CHAPTER TWO

THEMATIC DIMENSIONS IN

FIVE POINT SOMEONE
2.1 Introduction

C. Bhagat published his first novel *Five Point Someone* in 2004. It led to immense rise in his fame. *Five Point Someone* is about the college days of three students from IIT Delhi. It is one of the leading Indian institutes for Engineering and science, equal to MIT or Princeton. This book doesn’t deal with engineering neither concern how to clear the entrances. The novel explained how things can get messy if you don’t think straight. This novel won the Society Young Achiever’s Award and Publisher’s Recognition Award. *Five Point Someone* has been adapted into a movie entitled *3 Idiots*.

2.2 Thematic Dimensions in *Five Point Someone*

In this chapter the major and minor themes in *Five Point Someone* have been discussed in detail. Campus life, faulty education system, love-hate relationship and philosophy of life are the major themes whereas optimism and search for identity are the minor themes.

2.2.1 Major Themes

2.2.1.1 Campus Life

*Five Point Someone* provides a portrait of the comprehensive reality of the ins and outs of the new technocrats who design and define the dreams of their lives in IIT, the best technical institutes of India. It has become a pathfinder and has
come true to the prediction made in the ‘Outlook’ by Devangshu Datta, a famous critic that, “Five Point Someone could achieve cult status” (Datta).

With the publication it laid the foundation of a new stream of fiction that can safely be defined as the ‘Fiction of Technocrats’. His disapproval of ragging in the most celebrated institutes of the nation, futile grading systems and counterfeit arrogance of the IITians is of full credibility. Five Point Someone is set in an IIT, but it could have been the story of any Indian youth studying in any college in India with a peculiar type of youth life and related events. How high should their marks be so that things work out when placement time arrives? It is better to be a five point someone who has friends and gets the girl in the end. In short, it is a campus novel. The story is moving around the trio Ryan, Alok and Hari, who discuss about the marks at all the big time. They think they are in a limbo because of their attachment with each other to have a fun and aloofness with study. With the help of campus life the most important thing focused is how student’s unrest and uncontrolled stress lead to addictions. They begin smoking cigarette, then vodka and other drugs. They also used to go to movies for relief and refreshment.

C. Bhagat gives a glimpse of the distinguished effects of ragging. It is quite ordinary in engineering colleges through this campus novel. The freshers of IIT, including these three students were called by the seniors up on the terrace for ragging at midnight. One of the seniors scolded Ryan, Hari, and Alok. He says,
“You bloody freshers, dozing away? Rascals, who will give an introduction?” (Bhagat 3) All of them gave introduction to seniors. After the introduction Baku and other senior students instructed them to remove their clothes. This type of discomforting incidents in the name of ragging creates a great emotional effect on the minds of students which may lead the suicidal attempts. Fear and sarcasm go simultaneously. In the entire description of ragging was being inflicted on these innocent freshers at IIT, C. Bhagat focuses on the damage of the psyche of this candidate groping in the dark for a prosperous tomorrow. With a mix feeling of desperation and witty humour, the narrator comments:

Another demon grinned at us, slapping his bare stomach every few seconds. There seemed to be no choice so we surrendered every item of our clothing, shivering at the unholy glee in Baku’s face as he walked by each other of us, checking us out and grinning. (Bhagat 3)

In another reference he compares them to Farex babies. Baku told Alok and Hari to step forward, so the seniors could have better view and a bigger laugh. “Look at them, mothers fed them until they are ready to explode, little Farex babies” (Bhagat 3). The fear and nervousness of Ryan and Alok is at the apex on the inhuman treatment of Baku. At Ryan’s own disappointment, his agony converts into powerful anger and he grabs the two bottles and stamped hard on Baku’s feet. Anurag and other seniors having a realisation of the force of the energy of Ryan
tries to convince him, this is just fun. Ryan immediately growled, “It is not fun for me, just get the hell out of here” (Bhagat 6).

Ryan being boldest of the three manipulates to save Alok and Hari from the disgrace of ragging. He fought against the evils of ragging and the senior-fresher favoritism. He saves Hari and Alok from the humiliation of ranging. After that, they became good friends forever. Immediately after admission, the ordeal of ragging by seniors made them aware of hostilities and humiliations in that campus. This panic of ragging contributes to strengthen their personal friendship.

The novel shows the problems of modern youth’s dilemma. Three friends are so much tired of the laborious work by the professors. The students do not get much time for fun and extra activities in IIT. They do not have time to enjoy their private life. All of them are always busy in their studies. Ryan observes about study and he comment as:

Working away like moronic drones until midnight.
ManPro yesterday, ApMech day before, Quanto today…it never ends. I need a break, man. (Bhagat 14)

In contrast to this monotonous atmosphere, there is a reference of Priya Cinema as a respite from their IIT system. With a sign of relief, Ryan and Alok find back to the routine course of life relaxed and relieved. When all of them reached at Priya cinema they mention this cinema hall as:

Priya cinema at night was a completely different world
from our quiet campus. Families, couples and groups of young people lined up to catch the hit movie of the season. (Bhagat 16)

With their return to Kumaon Hostel, Alok and Ryan find friends roaming in the corridors with their note books. Ryan in the mocking tone comments, “let us mug and cram. Otherwise, how will we become great engineers of this great country?” (Bhagat 18) It does not permit the possibilities of the natural development of youths. With their poor presentation in the mechanical quiz, they terribly suffer the panic and obsession of the pressure with the encounter with adverse condition lead to the change of the psyche of these freshers. They develop the thesis of bear pain and shattering of idealism for self-survival. Ryan does not hesitate to decorate the walls of his rooms with the portraits of nude women; posters extracted from US porn magazines. Ryan develops a sort of wanderers. Alok still nurtures the dream, he asserts, “I want to get a job in Delhi, so I can look after my parents and take care of our money problems” (Bhagat 99). Hari with contempt makes a confession as, “I really did not know what I wanted in life” (Bhagat 100). This looming of the clouds of nothingness makes new IITians desperate and negative towards the conditions of life.

Ryan is the representative figure of young generation. He reveals the bitter truth of campus life. In this novel, C. Bhagat has presented the present day scenario. Bhagat shows extraordinary talent in shortening the bridge between fact
and fancy. After the first semester, Alok leaves the company of Ryan and Hari. He wants to share his studies with some intelligent friends. He does not want to lose his identity among his friends. In spite of eating, drinking and merry-making, he would like to improve his marks to get the proper placement in order to help his father financially and perform sister’s marriage.

