

Review Of Human Relationships And Their Positivity In The Select Novels Of Preeti Shenoy

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ABSTRACT

Preeti Shenoy's novels have a theme of human relationships and self-discovery, which is the focus of the current study. It explores positivity in the context of relationship challenges and depiction of characters' journeys towards self-discovery. The review highlights the various aspects of human relationships and stresses on the need for healthy ones. This study aims to analyse husband and wife, master and servant and intergenerational relationships in the chosen novels. "A Place called Home", "Tea for two and a piece of cake", "A Hundred Little Flames" and "When love came calling" novels by Preeti Shenoy were taken as primary sources. As secondary sources, publications from conferences, book chapters, journals, and other websites were used. To conduct the study, a qualitative approach to research methodology was utilised. The challenges that the main characters in the novels face in the various types of relationships and the way they overcome it with their positive mindset were the key findings of this paper. The characters' path to self-discovery has also been included. The cornerstones of everything in life are love and marriage, the blessings of parenthood and family, and social connections. These human bonds can either be challenging and distant, or they can be deep and intimate. No doubt, one might come across numerous challenges in any kind of relationship. If relationships go on well there will be happiness and feeling of contentment. But if it goes wrong, it leads to anger and sadness too. Relationships usually change over a period of time. Regardless of the type of relationship, all kinds of it contribute to the social support system that is essential for our health. Building healthy relationships and safeguarding our mental and physical health is of utmost importance to all. This exclusive study uses Preeti Shenoy's works to examine the subject of the characters' relationships with others, self-discovery and leading a contented life with a positive mindset.

Keywords: Human relationships, Relations, Interpersonal connections, Identity, Self-discovery, Preeti Shenoy.

1. INTRODUCTION :

Human relationships also known as interpersonal connections, play a very important role in our lives. Nothing in this world is more crucial than the bonds between family and society. Human relationships shape and define our identities. From birth, one's identity is defined by their relationship with others, such as their parents, siblings, and so on. It is the ability to interact with one another and develop a bond between them. Man being a social animal, needs to interact and cultivate a good rapport with others. Developing healthy relationships has immense benefits wherein one can share, communicate, and empathize etc. with one another. However, not all relationships can be healthy at all times. Efforts have to be put in frequently to make any relationship work. There are mainly six types of relationships:

- ❖ Family relationships: The word family derives from the Latin word 'familia'. A family usually stays under one roof and develops a very close bonding with other members. Family relationships are formed either through blood relations, marriage or adoption. Immediate family consists of parents, children, siblings and spouse. In an extended family, uncles, aunts, cousins, grandparents, nieces, nephews etc. are involved. Due to urbanisation, nuclear families are on the rise and joint families are fast disappearing. It is very essential to have a loving and supportive family who can stand by you all through your life. Indeed, personalities are shaped by family relationships.
- ❖ Acquaintanceships: Acquaintances refer to people whom one meets regularly. They are neither

related by blood nor close friends. Such people are not known intimately. Relationship with acquaintances is very little when compared to other types of relationships. Being courteous towards acquaintances and acknowledging their presence with a smile or greeting is desirable. In this way, conflicts can be avoided and a harmonious life can be led.

- ❖ Friendships: Irrespective of age, friends can be made at any stage of life. Friends are individuals whom we interact and share our joys and sorrows with. Even though they are not related, spending time with them is enjoyable. Friendship is based on trust and respect for another. Once the trust is broken, it is quite difficult to get it back. Good friends frequently keep in touch with one another either by meeting personally or making calls to one another. Having good friends helps to overcome loneliness and gives a sense of belonging to one another. Moreover, having good social connections helps to lead a contented and healthy life with reduced ailments.
- ❖ Romantic relationships: It involves love and attraction for one another. The partners have strong feelings for one another in the beginning. But, as they get matured the attraction usually wanes away. At times, partners get romantically attracted to one another leading to disappointment. According to Sternberg's theory love is a triangle comprising of three components namely intimacy, passion and decision/commitment wherein romantic love is the combination of intimacy and passion.
- ❖ Work Relationships: Within an organization or company, workplace relationships refer to the particular requirements for interactions between individuals in various roles. They might be a combination of both personal and professional. The general work environment and culture can benefit from these interactions as well as job happiness, depending on the role or title of each individual. Making new professional connections and advancing in one's career may also be facilitated by understanding these unique relationships and in what manner to handle them.
- ❖ Situational relationships: A situational relationship is a type of relationship in which two people start dating but don't plan to commit to one another in the long term. Although there isn't a relationship, there is a connection between them. It is the state in which a person is not in a committed relationship but is more than just pals. Situation relationships are loosely defined, non-committal partnerships where a long-term commitment is less important than convenience and enjoyment.

Conflict resolution, Communication, Mediation, Organization and Multitasking are all important aspects to human relations. Consequently, the proposed study aims to analyse how this theme is handled in the chosen novels.

