

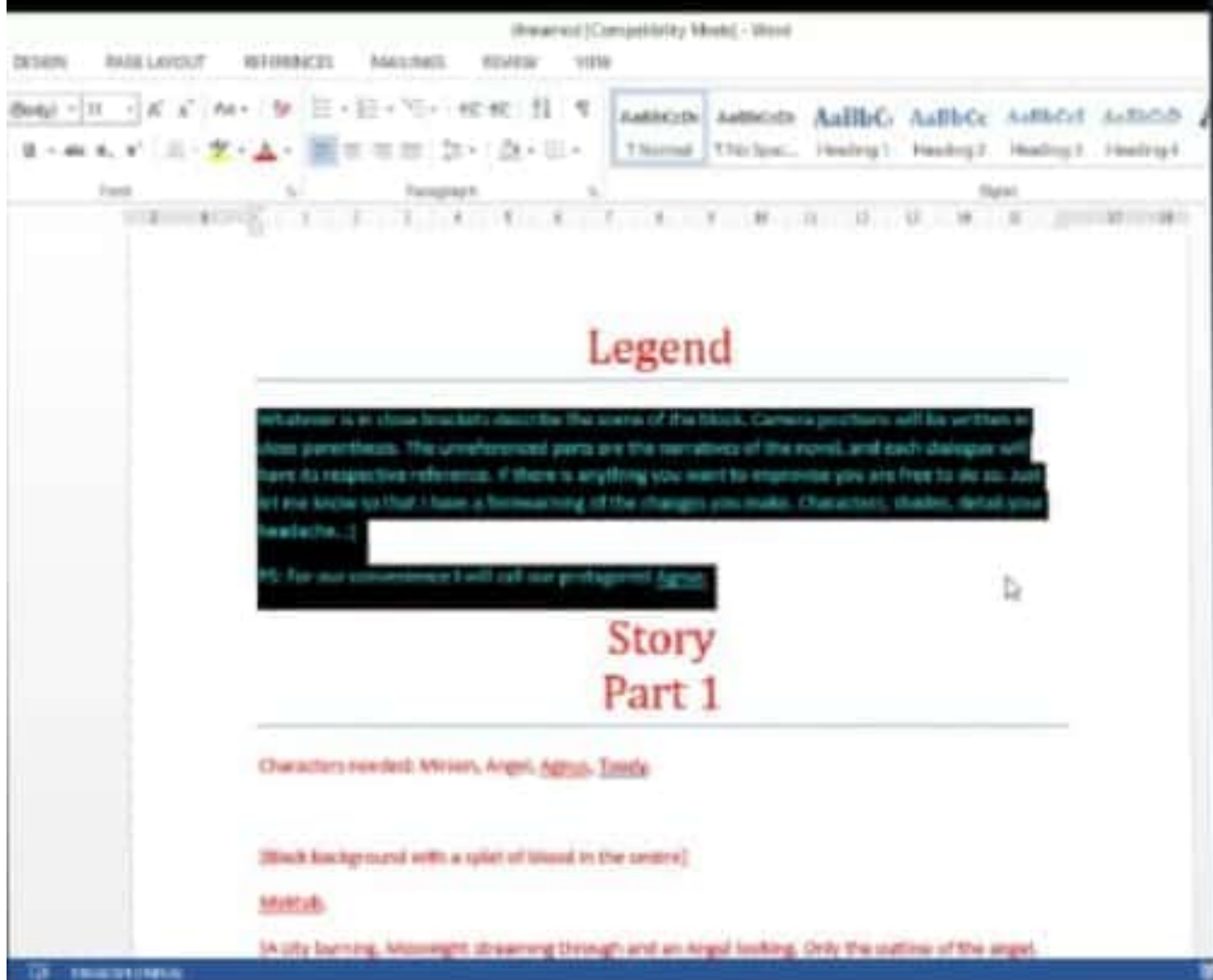
Encore event: Online talk by Ritwick Bhattacharjee, Assistant Professor, Department of English, SGTB Khalsa College

Topic: Graphic Novels

Date and time: 9th October 2020, 4:00 P.M.

A talk was organized by Encore, the literary society of the Department of English on “Graphic Novels.” Starting with the introduction of comic books, Ritwick Bhattacharjee emphasized upon how difficult it becomes to define comic books just through their structure, which is why one should realize that intention becomes very important in the conception and production of comic books, because it is the intention of producing it for commercial purposes that becomes a pivotal point for being as they are. Using Scott McCloud’s seminal theory of understanding comics, the speaker focused on the format of comic books as serialized narrations of pictorial forms in juxtaposition. He further defined the idea of graphic novels where making money takes a slight step back to make art from comic books, which becomes one of the fundamental distinctions between graphic novels and comic books. Graphic novels, he added, claim to become more than what comic books are, by presenting dark, deep, and meaningful narratives to the society in order to make people uncomfortable by questioning their existence and everything else, which comic books will never do as they are meant to entertain and make them feel good. In this way, he continued, graphic novels will not only be able to challenge comic books, but also preserve the notion of art attached to them. Towards the end, he pointed out that even though the form of the graphic novels with visual content becomes a problem when considering the visually challenged, it can continue to preserve its position in the creative market and be engaging, if it learns to evolve. The event was concluded with a vote of thanks by the convenor of the English Literary Society Dr. Indra Kaul. The students/listeners of English Honours were largely benefited from the talk and the event was well attended by participants from both within and outside the college.





Ritwick Bhattacharjee



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