Hari reflects the mind of the young generation. Like today’s young generation he believes in the enjoyment of life. He feels disgusted about the nature and works of Venkat who is nine pointer good student of IIT. He is always busy in his studies from morning to night he always says, study and study only. Hari says to Ryan and Alok as:

I felt disgusted. Nobody in Kumaon talked to Venkat; given a choice he wouldn’t talk to himself. He had a good GPA and everything, but that was hardly human. Venkat woke up at four in the morning to squeeze in four hours of muggings before classes. Every evening he spent three hours in the library before dinner. Then, after dinner, he studied in bed for another couple of hours until he went to sleep. Who on earth would want to be with him? (Bhagat 65)

The Kumaon Hostel becomes a metaphor for the challenges of life and vision of the new technocrats. In a humorous tone they do criticise the mass of
food being served in the mess inside the hostel. The light humour with an undertone of resentment is remarkable in the following confession:

The cooks made the noodles in superglue or something—they stuck to each other as one composite mass in the huge serving pan. The French fries were cold and either extremely undercooked or burn or taste like coal. The cream of mushroom soup could have been mistaken for muddy water, only it was warmer and saltier. (Bhagat 155)

In another description, Ryan presents a photographic description of the outdated latches and windows of the institution, “The insti windows have latches that are weaker than rubber bands. One bang on the back and it opens” (Bhagat 160). Hari, Ryan and Alok organise a plan and call it Operation Pendulum. C. Bhagat introduces six chapters to present the entire process of the sensibility and perception of life. In the first place, Bhagat makes a reference to the effect of Operation Pendulum, “I tell you the day of Operation Pendulum was the most memorable and longest of all my IIT days” (Bhagat 163). Ryan forces Hari to get the key of Cherian’s office. On one hand Hari makes a plan to take the keys of the office of Prof. Cherian and on the other hand, meeting with Neha remains charming passion in his life. When he reached at Cherian’s house at that time Neha gets sprain in her ankle but Hari in no way ready to spend some time with Neha.
The plan Operation Pendulum is designed by Ryan and the main idea behind this operation is to get the key of professor Cherian’s office to get the question paper of one of the semesters. Hari takes the key of Cherian’s office without Neha’s notice. After taking the key the trio tries to reach Prof. Cherian’s office to steal copy of the question paper. Their search goes futile because the peons and guards on duty arrive at that time. They have been caught red-handed. The guard locked the door from outside and three of them were locked in Cherian’s office on the sixth floor at midnight. Such daring act was bound to lead to the consequences that were horrible for their efforts.

Disciplinary action was to be conducted for stealing the paper. There will be action taken in disciplinary committee for deciding the fate of students. Everybody was amazed on this daring act at the campus of IIT. As soon as Prof. Cherian appears there, he realises as if, “someone screwed all over my life one day” (Bhagat 190). Cherian calls these technocrats as criminals. As a foil to Cherian’s cruelty Prof. Veera with his good approach is the only consolation for these students. Mr. Cherian declares, “I don’t want IIT name in mud because of these miscreants” (Bhagat 192). In Prof. Cherian’s idea of student’s discipline, there is no space for the students. They can’t eliminate the shadows of existing consciousness. Prof. Veera defends as:

I agree, this is quite outrageous. We cannot decide their
fate so easily. We have a mechanism, not that we use it often. Take them to Disco. (Bhagat 192)

The whole description of Disco is presented by C. Bhagat as the scene of a battle before the final fall. Several doubts regarding the security of their future grip the attention of students. They perceive the possibility of failures or the termination from the Institution itself. The stress is remarkable in the confession of Ryan as:

I think no one will give you a job; the bloody US types take this cheating stuff pretty seriously. No admission to MBA colleges either—they will ask the same in an interview. (Bhagat 195)

Alok with tears in his eyes only thinks of the sister and father whose survival depends on Alok’s job security. It is only Prof. Veera who tries to invent a formula to save these miscreants from self-contempt. Job is not the ultimate distinction of the life of every IITian. It is a process to discover what is best that is inherited from nature. Prof. Veera gives a new direction to the consciousness of Ryan and exhorts him as:

You, Ryan Oberoi, I thought was one of the most brilliant students we had ever had. Your lab project was the best works I have seen come out of a student. I don’t care about your grades at all. But you were stupid enough to risk your future for a stupid letter on your grade sheet. (Bhagat 198)
Prof. Veera further tries to strengthen his will and confidence to come out of the phobia of termination. “Hmm, I think the first thing you have to do is get the expulsion stuff out of the way” (Bhagat 198). Prof. Veera counsels them to be prepared for alternative punishments like public apology or hundred hours of community service. He makes a practical suggestion to make use of Neha to come out of the mess in which they have been caught. Prof. Veera neglecting private sentiments gives a very practical suggestion. “An upset girlfriend is better than a tainted degree and no jobs after college” (Bhagat 199). With this suggestion, he develops a new aesthetics of life, “Romance was secondary to survival right now” (Bhagat 200).

Hari presents the real account of Disco where Professors fire questions at students from all directions. There was serious charge against him the act of stealing the paper. To make a defense for his survival, he reveals that he managed the whole Operation Pendulum with the support of Prof. Cherian’s daughter. Such daring act of the young graduates at IIT is not a sign of their immorality but is essentially a sign of the sickness increase within their inner mind. Whatever Hari feels in relation of Neha, gives an insight into the dilemma of these young graduates. With the reference of Neha, the case takes an entirely different turn but the moral consciousness associated with them can contribute to manifest the
awareness for personal relationship existing in the life of these technocrats. He reflects on the two opposite pulls operating on his psyche:

It was different on the roof that day. I hated myself for dragging Neha into this. In fact, I hated myself for being a cheat. And for everything else-agreeing to duplicate the keys, being a part of Operation Pendulum and bringing my life to this. How did I get here? I was a topper in my school all my life. This is how I got into IIT, right? But then why am I now a low performer, five point something cheat sitting on the insti roof at mid night, unsure of my future? (Bhagat 205)

In such confessions there are distinctive reflections of emotional reality existing behind external facts. During trial at Disco, the three of them are suspended for one semester. With this decision, the consistent fear of selection and safe job disturbs all of them.

C. Bhagat has tried to expose the consequences of the unfair system of institution. Out of depression and failure to conform to the decision of Disco, Alok decides to commit suicide. He develops a sense of alienation where he fails to seek his belongingness in the institution. The white sheet of bed becomes red with the blood of Alok. The following description is pathetic:

I guess with thirteen fractures you kind of deserve a bed. These sheets were originally white, which was hard to tell now as Alok’s blood covered every square inch of
them. Alok lay there unrecognizable, his eye balls rolled up and his tongue collapsed outside his mouth like an old man without denture. Four front teeth gone, the doctor later told us. (Bhagat 211)

Ryan and others were expected to wait outside the ICU in the desperate anxiety for the survival and recovery of Alok. Hari makes a desperate comment, “All of us needed time to rest. And we had time four months of it to take all the rest in the world” (Bhagat 213). In C. Bhagat’s fictional world, every experience opens the windows for the new experience but the rhythm of life consists of the series of commas. Prof. Veera comes forward with a suggestion as a compensation for the loss. He suggests that their lube experiment can be taken as a part of their research project and their time of research is to be taken as compensation, a gap filling for the expulsion.