2. OBJECTIVES :

This study aims to conduct a secondary systematic evaluation and give an outline of the various interpersonal connections, difficulties, and solutions that the protagonists in four of Preeti Shenoy's novels encounter. The review was performed to find any research gaps, examine how relationships were changing, and learn more about strengthening interpersonal interactions.

- (1) To explore the different aspects of human relationships.
- (2) To analyze the portrayal of positivity in the context of relationship challenges.
- (3) To examine the dynamics of intergenerational relationships and their impact on characters' development.
- (4) To assess the depiction of characters' journeys towards self-discovery while navigating parental expectations and societal pressures.
- (5) To analyze class-related issues and characters' emotional turmoil while accepting their background.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE/ RELATED WORKS :

3.1 Concept of human relationships in Literature:

One of the greatest gifts in life is the relationship we have with other people. Relationships give us a feeling of love and belonging, and they can significantly alter our lives. When relationships are strong, we can rely on them for the support we need during trying times. Moreover, when relationships turn out to be too toxic, it is wise to come out of it rather than tolerating and staying in it.

Table 1: Human relationships

S. No.	Area & Focus of the Research	Outcome of the Research	Reference
1	Study human relationships and the outcome of changes in society under the influence of capitalism in <i>The Last Man in Tower</i> .	Material needs and financial crisis have made people bond over uncommon circumstances and with the most unexpected people in the contemporary situation.	Rai, M. (2023) [1]
2	Focus on the theme of family relationships in Anita Desai's writings.	The relationship's strand has lost its tenacity, just like Maya, Aditi, and Sarah in Anita Desai's novels. Men and women in the modern era lead empty lives.	Janam, R. (2023) [2]
3	Study the man-woman relationship in Shobha De's <i>Socialite Evenings</i> and Shashi Deshpande's <i>Roots and Shadows</i> .	It expresses women as sexually liberated individuals existing in man-woman relationship.	Gayathri, J., et. al. (2023). [3]
4	A postcolonial analysis of Amitav Ghosh's portrayal of the interaction between the coloniser and the colonised in the book.	The novel critiques the artificial nature of cultural, philosophical, geographical, and psychological borders in favor of broader humanism.	Borchetia, A. (2023). [4]
5	Examine the intimacy and interpersonal relationships, as well as the psychological effects they have on people from different cultural backgrounds.	The characters' daily interactions foster intimacy and interpersonal relationships.	Khaliq, N., et. al. (2022).[5]
6	Aims to highlight human relations in Jane Austen's novel.	Her book illuminates the unique light of universal ideas to expose the deliberate observations of a fine sensibility.	Alquraidhy, K. (2022). [6]
7	Analyse transcultural Relationships and Identities in <i>Interpreter of Maladies</i> .	The success or failure of the relationships under investigation is directly related to the characters' struggles to adjust to Indian culture and their upbringing at home, while the other is the point at which they first encounter American culture outside of their homes, which they attempt to imitate and adopt.	Sharma, P. (2022). [7]
8	Analyse a fictional group of people who, to varying degrees of success, aspire to build healthy relationships with those around them.	The novel demonstrates how to build a fulfilling and joyful relationship with another person.	Prabha, T. V., et. al. (2022). [8]
9	Analyse how value for money than relations affects a family and how it can have repercussions on relationships.	The journey of life is about relationships between individuals and their wealth.	Punithaasree, K. S., et. al. (2022). [9]
10	Investigate the internal, regional dark patriotism that encompasses free African-American populations.	In order to realise and comprehend oneself, Hurston's characters engage in a continuous journey of self-discerning proof for which they rely on a variety of interpersonal ties.	Kumar, V., et. al. (2022). [10]

