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Income Generation through Script writing

Lata Sandip Kolhe

Assistant Professor, English,
Dhanwate National College,
Nagpur—440012. (M.S.) India

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Abstract: *The present research article aims to discuss the possible ways of earning income through script writing by utilizing the various digital platforms available on net in today's modern times. What knowledge will have to acquired for the same has also been discussed herein. The unknown hardships that will be faced have been discussed in this research article. For this research article, the researcher has read Aristotle's 'poetics', T S Eliot's 'Tradition and Individual Talent', Preface to Shakespeare by Dr. Samuel Johnson and The Merchant of Venice by Shakespeare edited by Prof. W Turner. Issues on copyright and plagiarism have been discussed. Conclusions have been drawn on the basis of general observations of day to day by the researcher.*

I. INTRODUCTION

There are many fields wherein ELT students can generate incomes. They can become teachers of English Language and Literature in both private and government sectors right from KG to PG classes; They can enter government services by clearing the Competitive exams that are conducted both on state and central levels provided they study other subjects besides English for career development purpose. Today's age is an age of tough competition; securing government jobs has not remained everyone's cup of tea. Every year more and more jobs are generated for the Indian youth. If they are ready for them and fulfill the eligibility conditions, they can easily grab them. The students who aim for high incomes will have to develop various job related and professional abilities to reach this aim. The students can't solely depend upon government jobs for earning incomes; they can become private English tutors, conduct spoken English classes; the more meritorious ones can even engage NET/SET classes. Nowadays the online classes are the most convenient ones for tutors can get students online. Enriching and enhancing one's knowledge of various subjects and making oneself ready for a profession is the urgent need and necessity of the hour. While India develops more and more into a service sector based country from an agrarian country, there are a large number of opportunities waiting for the studious, meritorious and talented students just on a condition that they will have to mould themselves and train themselves according to the times and get benefitted by the internet and digital platforms that are available for them.

II. DEVELOPING PERSONALITY FOR CAREER

For ELT students to become successful professionally, they will have to study the changes that are occurring and have emerged in their field /professions/or areas and develop and make themselves ready for them accordingly. Analytical thinking-power, communicational efficiency, co-operational nature, inter-personal skills, and imaginative power are the skills that will have to be developed to get successful in career. Besides, innovative thinking, working -potential, developmental and constructive thinking will help them to create work atmosphere and help improve work skills. To get successful, the students will have to develop creative thinking abilities¹; There are creative writing courses alongwith the degree that help in the development of creative abilities of the students.

III. DEVELOPING LANGUAGE FOR CAREER

‘Powerful foundations of language’ means ‘to prosper’. The answers to two questions provide you with ‘foundations of your language’ : ‘What you want to say?’ and ‘How you wish to say it?’.

Taking into consideration your audience you have to keep in mind that ‘Too many short sentences’ that may bore your audience and tire and irritate them quickly” and “Too many long sentences will bewilder your audience and you will lose them.” You have to trust the feel of your text. (Bone Structure)

Simultaneously, ‘**Bad Writing**’ comprises of wrong use of grammar, pronoun abuse, uncontrolled sentences, faulty punctuation, needless abstractions, abuse or feeble use of quotations, jargons and trendiness² (Index)

IV. UTILIZING DIGITAL PLATFORMS FOR REACHING MORE AND MORE AUDIENCE

Every age discovers a new meaning, a new dimension in the classics. It is all the more interesting and objective to view the authors and texts with a distance of time and space. The distance provides the authors an opportunity to reevaluate the text in a changed perspective of time and to see the difference of result.³

Nowadays mobiles are ubiquitous. A student without a mobile is unimaginable. The mobile is utilized for income generation nowadays. That will definitely help our country to solve financial problems on a certain level. The students will have to understand financial online transactions and be well-informed and aware about the related instructions by the reserve bank and its warnings from time to time. The students will have to make use of digital platforms like zoom, youtube, googleclassroom, for creating videos of their plays and display their creativity through their plays ; and also social media like whatsapp and facebook to get more and more audience. They can get more and more audience if they have working knowledge of Hindi that is spoken on national level; they will get state level audience if they have the knowledge of a local language of a state.

V. SCRIPT WRITING AS A MEDIUM OF INCOME GENERATION

Script writing is a task for any brilliant student of ELT since he can utilize his knowledge for converting any prose particularly the novels, novellas, short stories, diaries, letters, essays , newspaper articles etc. to convert them into plays. There are many short stories of the famous and eminent English short story writers, O. Henry, W. Somerset Maugham, Guy de Maupassant, Anton Chekhov, Oscar Wilde, and Arthur Conan Doyle that can be converted into plays. Great English romantic and Victorian age novelists like Jane Austen, Walter Scott, Thomas Hardy, William Makepeace Thackeray and many more whose literary works can be converted into plays. There are infinite of them in the field of English Literature.

VI. TRANSLATE INTO NATIONAL LANGUAGE HINDI

If the students translate their plays into Hindi, they can definitely earn income from digital platforms. There are already story based cartoons that are based upon real life stories that are available upon the YouTube. These are short duration cartoon stories. The audience will be all the Hindi speaking audience of all the Indian states.

VII. TRANSLATE INTO MARATHI LANGUAGE

If the students translate their English plays into Marathi language they will definitely get the Marathi speaking audience from every nook and corner of Maharashtra. For every farmer will get a learned experience from translated English novels converted into plays. For each and everyone amongst the audience couldn't have got the chance of getting education and educated; this way they will get learned plays.

VIII. KNOWLEDGE OF COPYRIGHT AND PLAGIARISM

In 1926, Virginia Woolf had commented upon the new visual medium 'film' as a 'parasite' and 'literature' its 'prey'.⁴

Nowadays technology has impacted the way we tell stories not only through visual images but also through verbal ones. Technology has affected our definitions of culture as well as creative processes.

