

Dear Neeraja,

Today is the last session of the reflective writing course. It's going to be on Skype and it's the first time I am going to be doing this. Thanks Roshni for setting this up for me and now I am seeing the possibility of doing this more often without the arduous travel. I admire Neeraja for being so proactive and impeccable in conducting the course.

My colleagues were surprised when I enrolled for the course.” Why do you need to do it?” they asked.

My apprehensions were whether it would be useful at all. Did I need a course at my age when I should be praying to the Lord to keep me peaceful and happy?

Frankly I have enjoyed every bit of it. Firstly it's been a reversal of roles for



me. I did not have to take decisions all the time but was instead allowed to enjoy readings analyse them and interpret them the way I wanted. I enjoyed submitting the work on time rather than having it submitted to me.

The selection of the readings were wonderful and some ideas were kindled in me which made me think about the Education System as a whole. The latest controversy about the CBSE paper leak seemed so ridiculous in the light of some papers we had read about learning and fear. It made me reflect about the mundane, inefficient ways education was handled by unprofessional people where children were victims of it.

I must thank Neeraja for letting us talk without fear and appreciate every point of view regardless of whether it conformed to her views or not. This atmosphere was conducive to all of us articulating our thoughts freely and also think for ourselves about issues. This is because we were allowed to think and not have everything thought about and then pushed down our throats.

Usefulness I realise is an intangible term and quite subjective. While I can't put my finger on how useful the course itself it was, I am sure that it has made me think more freely and respect all points of view. It has also opened up the possibility of my wanting to read more papers published if Neeraja would help out on it.

Thank you Neeraja for your prompt responses to our submissions however late we were. They were valuable.

Punctuality in running the course is something I appreciate . Also Neeraja leaving nothing to chance be it electricity , bringing goodies for our snack time or travelling all the way without a whimper and having all the material ready are take aways for me and a lesson not to procrastinate.

I must also thank Roshni for the wonderful arrangements with logistics, arranging for tea , carrying my computer up the winding staircase, being sensitive to my ignorance of technology and in general being a caring daughter like figure. I was reminded of my own very often in the process.

I also got to understand all the participants more because we got a chance to express ourselves and look at issues for different angles. Jayshree, Kalyani, Indu and Roshni - You are wonderful people.

At finally Thank you Neeraja for making this happen.

Reflectively

Jayanthii