11	Look at the intercultural human relationship theme that appears in each of Sunetra Gupta's work.	Due to the self-centered attitude of the male protagonist, human relationships, particularly man-woman relationships, suffer in this novel.	Ramamoorthy, A. U. (2022). [11]
12	Explore the unique ways in which Bond, in contrast to other Indian writers, has portrayed the decency of human relationships, as well as the inherent qualities and readers' appeal found in his writings.	The relationships and colours that are depicted have a wide appeal, despite the fact that hill people and simpleminded common people make up a portion of the readers of Bondian literature.	Deka, K. K. (2021). [12]
13	Explore the depiction of human relationships in Tagore's short stories.	The need to reach out to others and empathise with them is the central message of Tagore's short stories.	Kumar, V., et. al. (2021). [13]
14	In <i>A Matter of Time</i> by Shashi Deshpande, examine the interpersonal interactions.	Shashi Deshpande expresses the difficulties and frustrations faced by married women as well as their attempts to maintain a healthy relationship.	Sarkar, S. (2020). [14]
15	This study examines the interactions between people in Kiran Desai's novels.	Because of the postmodern social structure, commercialization and consumerism play a significant role in fostering public trust and belief in Indian Baba's in general and Sampath's astounding miracles in particular.	Patel, P. C. (2020). [15]
16	Relate the idea of ethnic family relationships to R.K. Narayan's novels.	The significance of ethnicity in presenting a society's values.	Pushkala, R, et. al. (2020) [16]
17	Explore the complexities of human connections, including how they connect and isolate individuals from one another.	The rifts and gaps in human relationships before reuniting the characters, who reconcile despite having a number of grievances against one another.	Mishra, B. (2019). [17]
18	Project Anita Nair's improvement in handling the complexity of parent-child Relationships from her previous novel to the next.	It provides understanding to analyse and resolve the difficulties in parent-child relationships.	Patil, S. M., et. al. (2019). [18]
19	Learn about the complexity in today's relationships caused by shifting political boundaries and shifting human emotions.	The inter-personal relationship in the work is retold and is based on both reality and fantasy.	Chandel, R. (2019). [19]
20	Understand human relationships in Ruskin Bond's novels, <i>A Girl From Copenhagen</i> and <i>Love is a Sad Song</i> .	Ruskin Bond, through these stories portrays that interpersonal relationships are based on mutual understanding between the partners and their success depends on how the partners recognize each other's individuality.	Murugalakshmi, M. V. (2019). [20]

21	Investigate the various facets of interpersonal connections represented in <i>The Binding Vine</i> .	The novel looks into a woman's concerns with sexual confusion and meaninglessness in institutions that are dominated by tradition.	Yadav, P (2019). [21]
22	Study Anita Nair's <i>Mistress</i> for details on the issue of man-woman relationships.	<i>Mistress</i> illuminates various facets of interpersonal relationships and identifies the elements that influence how men behave towards women.	Rao, K. M. (2018). [22]
23	Analyse how the male and female characters in "Sons and Lovers" interact with one another.	The tragedy in the book is a result of the author's personal tragedy, which affected the entire society for about a generation.	Shaheen, K. (2018). [23]
24	Examine interpersonal relationships and connections between characters that were prevalent in Victorian society in Dickens' works.	Dickens' novels provide a vivid and beautiful depiction of London life, which developed following England's swift industrial uprising.	Sharma, K. S., et. al. (2018). [24]
25	Explore the layers of alienation of modern life in man-woman relationships in R.K. Narayan's selected novels.	The partnership between a man and a woman will always be the greatest relationship for humanity. But the fires of modernism are destroying this wonderful friendship.	Sarkar, G., et. al. (2018). [25]
26	Examine human relationships in <i>Nicholas Nickleby</i> .	One may notice a brother-sister relationship as well as a cousin relationship between Smike and Nicholas in <i>Nicholas Nickleby</i> . Miss Madeline and Nicholas also have a love interest relationship.	Sharma, K. S., et. al. (2018). [26]
27	Study the sensitive relations within families.	Sudha Murthy highlights the traditional Indian family structure and how it differs from that of other nations. The book serves as a lesson in how money may destabilise any family's life.	Rao, A. P. (2018). [27]
28	Examine interpersonal interactions and the pursuit of identity in the desolate land.	In preparing the next generation for community life, the family relationships are crucial.	Arunraj, S., et. al. (2018). [28]
29	Examine the novel's portrayal of emotions and thoughts in detail.	The novel reveals a greater comprehension of the Ramsay family ties and the stream of consciousness technique.	Khan, I. A. (2018). [29]
30	Investigate the complicated interactions inside a large family that spans three generations of men and women.	<i>A Matter of Time</i> is a successful effort by Deshpande to depict the mental states of many types of people travelling towards liberation.	Rajeswari, V. (2018). [30]
31	The focus of this study is on the relevance and differences between British colonizers and Indian colonized.	Both the British and Indians have good human beings and cunning, selfish beasts.	Mahmood, T. (2018). [31]
32	Explore human relationships in <i>The Dark Room</i> .	The book begins with the echo of male dominance that echoes throughout society and ends with the silent realisation of it.	Malarvizhi, S. (2017). [32]
33	Examine how people interact with one another in <i>An Ideal</i>	The patriarchal voices are pretty evident beneath what appears to be a	Kaur, L. (2017). [33]

