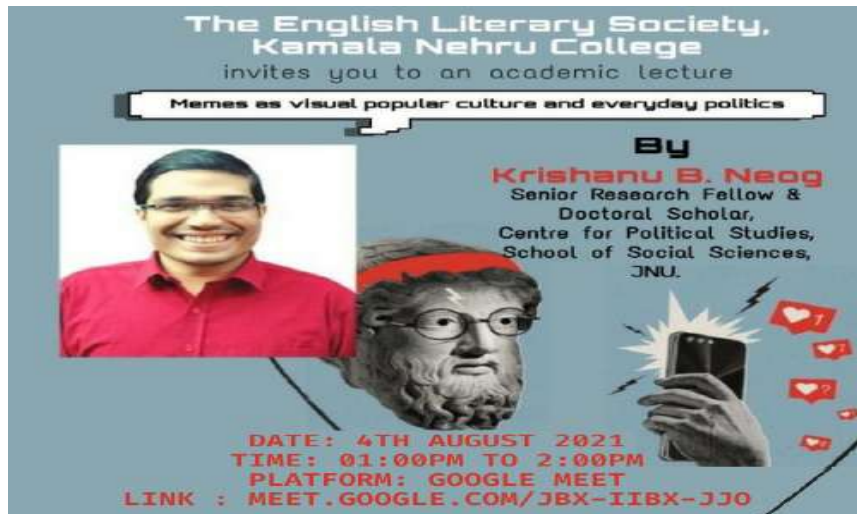
Farewell, '21 Batch (2nd July, 2021)

The batch of 2021 was given a farewell on 2nd July. The event was lined with games and the former President and Vice-President were asked to speak a few words, along with the teachers. Many heartwarming memories were discussed in this heartwarming event. The event went on for 2.5 hours and ended on a nostalgic note.



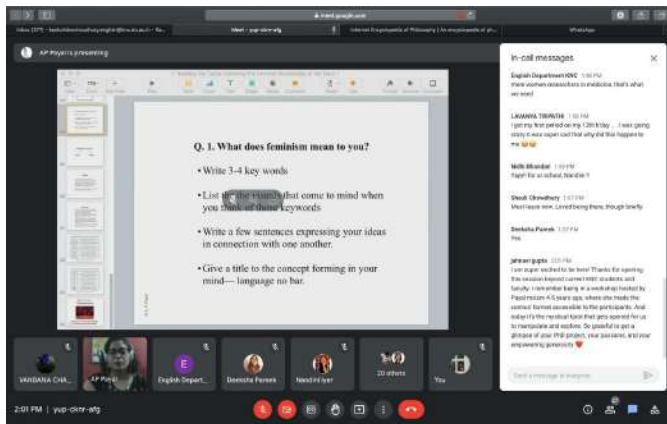
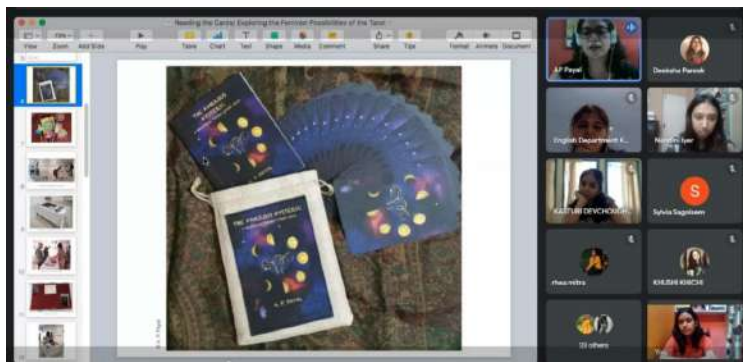
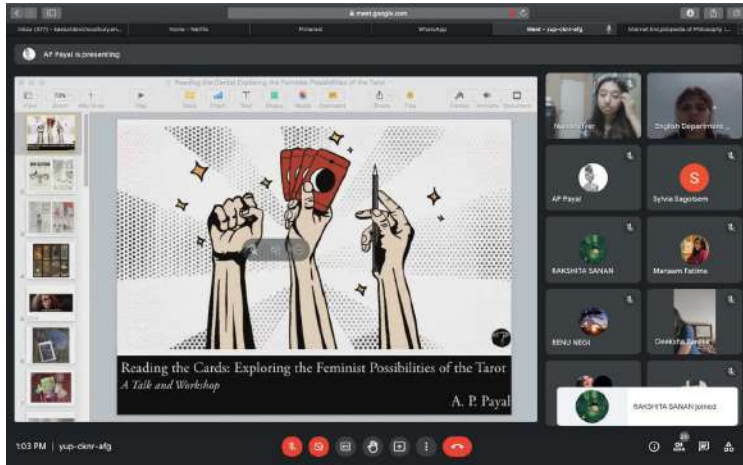
Guest Lecture on 'Memes as visual popular culture and everyday politics' (4th August, 2021)