Finally there is a change in the mindset of Prof. Cherian who gives his consent to show their seventh semester as a research semester. Cherian in all sympathy calls three of them and offers them to sit down. With a perfect peace of mind, he consoles them, “I said I could get you lab credits that is if you are ready to work on this project this semester. I know you are already overloaded” (Bhagat 247).

Though the insecurity of being five pointers remain rooted in their consciousness. “We are five pointers, remember? So a lot of these jobs won’t even
short list us” (Bhagat 248). The only consolation with them remain is that of being short listed in a software company, “Software that is the hot sector this year. They hire in droves and don’t have GPA-based short-listing criteria” (Bhagat 248). However, they are not only short listed but also get placements in Bombay and Delhi. Hari recalls the moments of joy on the revelation of the reality of placement, in over helmed feeling he assert:

I became numb and couldn’t answer him for the next five minutes. I was lost in my thoughts. Just a few days ago, I was planning to spend an extra year to complete five credits and collect a tainted grade sheet. (Bhagat 252)

Alok gets thrilled on the prospects of basic salary, travel allowance and much needed medical benefits. A mixed feeling of the delight of coming days with the realisation of the loss of the company of Neha makes him miserable. However, it is unfortunate that Ryan fails to get decent job. It is only with the direction and assistance of Prof. Veera that he gets a partial appointment as Research Associate to continue his lab project.

At the end of the novel, Professor Cherian changes his thinking and gave an advice to all IITians. He points out the gist of life on the occasion of convocation day, by stating as:

Don’t take yourself too seriously. Life is too short, enjoy yourself to the fullest. One of the best parts of campus life is the friends you make. And make sure you make
them for life. (Bhagat 262)

Ironically, it indicates what not to do things interestingly at IIT. Finally Alok, Hari and Ryan get the degree from IIT. On the occasion of convocation ceremony when they get the degree at that time Hari’s feeling very aptly depicted as:

You know, it is strange, I might have passed out of IIT, but in some ways, my soul is still there. Maybe in the hostel corridors, or at Sasi’s, or at the insti roof…(Bhagat 267)

Above lines shows all of them emotionally attached with this institution. The theme of campus life shows the dark secrets of IIT life. It also shows the sense of failure experienced. This sense of failure is a feature in all developed nations like the US and developing nations like India. The theme of campus life also shows the performance pressures, failures and triumphs of a group of friends studying at the famous Indian Institute of Technology (IIT). Sometimes the students survive classes, parents, a bad idea, and an immoral encounter’s with the professor’s daughter to make it to graduation. The things which the readers encounter in the *Five Point Someone* can see in the society. Today the young generation does not work properly and that is why they have to suffer at last. Sometimes due to professor’s negligence about the work of the students, students have to suffer
through the whole year. All Professors consider their students should be busy in study only. They do not have any time for their private world.

Thus, C. Bhagat has given the true basic views about the campus life which totally affect the society. The writer of the young generation is very much enthusiastic to represent his own life in IIT and the incidents that took place during his college life.

2.2.1.2 Faulty Education System

The novelist pinpoints faulty grading system in educational field and presents the real picture of IITs that affects the whole society. From the novel *Five Point Someone*, the writer started the movement of the so-called policies of education in which the semester system proves to be faulty. With the help of the theme of flawed and imperfect education system Bhagat has tried to illustrate how students waste their opportunities in college years if they don’t think straight. With Ryan, Alok and Hari’s character C. Bhagat describes diverse facets of IIT life, the academics, the professors, and the rat race to get better marks. They call IIT system as a rat race where quest for innovation and knowledge comes next to the obsession of balancing the grade system.

Ryan compares life with the mice theory. He believes the theory is sufficient to explain the problems in IIT. The effort has been taken to expose the weakness of the IIT system because it suppresses talent and individual spirit. It extract the best
years of one’s life from the country’s brightest minds. It judges students with a cruel GPA system that destroys relationships. C. Bhagat focused the impasse of today’s engineering students in India who seek admission in the country’s top University, only to revolt against the ridicules ambiance of education system. C. Bhagat clearly portrayed ragging, hostel life, work pressure from the higher authority, increasing suicide cases, a great criticism on educational system in India following internationally landed IIT system that has stifled students’ creativity by forcing them to value marks more than anything else; uninspiring teaching and numerous assignments adding to their woes, while still having time to enjoy one’s youth.

The novelist has tried to describe the present scenario. In India, youth had begun to have far more options than their parents. But their choices are depicted by traditional education system, and overbearingly high expectations. C. Bhagat spoke about the drawback in the educational system. According to Bhagat, Indian education system highlights on learning over understanding, remembering over thinking only to exhibit a lack of sync with the globalized world.

The writer is not only critical about the system of IIT entrance exam but he is also not of good opinion about the grading system in the technical exams. He admits the fact that, the greatest minds are spoiled in their youths. It also makes them frustrated and cut off from the mainstream. C. Bhagat finds that IIT education
is not sufficient for the overall development of personality. It is going to create four serious drawbacks in the life of youths like disappointment, frustration, unfairness and loneliness. These markers spoil human sensibility. To avoid it, we just need to keep the raincoat handy.

At the very outset of the novel, C. Bhagat presents an elaborate account of the atmosphere of IITs; how do they contribute to decide the psyche of all those who enter the gates of IITs. In the subsequent narration, the narrator focuses on mark obsessions and the idea of perfection is conveyed by the professors who are conditioned not to take into account the personal choices of the students. On the question of Professor Dubey, Hari’s tongue cleaves into dental roof, body freezes and blood vessels rupture. Prof. Dubey mentions as:

The definition of a machine is simple. It is anything that reduces human effort. So, see the world around you and it is full of machines. (Bhagat 9)

When Professor Dubey explains the definition of machine at that time Ryan asks: “Sir, what about a gym machine, like a bench press or something? That doesn’t reduce human effort. In fact, it increases it” (Bhagat 10). The professor does not know how to respond. Professor feels down and tries to force the self of the boy by saying the most important character Ryan “Watch it son. In my class, just watch it” (Bhagat 11). This type of responses from Profs is not good for overall education system. Here Bhagat tried to show that the Profs don’t care for
the students. People who have studied in IITs know how students can pose fairly challenging questions based on their universal sagacity without any prior knowledge to unsettle teachers in the class. In Mr. Dubey’s lecture, three of them were informed about strictness of Prof. Cherian and respect for grading system. He mentions this grading system as:

Respect the grading system. You get bad grades, and I assure you— you get no job, no school and no future. If you do well, the world is your oyster. So don’t slip, not even once, or there will be no oyster, just slush. (Bhagat 11)

Almost all students believe in what their teachers teach. There are few, hardly one out of ten, who dare cross-question to their teacher. Such a few ones are those who obey none but the command of the self and are not afraid of the consequences. They raise voice against the wrongs of the system. Ryan is one of them.