	<i>Husband.</i>	world where men and women appear to have equal rights for their existence, free to live their lives as they like, and are able to assert their unique personality.	
34	Analyse human aspects and relations in Chaman Nahal's <i>The Weird Dance</i> .	“The Weird Dance” is full of varieties of human emotions and thoughts.	Patil, S. S., et. al. (2017). [34]
35	Examine different aspects of mother-daughter relationships in Githa Hariharan's novels.	Githa Hariharan has depicted various forms of interpersonal relationships in her novels, each with their own unique dimensions, ups and downs, tears, and smiles.	Lal, S. (2017). [35]
36	Explore the complexity of the male-female interaction in her works, in the setting of industrialised metropolitan life.	Desai focuses on the complexity of the relationships between human beings, especially the man- woman relationship and are viewed as failures by Desai.	Aruna, G. (2017). [36]
37	Examines the ways in which modern English-language Canadian literature is influencing views about diaspora.	The works of Rohinton Mistry perfectly combine profanity, politics, mystery, and love. There is also humour that has explicit jokes, intentions, and pretences. There is both a nascent democracy and a dysfunctional civic system.	Pardhi, D. (2017). [37]
38	Look into the representations of families in R.K. Narayan's works.	He is highly engaged in the variety of human relationships and his primary focus as an artist is undoubtedly the study of the issue of human connections.	Rai, K. (2016). [38]
39	The article analyses the societal code of ethics portrayed in <i>Ponniyin Selvan</i> .	The Puram aspects of <i>Ponniyin Selvan</i> don't just show gory fights; they also show the Tamil people's revered sense of justice, morals, and traditions.	Krishnamurthy's, et. al. (2016). [39]
40	Examine “The Edible Woman” by Margaret Atwood's treatment of human relationships.	Commercialization, globalisation, and trade for monetary gain are systems that we have developed, but with time, we have also fallen prey to them.	Dubey, N. (2016). [40]
41.	Understand the importance of human relationships.	Love makes us feel valued and we should pay attention to our day to day relationships	Duck, S. (1998). [41]
42.	Explore effective human relations.	We learn how to develop effective human relations and plan for success.	Reece, B., et. al. M. (2016). [42]

3.2 Scholarly literature on self-discovery

Self-discovery includes a crucial component called acceptance of one's true self. It is essential to gain more understanding of our preferences, needs, and desires. We are usually so focused on our daily tasks that we don't think much about ourselves. It is necessary to evaluate our lives, discover our purpose, and work to realise it. Following that, our existence on this earth will be worthwhile.

Table 2: Self-discovery

S. No.	Area & Focus of the Research	Outcome of the Research	Reference
1	Analyse Shrimati's journey from being a dedicated	Shrikant sadly realizes that the Bakula which he had come to associate with	Panda, M. (2023).

	beloved and wife to a self-reliant woman who, after a severe psychological struggle, sets out to realise her long cherished dream.	Shrimati had sadly fallen from his life.	[43]
2	The study examines the dynamics of the teacher-pupil bond in <i>The Ghost of Vasu Master</i> .	The excellent interaction between the instructor and pupil, where both parties are in agreement, was beautifully caught by Githa Hariharan.	Tyagi, P. (2023). [44]
3	Examine Paulo Coelho's writings as a case study for how military strategies and attitudes can aid in human growth and self-discovery.	It demonstrate traits like flexibility, cooperation, perseverance, strategic thinking, risk-taking, and self-analysis that are essential for success in both the military and the civilian life.	Avinash, M. (2023). [45]
4	Study the idea that one can enlighten their soul and mind by striving to achieve self-discovery and succeeding in doing so.	The current study discovered that when a person sets out to achieve their goals, his mind and soul are illuminated in the process, and in the end, he discovers the purpose of his existence and his relationship with God.	Saadia, R., et. al.. (2023). [46]
5	Examine the various occasions and prevailing beliefs that played a role in determining one's own trajectory.	Selma uses a range of artistic techniques, such as metaphors, irony, and symbolism, to effectively communicate her message about the importance of journey in the process of self-discovery.	Aslam, N., et. al. (2023). [47]
6	Examine how Margaret Laurence uses the term <i>Rapunzel Syndrome</i> in her books <i>The Stone Angel</i> , <i>A Jest of God</i> and <i>The Fire-Dwellers</i> .	This concept can be used to examine the protagonists' journey of self-discovery and personhood leading to their ultimate triumph within the chosen fictional framework.	Randhawa, S., et. al. (2022). [48]
7	The concept of self-discovery through the study of nature is explored in this work	We human beings need to redefine our associations and bonds with nature and strive to cultivate a more spiritual and healthier connection with the natural world as well as man world.	Singh, S. (2022). [49]
8	In addition to tracing the protagonist's journey from an oppressed woman to self-realization and self-discovery, This study aims to examine how Afro-American society views God, gender roles, and the search for oneself.	The primary idea of the book is that every African-American woman can learn to love herself and transform into a "woman" with the aid of another woman. If this is achieved, oppression and violence in society will end, equality will be restored, and peace will reign. A mutual understanding and reconciliation between the sexes may also occur.	Sharma, S. (2022). [50]
9	Examine a few graphic novels and how they address issues of equality, self-discovery, and identity	Although adolescence and young adulthood are rarely shown as blissful stages of life, graphic novels on the topic explicitly, concentrate on young adults' and teens' worries and anxieties in order to provide an accurate picture of current teenage identities.	Forni, D. (2021). [51]

