

Report

A webinar on "Engaging Learners Online : The why and how of learning" was organised by Regional Institute of English on 19th August, 2020. Dr. Vandana Lunyal, the director, Regional Institute of English convened the webinar on 'Google Meet' (<https://meet.google.com/jky-coig-ogm>) and introduced the resource person Dr. Kalyan Chattopadhyay who is a result oriented UK trained English language specialist and learning technologist with over 20 years of experience in public and private education sectors globally. Dr. Chattopadhyay has a proven track record in writing materials for course books, and conducting international ELT research projects, framing and delivering teacher-training projects adding value and innovation.

He held a very informative and interactive session with the participants by taking into account the demands and challenges of online teaching in terms of delivering academic knowledge and monitoring the behaviour of the online learners. Dr. Chattopadhyay emphasised the need of taking psychological parameters of the learners into consideration so that the learners can gradually develop the similar skills of sitting and participating actively and attentively as they have had it in the environment of a physical classroom. He said that with this paradigm shift in the wake of the Covid-19 Pandemic, both the teachers and the learners will need to transform their habits and procedures to make online education a success. He said that a teacher would be required to become more interactive so that he/she can expand the attention span of the learners and can engage the learners to consider this new medium as seriously.

Around 60 participants including the faculty, MA English students and the participants of PGCTE current batch and the alumni attended it and took part in the question-answer slot of the webinar.