Prof. Dubey ordered students to plan a car jack for lifting the chassis in case of flat tires etc. Ryan draws an adapted screw-jack, in which one does not have to open manually and raise the jack. Hence, one can attach a motor on the traditional jack and hook it up to the car battery. But the professor finds it difficult to accept this original thinking. Open communication leads to the emancipation of thoughts which boosts up the mental growth of the students. It also increases the efficiency
level of the education system. Such are the innovation and reformative steps which the writer inspires in the youths for the renovation of the educational system.

The gaps and limitations of IITs are brought out vividly in a get-together involving students. This example shows that many professors at the IITs are not able to handle the talents of students. But at the same time, there are some professors who are different and whom students admire. Ryan never bunks the fluid mechanics class in the fourth semester and the cause is Prof. Veera. He is completely different. He is twenty years younger than other Professors. No more than thirty, he wears jeans and T-shirts, which bears his US university logos. He holds five degrees from top universities-MIT, Princeton etc. Prof. Veera makes it clear that he likes students who can think creatively and put the principles taught in the class into practice. Ryan builds a special relationship with Prof. Veera.

The novelist explores the continuous burden of courses and marks along with quizzes, tests and presentations. There was no consolation for the survivors. C. Bhagat shows that the atmosphere of IIT makes them weak and insecure. Ryan hitting the peeling wall with a fist desperately declares, “I think this is jail. It really is. Damn jail” (Bhagat 14). Instead of any belongingness and joy, they find themselves petrified like caged bird looking for freedom.

Ryan, Alok and Hari emerge as a voice of collective criticism against faulty educational system. It is not providing the freedom of expression. Most of the
IITians sacrifice their talent for securing jobs in multinational companies. The stress of relative grading systems made these engineers unmindful of their own goals and latent traits. Learning without creativity seems to be the whole endeavour of the system. It causes greater anxiety and loneliness. Ryan asserts:

This system of relative grading and over burdening the students. I mean it kills the best fun years of your life.
But it kills something else. Where is the room of original thought? Where is the time for creativity? It is not fair.
(Bhagat 35)

In their viva-voce examination and group discussion, they have to face all horrors, humiliations and the personal tortures of the professors. C. Bhagat ironically points out that in order to humiliate their students, professors sometimes call them commerce students. To call science students a commerce student is supposed to be the worst insult. He records this experience as:

Calling an IITian a commerce student was one of the worst insults that Profs could accords to us, like a prostitute calling her client a eunuch. The institute was the temple of science and anyone below standards was an outcaste or a commerce student. (Bhagat 56)

As soon as the result of first semester is declared, it is found that Hari, Ryan and Alok secured five points something and they are called five pointers. These marks are inadequate for any respectable job. Alok who joins the IIT with the dream of a good job in US to raise the family income, in utter failure cries out.
When all of them secured five points something at that time Ryan decide to celebrate their marks but Alok was so nervous he expresses his feelings as, “I have just screwed up any chance of getting a US scholarship or a good job and you want to bloody celebrate?” (Bhagat 61) After the result Alok becomes frosted. All of them were the lowest in Kumaon or something. Alok could have mulled more over his future, or rather the lack of it, but Ryan and Alok’s swollen faces filled his immediate vision.

Alok’s consciousness fades between his commitment for his parents and the reality existing in the campus. Ryan was hailed from a prosperous family. Alok is unable to tolerate the burden of marks. Alok accepts the reality as his marks are important for him. With sinking heart he mentions as:

And it is not just stupid marks for me. I don’t have my parents earning dollars like yours. I came to this institute with a purpose. To do well, get a good job and look after my parents. (Bhagat 64)

C. Bhagat advises the youths not to make race with others but with themselves if they want to succeed in life. This is what if one has a race with oneself; one can never be a loser even if one comes last in the race. The writer believes that the problem with the rat-race is only that even if you win, you’re still a rat. Ryan has an unsatisfied attitude about educational system and he wants to beat the system in the following way:
By living on our own terms. By being rats, not mice, work together and beat the system. I will not give up my friends for this system. (Bhagat 101)

Alok, Hari and Ryan adopt the practice of corporate to dominate and to resist the unfair system of IIT. After studying hard all of them secured very low marks that are five points something. That’s why they arranged a plane known as C2D (cooperate to dominate). It gives a humorous account of the typical trick-technology that helps to lighten the tension of the campus. The objectives raised by them are an interrogation on a system that sucks the best minds of India. He criticises on the IIT system as:

It suppresses talent and individual spirit. It extracts the best years of one’s life from the country’s brightest minds. It judges you with a draconian GPA system that Destroys relationships. The Profs don’t care for the students. (Bhagat 107)

Hari and others have persistent realisation of this stress. The warmth of relations like the company of Neha is the only possible consolation for them. Neha is the daughter of Prof. Cherian. He strictly instructed Neha not to talk to the IITians. She feels suffocated in the reserved environment of the home. She wants someone with whom she could feel the wonders of life and enjoy liberty. She finds such protector in Hari. Therefore, she obeys his order for which she breaks all moral and social chains of the patriarchal society only to enjoy the life at its fullest.
The burden of study leads to suicide came through the character of Samir. He was Prof. Cherian’s son. Samir drew a letter to Neha where he describes the overloaded burden of education system which leads him to suicide.

The action taken by Samir give the message that don’t try to force your child to be the one you want but, let them grow like flower and just feel them how they grow their self. So it is message to the society, please, those who have children, it is good to keep expectation but pressure too much leave you empty hand, do not be killers of your own children. This is the real situation of educational system. Such incidents occur in our day to day life. There are lots of issues in the educational system in India in general. The new generation very strongly feels the urge for the change in management for the betterment of the society, and in the fight against corruption, crime, underhand dealings etc., which plays a big role as barriers against development of the society and the country.

C. Bhagat shows the spirits of the youth of his nation. He helps them to realise their innovative vision. It has been explored that, Ryan, Alok and Hari fight against the patriarchal education system run by the old and out-of-date rules made by the century old educationists. The education system of IIT Delhi depicted the identical patriarchal norms and codes of education. The students are also burdened with assignments, class tests, surprise quizzes and major exams. They forget what the genuine meaning of the life is. Their hostel room seems to be imprisonment.
They are captivated only for felony. Ryan is the real mouthpiece of C. Bhagat. He criticises the education system and calls up the spirits of the youth.