10	The essay analyses how the authors depict the inner journey through various hardships and tribulations, and how the female characters finally break their protracted silence, leading to their release.	Only through self-improvement and self-discovery could one overcome the oppression of patriarchy.	Ashok, N., et. al. (2021). [52]
11	The paper examines the effects of class, caste, and gender in order to develop a postcolonial protagonist in the context of India.	Autobiographical elements in the novel provides the audience an authentic aspect of the novel to fall in the genre of Bildungsroman.	Jha, B. (2021). [53]
12	Highlights the suffering, emancipation, and self-discovery of the novel's female characters.	Anita Nair paints a picture of the state of society and how women long to be set free.	Mistry, R. M. (2020). [54]
13	Assess VS Naipaul's writings on values loss, alienation, disintegration, exile, and the transition from self-discovery to the search for identity and stability.	In the absurd but heroic tale Mr. Biswas, a lowborn Indian seeks identity and freedom in colonial Trinidad.	Ramya, C. (2020). [55]
14	Examine the bravery of a typical shepherd in Paulo Coelho's <i>The Alchemist</i> using the concept of popular culture.	Coelho's <i>The Alchemist</i> resonates in popular culture through omens, myths, icons, and—most significantly—the universal language of love.	Regmi, D. R. (2020). [56]
15	Examines the journeys of self-discovery and identity taken by the characters in <i>The English Patient</i> and <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i> .	The distinction between the internal identity in <i>Mrs. Dalloway</i> and the external identity in <i>The English Patient</i> shows how challenging it is for people to understand one another as well as themselves.	Khaleel, I. R. (2019). [57]
16	Analyse Virmati's struggles with balancing her family responsibilities, passion of learning, and an undisclosed relationship.	In <i>Difficult Daughters</i> , Kapur constantly presents her female characters as on a quest for self-discovery.	Pravinkumar, S. (2019). [58]
17	Investigates the theme of self-discovery in the novel.	The struggle Janie faced with white people who mistreated her because of her race is shown through her journey of self-discovery.	Chandrasekaran, S. M., et. al. (2019). [59]
18	Examine <i>The Colour Purple</i> by Alice Walker for its significance in terms of self-discovery.	We see how self-knowledge helps a person in accepting his situation and finding ways to improve his prospects	Sawhney, A. (2019). [60]
19	Explore Self-discovery and identity in <i>Ladies Coupe</i> .	The character's search for identity and self-discovery is thus thoroughly covered in the study.	Venibha, P. S. J., et. al. (2018). [61]
20	Explore the negative aspects of Indian women's lives and the change to womanhood.	This work exposes the ongoing fight for women's rights and their quest for self-identity in the contemporary world.	Suganya, M. (2018). [62]

21	Understand Paulo Coelho's autobiographical work, "Aleph," and his relationship with God.	Finding oneself is a duty to oneself and to all of humanity, whether through spiritual practises, psychiatric treatments, or other methods.	Abdulatif, I. A. (2018).[63]
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3.3 Scholarly literature on Preeti Shenoy's novels

One of India's finest authors, Preeti Shenoy, is well-known for her contemporary fiction. Preeti Shenoy's writing style frequently highlights the triumphs, failures, and moral decisions her characters make while delving into the complexities of everyday life. Through her books, she hopes to uplift readers, encouraging them to reflect on their own lives and experiences.

Table 3: Preeti Shenoy

S. No.	Area & Focus of the Research	Outcome of the Research	Reference
1	A study of <i>The Bet</i> , a play by Anton Chekhov, and <i>The Secret Wish List</i> , a novel by Preeti Shenoy.	A person can decide whether to accept or reject a choice.	Magishavarthini, S., et. al. (2023). [64]
2	Explores the predicament of every contemporary woman who pursues selfhood and transformation in the novel of Preeti Shenoy	The novel depicts a woman who is armed with feminist beliefs and wants to pursue her needs regardless of the diverse situations	Mahajan, K. N, et. al. (2023). [65]
3	Discovering Veda's feminist viewpoint and her husband's gay identity crisis.	Shenoy speaks out against the stereotypical views on sex and gender.	Kundu, M. (2023). [66]
4	Set a broader context through the conceptual framework that applies to the study of youth culture and undertakes a semiotic analysis of the text by evaluating the signs and symbols used to depict the urban upper-middle-class setting in the novel.	Shenoy's subtle use of signs and symbols in prevalent among the upper-middle-class youth, their cultural significance and impact allows us to analyse it through semiotics	Noronha, S., et. al. (2023). [67]
5	Aims to highlight <i>The Rule Breakers</i> to look into the social microcosm of a single family.	Shenoy's fictional space is a replication of an imaginary world in addition to being a reflection of society as a whole. Transformation inevitably leads to conflict and challenges.	Mandal, P. S. (2022). [68]
6	Aims to draw attention to Preeti Shenoy's chosen texts' tendency towards postmodern metafiction.	The results indicate that Shenoy's two novels contain metafictional elements.	Pandeeswari, D., et. al. (2022). [69]
7	Focuses on <i>A Hundred Little Flames</i> , a metanarrative postmodern pattern, from the viewpoint of Lyotard's ideas.	Shenoy's writings support postmodern metanarrative ideas like, knowledge, dialect, nostalgia and hero narration.	Pandeeswari, D., et. al. (2022). [70]
8	Investigates the role of women in Preeti Shenoy's novels.	Preeti Shenoy, through her writings shows that women need emancipation.	Bishoyi, D. (2022). [71]
9	An effort to comprehend how Ankita manages both internal and external conflicts to keep her life in balance.	Shenoy assures readers through her work that balance can be attained at any stage of life.	Magishavarthini, S, et. al. (2022). [72]

