



# English Skills for Youth

### **Change Stories**

## September 2024

### Ms Varshitha Revaru, Faculty member Cyber Sikshaa programme, Hyderabad Data Security Council of India (DSCI)

#### 'Soft Skills are as important as technical skills!'

Before the course, my students were learning only technical topics like Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence. Facilitating the English Practice Club (EPC) meetings helped me understand and realise that soft skills are as important as the technical skills that I have been teaching my students.

The introduction of the English and Communication Skills for the Workplace student course and the EPC meetings introduced my students to activities that were fun and enjoyable. Students enjoyed the 'Professional skill' topic on the online portal. EPC meetings provided opportunities for students to put into practice important soft skills they were learning. These skills would help them prepare their resumes, prepare for interviews, and learn various other hard and soft skills.

### Ms. Syeda Summaya Naaz, English Practice Club leader Cyber Sikshaa programme, Hyderabad Data Security Council of India (DSCI)

## 'Topics on the course will help me prepare for and attend interviews.

The topics I completed on the student course were relevant and important as they will help me prepare for and attend interviews and display the right behaviour in my future workplace.

The vocabulary I learnt in the course, especially the phrases, helped me improve the vocabulary necessary for today's workplace. I also feel that my grammatical mistakes have reduced after attending the course and because of the EPC meetings. Earlier, I was unaware of a lot of topics like what to include and exclude in a resume, soft skills, and hard skills – their difference and importance, etc. Because of the course, I have learnt how to speak appropriately when meeting new people or with future colleagues at the workplace and understand the difference between formal and informal conversations.

### Ms. Samreen Begum, English Practice Club member Cyber Sikshaa programme, Hyderabad Data Security Council of India (DSCI)

#### 'I now feel more confident speaking with others'

The EPC meetings were a very good experience. I learnt a lot of practical things from them. Initially, I used to feel shy and had trouble collaborating as I wasn't sure of my communication skills, but with practice, I now feel more confident speaking with others.

In the meetings, all the club members got a chance to present their ideas and express themselves. I learnt from my club members by observing what and how they spoke. These meetings have boosted my confidence and helped me identify my mistakes and improve my skills.

### Ms. Umme Salma Jahan, English Practice Club member Cyber Sikshaa programme, Hyderabad Data Security Council of India (DSCI)

### 'EPC meetings are different from anything I have attended before'

The EPCs were different from anything I have attended before! Everyone is encouraged to contribute, which is really helpful. Initially, my friend and I didn't know how to express ourselves as our vocabulary was weak. But, after two to three meetings, we both felt more confident in sharing our points of view. I also learnt how to interrupt someone politely, how to make small talk and introduce myself, and how to handle and behave in workplace situations. Topics like resume preparation, preparing for interviews, etc. would prove to be very helpful when I start applying for jobs or when I start working.