C. Bhagat believes that the youths are the future of the nation. No mind can ever do wonders unless it thinks untraditional. We should not spoil the future of a boy who is not interested in learning the names of rivers and technical skills. C. Bhagat also adds further if a blockage is put on the creativity of the student he cannot innovate. There is a legend in everybody but we kill it in his childhood. C. Bhagat also expresses his views that parents are also responsible for the blockage of the students’ career. Bhagat opines that decentralisation of education is must for complete development of the students. This will help them to be away from the habit of mugging and spare sufficient time for creative activities. Not only government but, the parents are also accountable for making or ruin the life of their children. They get biased while taking big decisions of children’s life. They impose extra burden of their expectations upon their children and this hampers the mental and physical growth. This burden, sometimes forces them to commit suicide.

Here the death incident of Samir is beautiful example of over expectations of parents and overburden on him. He runs under the train and dies because he fails three attempts in the entrance exam of IIT. Every time, whenever he failed he was bitterly criticised. His life could have been saved if he was liberated to choose the
study of his own choice. At present, the teachers also want their student to follow them blindly whether their logic is acceptable or not. They cannot tolerate if any student dares to cross-question them. They compel the students to run in the mice race. It is the race wherein students have to mindlessly run. At the end of the novel, one can find that Ryan works with Professor Veera, Alok gets job in Delhi, and Hari goes to Bombay to perform his responsibilities of the home. These three characters have great impact on society as they represent the actual picture of faulty educational system and their internal and external problems.

Thus, the novel explores the faulty grading system which is imposed on the students. This shows today’s young generation’s woes to cope up with present semester system. In semester system most of the students are not able to score good GPA (Grade Point Average) in each semester and that’s why they are frustrated. In this way C. Bhagat has presented the picture of today’s educational system. At present day’s system the students have to suffer a lot because of their lack of knowledge and unexpected ambitions.

2.2.1.3 Love-Hate Relationship

In this novel, the novelist also tackles the theme of love-hate relationship. The novelist explores the theme of love-hate relationship through the relationship between Hari, Ryan and Alok and the relationship between Hari and Neha. With the instances of love C. Bhagat shows some instances of hate also.
2.2.1.3.1 Love-Hate Relationship between Hari, Ryan and Alok

The novelist has tried to show the relationship between Ryan, Hari, and Alok who represents the picture of entire society. In any form of literature, characters are the messengers of writer’s world view. *Five Point Someone* follows these three characters from their first day in college up to their graduating day. Each character comes from totally varied backgrounds. Ryan is a guy with more interest in practical rather than theories. He is the most intelligent among the other IITians. Ryan resembles a tragic hero, who has everything going for himself but things take a wrong turn. Some of his own follies plus the educational system which presses the students more towards futile theoretical studies make a rebel out of him.

Hari is the narrator of the story. Generally, his position is more or near to neutral between Alok and Hari. However, he is very impressed with Ryan and finds it difficult not to be in favour of Ryan’s decisions. Hari is a little bit insensitive to not being able to understand Alok’s problems. At some situation, he even laughs at Alok’s crying mother. Alok, the burdened man-whose hopes and aspirations, failure and frustration and their tricks and desires are presented with frankness and reality. He is poor, has paralytic dad and an elder sister of marriageable age. His mother is the only source of earning in the house. She always looks for Alok’s help. Alok wants to be an artist but decides to join the IIT
because he feels that it is the only way he can get a good job and support his family. But soon he finds that his low marks will lead him nowhere. Alok and Ryan are always on fighting grounds. They never seem agree on any point and moreover never on Ryan’s audacious plans. But then he has to give in as Hari fails to stand any solid ground against Ryan. He reveals the darker side of IIT. He is responsible for all the problems of Hari and Alok. In fact, Hari is the spokesperson of the novelist but he is unheroic hero, the real hero of the novel is Ryan Oberoi.

The story revolves around three students at the IIT. They are close friends but do not have anything common attributes. Each has different objectives, strengths and weakness. The story narrates their four years in IIT and how they overcome their weaknesses and obstacles but still stick together and graduate from IIT. Hari is the real observer of the activities of Ryan and passivism of Alok. At the same time Hari is also conscious about international incidents, especially about the pathetic condition of Iraq. The chapter entitled, “Make notes not war”, Bhagat throws light on the international issues and addressing the students to pay their attention on their study and not war. All the three friends want to get good mark in their respective exams. Among the three friends, Ryan does not like to follow the faulty educational system. After the Quanto-Physics assignment they become tired and in frustration Ryan says:

 What a crazy weeks; classes, assignments, more classes,
assignments and not to mention the coming attraction quizzes. You call this a life. (Bhagat 13-14)

It expresses the feelings of Ryan that he is not interested in this faulty exam system. The ideas of Ryan, Alok and Hari reveal the darker side of the IITs. C. Bhagat, the author of this era knows the nerves of today’s youth. C. Bhagat remains an insider both at physical and mental level in the exposition of the experiences of young IITians. Under the cover of this presentation, there are several observations on human sentiments that can be neglected but always can’t be ignored. With reference to the daughter of Prof. Cherian, C. Bhagat asserts how the glamour of IIT can’t empower the human sensibility of these young technocrats. Suddenly Hari comes in contact with Neha who shares personal details with Ryan and Alok. With this involvement in personal relationship, all of them develop a specific zest of life. It helps them to reduce their loneliness.

C. Bhagat, in his novels, provides opportunity to his characters to reflect on their own life conditions. Alok retains the desperate memories of the illness of his father and the helplessness of his mother. For him the admission in IIT is a consolation but his being a five pointer is the worst tragedy of his life. He no longer identifies himself with the system of IIT. Hari, Alok and Ryan make a plan of sharing all assignments, dividing course responsibilities, sharing lab experiment observation, combining hostel rooms into one living unit and splitting of the cost
of Vodka. They, in light humour, describe it as cooperation instead of cheating. The description is remarkable as:

We converted our three single rooms into one apartment the same day. Ryan’s room became the party room, Alok’s was the study room with three tables and my room had the three beds. (Bhagat 110)

In this description even if it is a fantasy, it is not devoid of the seriousness of vision. It reflects their idea of group living to seek emotional comfort and to restore their sporting spirit. Neha not only appreciates their idea but unconsciously becomes a part of that process. In utter exhaustion Ryan reflects on his own mental condition on their plan of ‘C2D’:

C2D was great, I found out, as I was responsible for only two courses in a semester. For the rest, Alok and Ryan gave me all the assignments and their notes…. The first minors that semester were a breeze. We didn’t like ace the class or anything, but our expectations were low just maintaining our five point GPAs. It is amazing how happy one can be with low expectations of one’s self. (Bhagat 116)