10	Examines <i>The Rule Breakers</i> by Preeti Shenoy using Carl Jung's theory of individuation and self-realization.	Self-realization brought on by individuation also offers the chance to establish balance from the inner to the outer peace and forces a continuous progress towards more maturity of the learning mind elusive elements and value life's lessons learned from many unanticipated events.	Khadiri, N., et. al. (2022). [73]
11	Uses characters from various books to examine the effects of trauma.	The traumatic event in the lives of Jim Burgess, Bob Burgess, and Ankita Sharma has left them with a guilty conscience. However, after being freed from their sense of guilt and realising the truth, the characters lead happy lives.	Magishavarthini, S., et. al. (2022). [74]
12	Examines the three novels from the viewpoint of postmodern liberal feminism.	The study's methodology incorporates theory of justice, moral theory, advocacy for educational and social equality for women, capability approach, and other liberal feminism-related concepts.	Pandeewari, D., et. al. (2022). [75]
13	Examine the male dominance and female oppression that an Indian woman encounters as well as the extent to which women reject the male dominance portrayed in the novel using Derrida's theory of deconstruction and Simone de Beauvoir's theory of existentialist feminism.	It demonstrates how the novel's depiction of male supremacy over women can be dismantled. The male-female hierarchy is upset by reversing the binary opposition that sets men against women.	Astuti, R. D., et. al. (2021). [76]
14	Aims to examine the novel reflecting on changing life.	Suicide should never be an option when dealing with a challenging or unexpected situation in a relationship out of frustration.	Bhosle, K. G. (2021). [77]
15	Examines using the four intertextual concepts of word description, various situations, link language, and dialogue.	This study has shown that Shenoy's texts are supportive of postmodern intertextual theories.	Pandeewari, D., et. al. (2021). [78]
16	Integrate the paranoid theories advanced by Freud, Lacan, Cooper, Pynchon, Sullivan, Pavlov, Jung, Lyotard, and Cameron to the persona of Ankita Sharma.	The study's findings show that these novels contain postmodern paranoia.	Pandeewari, D., et. al. (2021). [79]
17	Draw connections between Veda's quest for a new identity and Michael Foucault's concepts of "liberation" and "identity".	Michael Foucault's "identity game" is similar to Veda's quest for freedom from social relations.	Mandal, P. S., et. al. (2021). [80]
18	Investigates the generational divide that exists between the main characters Gopal, Jairaj, Shaila, and Ayan as well as the life of an elderly man named Gopal whose desires are stifled by his offspring.	Everyone should be aware of their obligation to keep up healthy relationships free from expectations.	Agalya, A., et. al. (2021). [81]

19	Explores the relationship between fathers and sons.	The solution to resolving the conflicts among modern individuals is to spread self-realization in order to foster unity among family members and close the gaping gap.	Rathika, B. (2021). [82]
20	Aims to point out the choice of profession made by these women to not only earn their livelihoods but also to pursue their profound interests with the help of a few characters from the selected fictions of Madhuri Banerjee and Preeti Shenoy.	This choice of profession i.e. Economic independence made by the post-millennial women is a bold statement against the patriarchy.	Dhande, P. S. (2021). [83]
21	Explores all the themes related to young woman, motherhood, single parent, educated woman, through her novels.	The role of Ankita, Shenoy, has conveyed to society about how a woman should be in society during her academic period, the role of a mother with the character of Vipasha and wife with the character Diksha.	Kalyani Swapna, P., et. al. (2020). [84]
22	Examines the elements of psychological realism used in Preeti Shenoy's fictional narration.	Preeti Shenoy tries to pass a strong message that humans can overcome anything in life including destiny.	Prema, S., et. al. (2020). [85]
23	Aims to portray the lives of the disabled protagonists – Ankita in Preeti Shenoy's novel and Ram in the Tamil film in the psychological perspective.	Suicide is not the solution for all the problems. One can even change one's destiny with the strong determination of mind.	Rajarajeswari, S. (2019). [86]
24	Focuses on Bipolar Disorder, a mental depression with mood swings, the treatment and aftermath consequences in the victim.	It's not actually the mental trauma or swings that affect people more but, our treatment and negligence worsen them.	Ramasubbiah, A., et. al. (2019). [87]
25	Attempts to show how the novel's characters are impacted by marginalisation.	Preeti Shenoy explains how marginalisation functions in today's progressive society, which is thought to uphold democratic ideals.	Aparna. B. (2019). [88]
26	Explores the broad range of individual emotions in the novels of Preeti Shenoy with particular focal point on man-woman relationship.	Every person around influences the other, that can shape one's self-esteem, self-image, confidence and opinions and opinion of the other.	Kalyani Swapna, P., et. al. (2019). [89]
27	Examines the novel's latent themes in light of Freud's psychoanalytic theory.	The ability to assert control over one's unconscious mind, which is superior to the conscious (ego) and superego (conscience) minds, is extremely rare. As a result, the patent content is significantly influenced by the latent content of the novel.	Nandhakumar, K. (2018). [90]
28	Investigates Ankita's life in terms of four different kinds of relationships: with her boyfriends,	Literature illustrates relationships that are based on both internal and external	Kumar, S. (2017). [91]