"The persistent conflict between adaptations and literature has been continued over the textuality of literature and films. Fidelity to the adopted text should not be the only criterion of judgment." The adaptation embeds the novel or story with a new meaning. Critics over the years have the tendency to prioritize the original work over their film version and have seen it as 'subsidiary' or 'secondary product'.⁵

"Adaptations seem to be all over in the last decades of the twentieth century. Adaptations are now being analyzed as 'artistic creativity' caught up in the ongoing while of inter-textuality, transformation and transmutation with no clear point of origin."⁶

For the students who want to pursue the career in script writing, the knowledge and information on copyright is a must as well as plagiarism so that they may not fall into any trap related to copyrighted materials and unnecessarily waste their time, energy and money on nothing. It's a waste of time to copy someone else's texts so as to gain profits since if found out, it will turn out just a headache and a loss of one's money and hard work. 'To corrupt and obscure the objective of a novelist' for gains neither reflects intelligence nor reason on the part of a student.'

This has been already instructed by Dr. Samuel Johnson in his 'Preface to Shakespeare' to the students of literature.⁷ Shakespeare's plays are regarded as the literature of the world. They are translated into almost many languages of most of the countries of the world. In the same way there are many eminent playwrights and novelists of many countries whose literature is considered as the literature of the world and written almost at least fifty years ago and these can be converted into plays. In modern times, if you wish to convert say J K Rowling's novels into plays, you will have to get her written permission first. Further, if you earn income from it, you will have to pay her at least her decided share of royalty.

IX. ENHANCING PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Mistakes are committed unawares and in ignorance hence it's said that 'a little knowledge is a dangerous thing' and 'a jack of all trades but a master of none' and 'a rolling stone gathers no moss' hence for the job, expertise of a trade is of utmost important. Thorough and complete knowledge related should be acquired by the students so that they can earn incomes and even reach up to taxable incomes.

For a student of ELT, enhancing his knowledge upon novels, novellas, short stories, essays, as well as plays is very much important as is already put forth in his essay 'Tradition and Individual Talent' by the great English writer and critic, T S Eliot who laid emphasis upon a student's gaining traditional knowledge for the sake of flowering his own talent of that genre.⁸

There are a number of novels by great novelists that can be converted into plays by script writers. It is observed that the novelists use the language of their own times in their novels; the students who have studied novels can transform them into plays by using language their times but without ruining or making any change to the true meaning or loss to its beauty. For the sake, the students will have to make clever selection of novels that will provide them with ample opportunities for script writing and dialogues.

X. THINKING OF THE AUDIENCE

"The Elizabethan audience was very fond of 'comic characters' upon the stage and used to be amused by droll speeches, witty remarks and sometimes by pure non sense." Shakespeare catered to the taste of his audience in most of his plays and thus he had always introduced a comic character for them in most of his plays.⁹

Nowadays there is a large part of audience who are women and it is obvious that will be more interested in women related themes or plots. There are many women novelists who have written wonderful novels like Virginia Woolf, Jane Austen, George Eliot whose novels are considered to be classics and if the students can convert them into plays, it will make their audience learned and also make them understand the culture and society of a distant land like England.

There are children who like children's literature and there are novels for children too. These have to be converted into plays. Children's literature is generally full of activities so it's not that easy to convert it into plays.

To Err is human ...

It is the habit of many students to attain perfection. Dr. Samuel Johnson found out that the latter part of Shakespeare's plays were evidently neglected and imperfectly represented'. To gain perfection in any art is a matter of regular practice and hard exercise ; 'Rome was not built in a day'; thus a student will have to start his attempt and try again and again and keep trying on without thinking of failures in his way to success. For many failures are stepping stones to success' since one failure teaches you what you have not to do next time. It's an experience, an invaluable experience that helps to move towards success. If one goes on continually thinking of failures, he must decide to leave that job at once and discontinue. Since there are many other ways of earning incomes waiting for you.

XI. RULES AND REGULATION OF DRAMATIC ART

The Greek drama has always been alluded as a 'standard measure' by the Oxford and Cambridge scholars studying English drama; Aeschylus and Seneca were imitated for tragedy and Plautus and Terence were supreme models for studying comedy. Aristotle, the great Greek philosopher drafted the regulations of dramatic art. His unities of 'Time', 'Place' and Plot are well-known. Unity of Time means 'the time of a play must be a day' ; Unity of Place means 'the scene should happen in one place ' and unity of plot means 'there should be only one plot or story in a play'. It appears that Shakespeare never followed to these three unities except in one play. ' The Tempest'. That's why Ben Jonson , the great playwright, had said of him as 'with little Greek and less Latin'. Despite his not following the classical unities, Shakespeare nonetheless was the greatest playwright of his times undoubtedly.

The rules and regulations of dramatic are learnt by students during their UG and PG programs. And these will enhance their knowledge of script writing and help them in it.

XII. CONCLUSION

In the short story, 'An Astrologer's Day' by the great Indian writer, R. K. Narayan, the astrologer who sat in the market to earn livelihood by his knowledge of astrology turned out to be fake and this fact is revealed at the end of the story. He was not much educated; he had no knowledge of astrology; yet he was acting to be an astrologer all the times after all! There were such natural scripts that came out of his mouth that earned him livelihood and a world of experience in human beings. Many of great writers wrote the greatest texts out of their situation. Bacon's essays were drafted in Prison; the famous short stories by O. Henry were written in jail. Indian students unlike the astrologer can make good use of their talent, their potential and creativity and can display it through their task of script writing which can definitely help them to earn not only livelihood but also a taxable income one day in future.

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