The ironical humour mixed with pathos continues in the description of the problems at Alok’s home and Hari’s desire to present a fine gift to Neha on the occasion of her birthday. On every occasion there was a reference to financial crisis. They make a naughty plan to enter Professor’s house through the windows
on the evening of Neha’s birthday. It is a crazy idea and they remain unmindful to
the result. They collect a sunflower from Neha’s garden and present her. While
Hari is sitting on Neha’s bed, a mix feeling of joy and panic grips his mind. Hari
manage Neha with the context of having a kiss on her lips in her own house. In his
efforts, Neha finds a projection of her own loneliness and contempt for the system
of IIT born out of the unfortunate dismissal of her own brother Samir. Neha looks
forward to a new lease of life full of joy and zest against the brooding sorrowful
hanging over the heads of these youngsters. Prof. Cherian and Neha stand in sharp
contrast to each other. She is different from her father. Hari points out, “I couldn’t
help but notice how Cherian was an extremely bad replica of Neha” (Bhagat: 139).
He compares the cruelty of Prof. Cherian with the terror of Saddam Hussein,
dictator king of Iraq.

The anxiety of securing higher marks grips the consciousness of Alok. Ever
since his return from family, he becomes hypersensitive to secure marks because it
was the only remedy for all his ills both inside and outside the family. Hari is
burdened doubly, first for his love for Neha and secondly, his anxiety for the
higher marks. Ryan having an insight in Hari’s anxiety tries to make him cool
down; Ryan gives suggestion to Hari as:

You have busted you ass for this course already. You
mess their up, and there is no hope for you man. You
probably know the answers better than anyone else.
(Bhagat 149)

He motivates Hari to enjoy the things like Vodka and cigarettes in the viva-voce. Due to this unexpected behaviour of Hari, Prof. Cherian turned red. He slammed his files on the desk. Prof. Cherian says:

Zero that is what you deserve. I wish I could give you negative and you better do well in your majors for I am going to let you get away from this that easy. (Bhagat 153)

Another dimension of personal relationship is to be seen in the unexpected arrival of Alok’s mother in Kumaon hostel. Alok remains confined in bed and out of anxiety his mother appears. It is a shock to everybody. The presence of mother implies moral disciplines entirely different from the authentic atmosphere of IIT. Ryan threw out the ash trays, porn magazines and vodka bottles. He tries to arrange the course books and assignments on the study table. Alok and others are surprised and scared. She insists Alok to pull the bed sheet off but it seems to be difficult to Alok because “Alok still had the signs-plaster casts covered both thighs and legs” (Bhagat 226). In this incident Bhagat has tried to establish the disciplines of parental love as a foil to the obsessive authority of the IIT. With all love, his mother expresses her feelings as:

There are things which a mother can sense, even though her son may not talk about it. I want to meet your Prof. Veera before I go home. (Bhagat 227)
As young Prof. Veera is able to understand the feelings of the trio, he always helps them. Due to Professor Veera’s humble efforts, the disciplinary committee let the three friends off.

The novel also tells about teenage love and how it effects on their lives. It is a gorgeous and elegant amalgamation of love and friendship which happens to everyone. The power of friendship is magnified in the novel when Alok returns back after breaking up for a year. The unconditional love of his friends enables him to understand his friends and their care for him. IITs use a unique technique of evaluating students called GPA. The score one gets is based on the presentation of the whole class. The top performer would get somewhere in high nine point something and the bottom performers would be in five point something. Such people are suspiciously referred to as five pointers. Most part of the novel deals with the numerous attempts by Hari, Ryan and Alok.

C. Bhagat through the dilemmas of Alok, Hari and Ryan captures imbalance disturbing the equilibrium of the consciousness of youths. Such fragmentation is essentially a sign of the sickness of the social structure that is gradually losing its centre for the better integration of human sensibility.

**2.2.1.3.2 Love-Hate Relationship between Hari and Neha**

The relationship between Hari and Neha is the most entertaining part of this novel. Hari’s consciousness gradually divides into two things first, the obsession of
marks in exams, second, the fascination for the company of Neha Cherian. Their first visit is very aptly depicted by C. Bhagat. When Hari meets Neha he describes the bare foot of the girl on the mental with extra care. Hari describe her beauty as:

Bare female skin on metal is enormously sexy. There was a dark red nail polish on her toenails, with one or two toes encircled in weird squiggly silver ringlets that only girls can justify wearing. I just wanted to keep looking at her feet but she started to talk. (Bhagat 29)

The relationship gradually develops between Neha and Hari. The emotional appeal enhances the impact of the narration and C. Bhagat’s novel no longer remains a social documentary but an emotional account of personal experiences. Day by day, the bond of relationship between Hari and Neha gets stronger and stronger. It is not a romantic relationship but a part of human experience that is essential to save the ego from being further lost. Hari is completely involved in the company of Neha. He provides her gifts and enjoys the pleasures of her curiosity to apply Hari’s lipstick on her lips. The whole process becomes a diversion in the life of Neha. With these passionate dreams, Hari comments as:

I watched Neha’s face as she applied her lipstick with the same concentration as Alok had when doing quanti problems. Girls are beautiful, let’s face it, and life is quite, quite worthless without them. (Bhagat 106)
C. Bhagat like some other postmodern writers seems to be convinced that the involvement in personal relationship seems to be the only remedy to avoid the growing sickness in the emerging scenario of social conditions. For Hari, Neha seems to be the apex of his dreams. He praises for her as:

It was true. I was always pinning for her. She looked beautiful. Even with her sore ankle, all pink and wrapped in a crepe bandage, she managed to look beautiful. (Bhagat 165)

Neha equally gets involved in the warmth of personal relationship and it seems essential to fill the guilt of loneliness of her own life. The cold degree of reason fails to control the craziness of relations. She kisses Hari and even does not hesitate to share sensual warmth in the company of Hari. She realises the guilt of it but does not fear of the terror of his father. Both Neha and Hari feel themselves transported in the world of pure happiness. While showing the private world of Hari-Neha, the most profound manifestation of humanity, the eventual factor of creativity, Bhagat’s intention is not to break the barriers of morality but to construct that untainted moment so male-female relationship that is beyond the terrains of logical analysis. With the mixed feeling Hari rightly asserts:

Half an hour later, we lay on the bed, spent but completely content. I looked up at the old ceiling fan in Neha’s room, going around in awkward circles and felt dizzy with happiness. (Bhagat 168)
In Neha’s life, the company of Hari was a method to overcome her loneliness. Bhagat believes that the novel is immensely successful without any description of sex and violence. In this novel, there is only one chapter in which there is sexual relationship between Hari and Neha. But the presentation is full of coyness and shyness. The writer does not give any graphic description as the modern writers take interest to do.