	parents, Dr. Madhusudan and classmates/friends.	circumstances. For a relationship to be stable, there must be a careful balancing of the mind and the heart, or intellect and emotion.	
29	Focuses on the literary and female empowerment contributions of Preeti Shenoy's <i>It Happens for a Reason</i> and Anne Bronte's <i>Agnes Grey</i> .	Victorian England and contemporary India are separated in time by a great distance. However, the stories of both books reflect the evolution of women's roles and choices over the ensuing years.	Das, S. (2016). [92]
30	Focuses on the writings of Preeti Shenoy; her contribution to literature and thereby to society.	Instead of exhibiting modernism in her appearance and way of life, the "new woman" needs to be redefined as a physically, mentally, intellectually, and spiritually strong woman who balances her personal and professional life and lives her life to the fullest.	Kodali, S. (2016). [93]
31	Analyse the novel, <i>Wake up Life is Calling</i> .	The novel conveys the message of positivity and self-worth.	Shenoy, P. (2019). [94]
32	Analyse the novel written by Preeti Shenoy.	In spite of losing a lot in a relationship, there is much to acquire.	Shenoy, P. (2012). [95]
33	Explore the novel <i>Life is What you Make it</i> .	With firm resolve, one can overcome all challenges and shape our destiny.	Shenoy, P. (2011). [96]

4. MATERIALS AND METHODS :

A thorough examination of more than seventy research papers and 5 books was done on the crucial words of human relationships and self-discovery in contemporary writer, Preeti Shenoy's literary works. In addition to these adequate references, an online Google Scholar search was performed to find the required information. The keywords, human relationships, interpersonal connections, self-discovery, Preeti Shenoy, positivity, were used to collect data. The reviewed research articles are original and peer-reviewed from both national and foreign journals. Research articles were assessed using the APA citation style.

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :

In Preeti Shenoy's works, themes of human relationships and self-discovery are explored. Her work includes continuing themes that center on self-development in individuals. Her books mainly focus on human relationships and guides in overcoming unhealthy ones. It is our responsibility to work towards developing healthy relationships to be at peace with others and ourselves. Furthermore, the support and love received in a relationship can definitely aid to progress in life. Researchers have used an array of topics, all of which are distinct but limited. There aren't many articles about Preeti Shenoy's works, and even fewer of them emphasise on the idea of positive human relationships. Thorough discussion of developing healthy human relationships is the need of the hour. This study focuses on Preeti Shenoy's works' representations of human relationships and their positivity. The character's need for self-discovery is a crucial component of this work. Her writings are the perfect way to speak about today's youth's issues. The present study looks at human relationships and their positivity in a quest for identity in a few of Preeti Shenoy's novels. It analyses the various types of relationships and bonding we have with others, overcoming unhealthy ones and developing a positive outlook towards life by focusing on one's own happiness.

The novel *Tea for two and a piece of cake*, follows Nisha's journey from meeting and falling in love with a wealthy, handsome man to taking a stand as an independent woman. A plump and an ordinary

girl Nisha, considers Samir Sharma, businessman, perfect in every manner. Nevertheless, their relationship fails after eight years of marriage. Nisha with the help of Akash finds love a second time and becomes financially independent by starting her own business.

A Hundred Little Flames, is about a young man, who loses his job due to a scandal at his office in the city and sent to live with his grandfather in a small village in Kerala. Ayan, a 26-year-old develops a strong bond with his grandfather, Gopal Shankar. He discovers his father's evil plans and stands by his grandfather all throughout. Even though Ayan was brought up in the city, he takes the decision of staying at the ancestral home, *Theke Madom*, after his grandfather's sudden demise and cuts off ties with his father.

