

Tariq Ahmad Khan
Assistant Professor (English)
Govt. Degree College, Gurez
Tehsil: Telail
District: Bandipora
Kashmir

Essay

COLLECTING EXAMPLES

As human beings, we witness innumerable things, and whatever comes our way that becomes the first experience of our life. At every new step we encounter something new. All those new things that come our way get stored in our mind as primary examples. These primary things witnessed, understood or not, taken as mere objects or concepts, sticking our senses, serve as examples for further understanding. In simple words, we collect varied things, some understood while others as memories without synonyms that could assist in understanding these objects/concepts/things. But these things which we have just collected (understood or not) serve as examples for further objects or concepts. In order to understand new things we always take support from the already stored memories. So we build our new concepts by supporting them with the earlier ones which lie in our mind as primary objects provided these concepts or objects have some kind of resemblance with new objects. In this way, they assist us at times for deciphering new things which do not seem alien when the support is taken from the already existing memories. When we do not find any resemblance or likeness for the new things that come our way, we take them as new things and store them as such expecting resemblances that may come to help us in future. It is normal with human beings that even an object of no use or wastage is kept in safe custody pondering that it will fulfill any need at any other occasion. When such words are uttered, it simply means that at this occasion here is the paucity and non-availability of the exact fit object where it could be adjusted to assist the new object or the new one would get adjusted with it favouring the first one. The result is that either the former assisted the latter or the latter one assisted the former.

For instance, when a child witnesses a pencil for the first time, he does not know what it is or what is its function? He just perceives it merely as an object or a first thing since there is no primary example for its assistance and takes it without any prior reference of likeness. Primarily the child perceives this pencil comparing it with that of a finger, since it has some resemblance with the physical appearance of the finger and also the available as well as the

understood thing. So, when he gets familiar with the pencil, then on witnessing a Ball pen he takes support from the already existing example i.e. pencil, that it (Ball pen) is like pencil and understands this new thing with the help of the pencil which serves as an example and support for the understanding of the Ball pen. Sometimes, a likeness is drawn between the two and the first one is comprehended with the help of the second one. The pencil, which was alien to the child till the encounter of the Ball pen, can be a familiar thing after witnessing the Ball pen.

The same concept can be applied to the perusal of a new piece of work of literature. Sometimes we read a book, a novel or a poem even without understanding a single word from it, when such would be the situation one must not lose the courage to go through the entire book or poem, even if one has lost the required interest in it. Now the question is with which purpose one can maintain the grip of continuity? Since one has lost the interest in the book due to the unintelligibility and it is obvious and evident to feel such situation, still one must keep going on with this rationale that it can serve as a primary example which can either be understood at any other occasion on which some relevant material may assist in understanding this primary material or it will assist in any way in understanding any other piece of work, for it acts as a first thing. Since our mind is in constant working it remains in making analogous search for those concepts and objects already stored in it. Once it encountered anything new with some resemblances automatically happens a commencement of analogous analysis and it results in some comprehension, (either the primary piece assists in understanding the new or this new one facilitates the primary one which was unintelligible earlier but stored as such without having any resemblance).