Prof. Cherian knows about Neha and Hari. He warns Hari to keep himself away from his daughter. He gives a warning, “One slip in the insti and I will ruin you. I will bloody ruin you” (Bhagat 175). It hurts Hari in an unconscious manner and he determines to take revenge upon Cherian. C. Bhagat through Hari-Neha relationship tries to manifest the power of passion. Hari is disgusted at the decision of Disco but it is impossible for him to save himself from the attraction of Neha. He says, “Neha. The name that did not allow me to sleep nights” (Bhagat 222). He further continues as:

However, none of these bothered me enough to cause insomnia. In fact, the four months off were great to catch up on sleep. But the one person whose voice, smell, image, feelings crept up next to me at night and made sleep impossible was Neha. (Bhagat 222)

The matrix of home and homelessness has been employed as a major backdrop for presentation of the conflicts of these IITians. In context of his
relations with Neha, Hari mentions, “That is the only good thing, I ever did in IIT. It is my passion, my sweat and my belief” (Bhagat 229). Above all personal conflicts, he makes a bold confession:

I miss you. And I love you. God, I was so close to you and then I blew it up. I wanted an A in your dad’s course. I thought I could impress him. Somehow, in our twisted minds we planned this Operation Pendulum. And they did a Disco on us, ruined our lives. And now you also don’t want to talk to me... (Bhagat 230)

Such an emotional confession makes Neha nervous. She comes into tears and only mentions, “I missed you too” (Bhagat 230). As a respite he enjoys chocolate and strawberry ice-cream. With this involvement in personal relations he gets new zest of life. With the breaking of traditional relationship and the emergence of new patterns of life, there is a greater isolation and loneliness. Madan Sarup, a renowned critic admits that, “Strangers often seem to be suspended in the empty space between a tradition which they have already left and the mode of life which stubbornly denies them right to entry” (10).

The violence and unexpressed resistance of Hari comes on the surface. It shows Bhagat’s method of rationalizing contempt and anger. It has come close to Arthur Miller, the eminent British dramatist’s thesis who perceives the lack of harmony existing between the demands of society and desires of individual. A famous writer Arthur Miller expresses his view as:
For a secular society, it is perhaps more difficult for such a variety to document itself and to make itself felt, but conversely the need to offer greater proofs of humanity of man can make that victory more real. It goes without saying that in a society where there is a basic disagreement as to right way to live, there can hardly be agreement as to the right way to die, and both the life and death heavily weighted with meaningless futility. (33-34)

Finally Hari gets a job in Bombay with all hurdles and dilemmas but his heart remains stick to the glaring eyes of Neha. What he looks forward to is not US Dollar but the company of Neha. He makes a desperate confession: “God, I missed her-hair, her laugh, her eyes, her holding my hand and everything else. Sure, I missed Ryan and Alok as well, but it was not the same. I pined for Neha” (Bhagat 267). In this respect, the novel *Five Point Someone* is serious novel containing a serious message for new generation that is caught in the web of confusing ideologies losing the grounds of happy survival based on the faith of personal relations, security of profession life and the faith in spiritual values.

Prof. Cherian quite changes his mind in the last part of the novel. In the beginning of the novel, he is rigid, serious, dry and disciplined. He never allows any kind of pettiness in life. The change which takes place in his character is not dramatic but the result of his own failure to understand the importance of human relationships. His own son is the victim of his own dream. When he understood the
essence of relations but time has already run out from his hands. His confession about the grading system and the fact that, that the students other than IIT are not inferior to anyone in talent at the end of the novel provides poetic justice to all relationships.

In this way, C. Bhagat analyse the relationship between Hari, Ryan, and Alok as well as between Neha and Hari. All these characters are different in their nature, ambition and attitude. Ryan’s unique sense of eating, drinking and merry-making is highly contrasted by Alok’s seriousness towards his grading. Ryan’s aristocratic living, drinking vodka and travelling through bike is contrasted by Alok’s humble living. Hari always makes the balances between Ryan and Alok. In fact, Hari seems to be ironically innocent. Among these three, Ryan is more intelligent and possesses an inventive brain. His research project as well as his C2D plan is the clear evidence of his inventive brain. He also believes in making anything easy. His way of living is sometimes intolerable for his friends.

In short, the message of relationship is superior to good marks. People who go after marks sacrifice their relationship for all, and they suffer for it by living emptiness. *Five Point Someone* touches the heart of the common person. It tells the story the way it really is.

2.2.1.4 Philosophy of Life
The novelist has presented the theme of philosophy of life. C. Bhagat as an IITian records the psychological reactions of the grade system in IIT. It is not a matter of the failure in examination only but it also becomes the fear of failure in the examination of life. It is a question mark on the integrity of nation’s prospects. Such reflections are suggestive of C. Bhagat’s commitment as an author. The wide gap of the glamour of IIT system and its obscurities that contribute to ruin the balanced attitude to life conditions certainly generates a greater chaos, disappointment, uncertainty and isolation in the life of young technocrats. C. Bhagat criticises on IIT system. Ryan becomes a voice of the novelist himself when he declares IIT system as:

This system is an unfair race. If you are a mouse who thinks or pauses to make friends with other runners, or stops to figure out what you want to do in life, or drag baggage from the past, then you will be pushed behind.

(Bhagat 101)

C. Bhagat notices how the desperation motivates them for the reaffirmation of their identity to resist the forces that are nerve stricken to them. The idea of inventing the theory of C2D is ironical, funny and the shame on a system that can’t ensure peace and security. Hari, Ryan and Alok are not allowed to work out things in their own ingenious ways. And this leads to the feelings of frustration about the institution they have come into that doesn’t allow free thinking. As in this novel,
Alok also has to go global as Ryan but because of his low Grade Point Average and his tension about his family make him very sincere in his studies and it becomes the reason for his leaving Ryan and Hari.

When Ryan, Hari and Alok get their marks, which are on a scale of ten, it is five points something. The marks should never be the sole parameter of assessing one’s intellectual capabilities. Hari, Ryan and Alok are unable to cope with the traditional education system. The young generation wish to live life on own terms because the quest for knowledge never ends with schooling, for learning is a continuous process right through one’s life.

On the convocation day Prof. Cherian realises the realistic condition. He decided to unburden his heart by disclosing all hidden facts regarding his son Samir and the reason behind not accepting Ryan’s research proposal. He comments on Ryan as, Ryan did not want to use his education for selfish personal gain. He wanted to help the country. He wanted to do research and stayed back at IIT. When he carefully read that proposal he realise that, getting a research project approved in IIT is harder than inventing the telephone (Bhagat 259).