When love came calling is the relationship between Puja and her parents. Her strict mother sends her to a rural area in Kerala to spend her vacation there. There she comes across Arush who has come from Britain to spend 12 weeks as his parents belong to this place. Their stark differences are obvious to each other. However, with no proper internet and no other distractions, they fall in love. In spite of all the challenges, their love remains strong throughout. When disaster strikes, Puja is forced to confront the harsh realities of life while Arush realises that India is not always the picture-perfect postcard he presumed it was. Puja leaves her home secretly to meet Arush in the UK. But her mother realises her mistake of not understanding Puja leading to reconciliation in the end.

A Place called Home is a novel about surprises and self-discovery. Alka, whose mother was a maid at the home of Mrs. Shetty, works hard and becomes a successful woman. She marries a coffee grower who has 400 acres of land. She hasn't shared about her past with anyone yet. However, when her secret past is exposed, she fights it all bravely by visiting Mrs. Shetty and venting out her hidden feelings.

5.1 Research Gap:

Earlier books and papers were examined, and it was found that Preeti Shenoy's writings had received very few interpretations. Her novels address the hindrances faced by the protagonists in the various types of relationships, self-discovery and transformation into resilient individuals.

5.2 Research Agendas Based On Research Gap:

The following crucial areas will receive the majority of attention in the research:

- (1) Is Preeti Shenoy successful in depicting the different aspects of human relationships in her novels?
- (2) In what manner does Preeti Shenoy portray positivity in the face of relationship challenges?
- (3) By what means do intergenerational relationships influence the personal growth of the characters in the novel?
- (4) In what way does Preeti Shenoy depict characters' journeys of self-discovery in the context of balancing societal pressures and parental expectations?
- (5) In what manner are issues of class and characters' struggles within the context of relationships portrayed in Preeti Shenoy's novels?

The present study focuses on the manner in which the author addresses human relationships and the positive approach towards life in her works. The novels chosen for the study are examples of works where the author discusses the various types of relationships, conflicts and the struggle to be blissful individuals. These relationships and the adversities the protagonists face, we come across in our daily lives. Thus, "Review of Human Relationships and their positivity in the select novels of Preeti Shenoy" is the topic under study.

5.3 ABCD Analysis Of The Chosen Topic:

According to Aithal P.S. et. al. (2015), (2016) (2017) [97] [98] [99] [100], business model identification and selection benefit from ABCD analysis is a powerful tool, but there is a lot of subjectivity involved. In contrast to the SWOT analysis used in strategy formulation, it works best when used as a guide. The entire framework is divided into various focus areas, and under each of these, various business deployment factors affecting the business or concepts are discovered and analysed by locating the appropriate critical effective element. Due to its simplicity, this method of analysis provides guidelines for determining the viability of any business model, business strategy, business concept, or business system. The ABCD Analysis framework is used in this paper to look into the five indices and determine the advantages, benefits, restrictions, and drawbacks of the study.

Table 4: ABCD Listing on Human Relationships

ADVANTAGES	BENEFITS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional Support • Communication • Social Connection • Self-Confidence • Reduced Stress • Increased Self-Esteem • Personal Growth • Conflict Resolution Skills • Physical Well-being • Longevity • Joy and Fulfillment • Mutual Respect • Accountability • Supportive Network • Love and Intimacy • Family Bonds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Mental Health • Improved Coping Mechanisms • Better Physical Health • Increased Happiness • Enhanced Self-Esteem • Increased Empathy • Collaboration and Cooperation • Sense of Belonging • Enhanced Social Skills • Shared Joy • Quality of Life • Emotional Resilience • Mutual Learning
CHALLENGES	DISADVANTAGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conflict and Disagreements • Communication Issues • Jealousy and Insecurity • Lack of Empathy • Negative Influences • Time Management • Different Expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negative Influence • Emotional Pain • Fear of Abandonment • Incompatibility • Financial Strain • Abuse and Manipulation • Limited Freedom

The proposed study sheds light on the need for healthy human relationships. It is vital for everyone to understand the positive impact of healthy relationships on our mental and emotional well-being. This study's discussion on the themes, will enable us to be aware on the relationships we share with others and work towards maintaining healthy ones. The research is conducted through secondary source investigation and textual analysis. The study's concentration on four of Preeti Shenoy's novels about relationships among individuals was just one of many important limitations.

6. CONCLUSION :

The current study is titled “Human Relationships and their positivity in the select works of Preeti Shenoy”. Many relationships are failing nowadays and it is vital for us analyse our relationships with others and work towards developing meaningful ones. Through these four novels of Preeti Shenoy namely *A Hundred Little Flames*, *A Place called Home*, *Tea for two and a piece of cake* and *When love came calling* we can understand the different types of relationships, the impact of changing relationships on the protagonists of the novels and ways to overcome challenges. We can observe the transformation and the positive change in the protagonists at the end of the novel. Hence, it is necessary for each and every one of us to develop positive and healthy relationships.

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