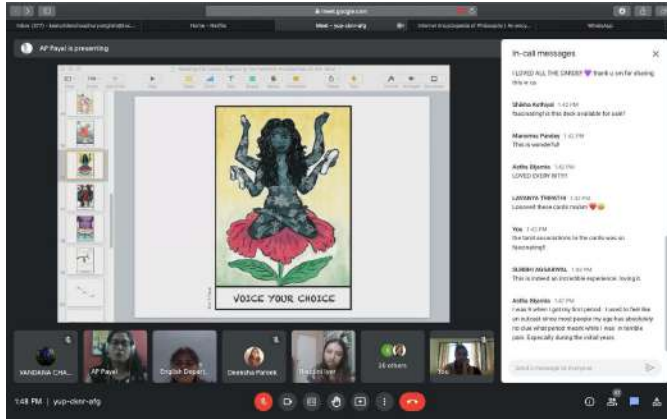
Krishanu B. Neog, Senior Research Fellow & Doctoral scholar, Centre for Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU was the speaker of this academic lecture. An interesting collection of memes that connect to political scenarios and current events were presented and their cultural importance and central role in current times discussed. We were also reminded of the power of visual culture and how it helps in reaching out to the masses.



Reading the Cards: Exploring the Feminist Possibilities of the Tar (1st September, 2021)

A. P. Payal, Doctoral Scholar, University of Delhi was the speaker of the discussion in this workshop, wherein not only the many facets and possibilities of tarot as a feminist means was discussed, but everyone was also asked to make their own tarots by choosing their keywords, or the emotions/ideas attached to them. We discussed ideas like intersectionality and the perception of tarot in general. It was an insightful event for all the students and made them aware of the wonderful world of tarot and how it can be made more inclusive.

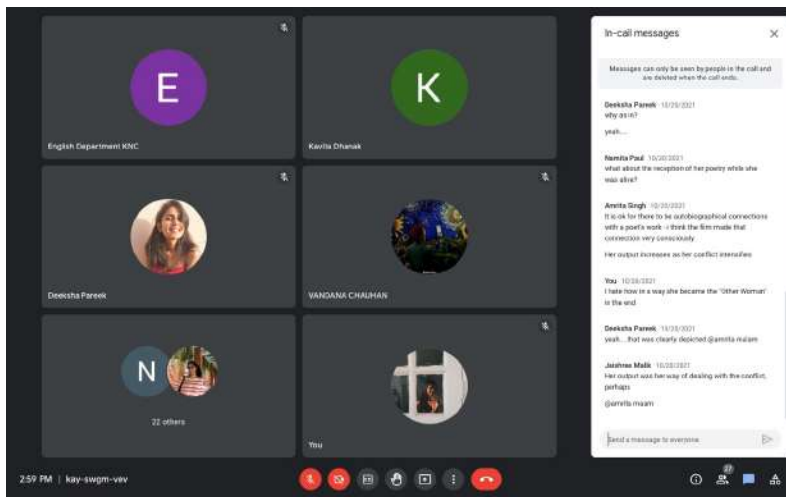
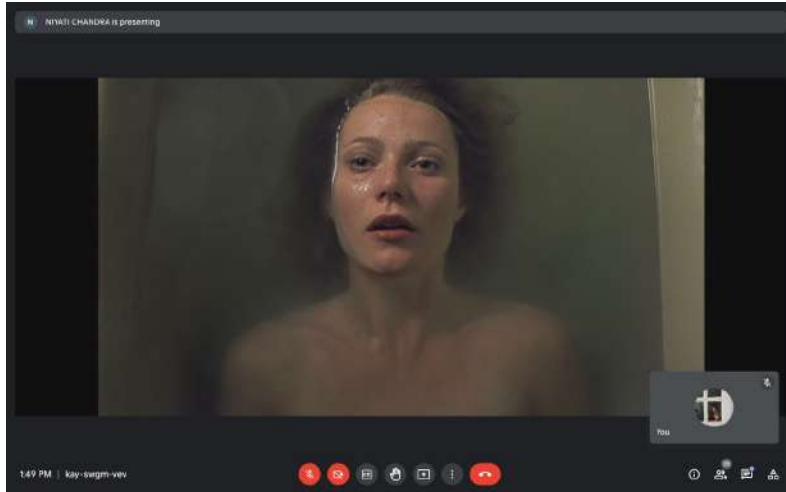




Movie Screening 20th October, 2021 (Wednesday)

The movie “Sylvia”, based on the life of the famous author-poet Sylvia Plath was watched and discussed as a part of the theme of the year’s Collective Rubbish: Mental Health and Literature. The biographical film allowed us a view into Sylvia’s personal life, her struggles, poetry as her vent and eventually, her suicide. The discussion followed by the screening included many topics like the way mental health and literature are related or the perception of various mental illnesses in literature, and so on.





Letting Your Blueprint Guide You: Helpful Critical Writing Hacks 10th November, 2021

Dr. Anurima Chanda, Assistant Professor in Department of English in Birsa Munda College, was the speaker of the event. The aim of the event was to guide the students to write a good research paper. Several tricks and techniques were discussed to help students inculcate the art of writing better answers. We discussed the nuances of writing a good introduction followed by a body paragraph and conclusion. The students were delighted to learn about the key things they can keep in mind while dealing with academic writing.