His sensibility as a father sweeps his consciousness and humbles his pride as a professor at IIT. He comes in tears with the memory of his lost son. He takes the responsibility of the death of his son, “He killed himself because he did not get into IIT. He killed himself because of me” (Bhagat 260). He becomes impatient to get
rid of the guilt by making a public apology of his mistake. The love of Neha and Hari helps him to emancipate himself from the guilt of stressing his son. He admits his mistake publicly. He thought might be his son forgives him when he admits his mistake. He thanks one of his students Hari. Only because of Hari he could find the truth.

Prof. Cherian shares his personal experience while he further focuses on his own personal example, don’t judge others too quickly. He thought his son was useless because he cannot get into IIT. Prof. Cherian rightly asserts:

I tell you what, I was a useless father. It is a great to get into IIT, but it is not the end of the world if you don’t. All of you should be proud to have the IIT tag, but never judge anyone who is not from this institute—that alone can define the greatness of this institute. (Bhagat 261)

In his concluding message he moves to generalize the situation that GPA is not the ultimate touchstone of success. To get into IIT is not the ultimate destination of human efforts. He further gives a message to all students that, believe in yourself, and don’t let a GPA performance review or promotion in a job define you. There is more to life than these things—your family, your friends, your internal desires and goals. And the marks you get in dealing with each of these areas will define you as a person (Bhagat 261).
Prof. Cherian again and again criticises GPA system. At the end of the novel, there is inevitable change in Cherian’s attitude. Such a reversal in Cherian’s attitude affirms that C. Bhagat like several modern writers looks forward to the reorientation of the system to ensure peace and prosperity. It may be said that for the first time, he realises the importance of human relationships. For the first time, he blame on materialistic approach of human beings. He acknowledges the fact that GPA might make a good student but cannot create a good man. Prof. Cherian confesses at the last and adds:

And that is when I realised that GPAs make a good student, but not a good person. We judge people here by their GPA. If you are a nine, you are the best. If you are a five, you are useless. I used to despise the low GPAs so much that when Ryan submitted a research proposal on lubricants, I judged it without even reading it. But these boys have something really promising. I saw the proposal the second time. I can tell you, any investor who invests in this will earn a rainbow. (Bhagat 261)

In short, it gives a message that, good marks or promotion in a job are not the only things that matter in life. There are many other factors that matters a lot like family, friends, relationships, internal desires, etc. Rather than just being workaholic, we should give enough time for each of these along with our career. These really define each of us as a person. The author indicates how it is important
to make a balance between the usual routine stuff in the colleges and original thinking.

In terms of education, overseas qualifications will certainly give an edge in a highly competitive job market. And for an ambitious Indian student, overseas educational opportunities can only mean better career prospects. We are trying to reform our higher education system for more than half a century but the result in terms of systemic change is minimal. However, these seemingly unmovable systems have been a variety of significant changes and reforms.

The three different characters Alok, Ryan and Hari by nature have similarity with a lot of Indians. Global Indian people also suffer the same predicament as characterised by the author. They face the problems, rebels against the system, sometimes surrender to the system and sometimes remain stable with it, whatever the result. But person like Ryan who always has been aware of the coming circumstances and also influence the others and make a new world which is considered as the globalised world.

The global quality of the novel is not only in the writing style of C. Bhagat but also in his approach to life as represented by the different attitude of the protagonists. The novel not only emphasises the failure of the so-called prestigious centers of technology to adapt themselves to the changing situations and the aspiration of the youths but also those who are five pointers in academic
achievement are all considered failures. However, the real success in life is not necessarily linked to ranks or marks in education but how to lead a good and normal life. The novel *Five Point Someone* has a global theme that is the sense of failure of those young people who reach prestigious educational institutions with high hopes and dreams to equal achievements of students in the US and Europe. Education is one of the most important factors of India’s social and economic development. Higher levels of literacy lead to greater monetary output, advanced employment levels, improved health, enhanced social structures and a number of other growth indicators.

In the present novel, C. Bhagat has covered various aspects of human life such as the economic conditions, information of technology and the importance of human relationships in the lives of ordinary people. People have different types of goals as per their area of interest. They employ all their strength for enhancing their economic condition and for gaining new stage far away where they stands. In this novel, C. Bhagat goes through three different types of attitudes through the three main characters which represent today’s young Indians. In this novel, C. Bhagat deals with various issues associated with education such as family problems, institutional politics and professional attitudes towards education, etc. It is more difficult to achieve balance between the routine life and our original thinking.
Orthodox thinking of society affects our inner spark of mind and heart. There are lots of problems which affect not only education but other fields also. Conflicts of one’s conscience with the outer world always remain in human life. The system remains the ultimate destination for us. The mind of people is also divided into two different directions in which they want to have a place in the global world, and on the other side they do not want to surrender to the system. IITs have been developing based on the age-old Indian Culture, Indian Philosophy and IITians are carrying out these teachings all over the globe. As it has been the subject of esteem, India is the world’s oldest civilization and also the world’s biggest and prevalent democracy. Indians also maintain their culture with increasing globalisation. Therefore, Bhagat believes that, the global Indian is one who breaks the orthodox rules and proceeds further tradition bound Indian society.

Globalisation affects India and its culture immensely. To judge by the living standard of India, the country is moving very fast. People wish that the country would accelerate its ratio of progress. In the context of globalisation, India has been giving a high priority to stability than to efficiency. Ryan, Hari and Alok want to stable in their lives than to proper efficiency. C. Bhagat’s fictional world is a microscopic representation of the realities of postmodern society that are responsible for the suffering and perversion of human beings. He finds that in the framework of adverse conditions, man has no free will to express his own choices.
On certain occasions, life becomes too difficult and it leads individual on war path both against the well-designed social constructs and one’s own inner self. In *Hindustan Times*’ article entitled “Cut Off, Brunch Story” C. Bhagat expresses his view as; everyone will give you opinion on how to live your life. No one, no one will give you good advice on how to end it worse, they will tell you to continue living, without any respect for individual choice (Bhagat).

C. Bhagat’s concern for spiritualism and humble ways of life inspired him to argue the case of peace. Peace is the foundation of growth and energy, a safer release of the surplus energy. National security exists in the development of peace. C. Bhagat through his novels intends to construct the inner world of the consciousness of youth who wander in the wilderness in absence of definite aims and ideologies. The demon of materialism is creating chaos in the life of youth. He advises to follow the directives of nature to avoid gloom and nothingness.

### 2.2.2 Minor Themes

Bhagat also illustrates some minor themes like search for identity and optimism in his *Five Point Someone*.

#### 2.2.2.1 Search for Identity

Many of the leading novelists have written about search for identity in Indian English novels. Kamala Markandaya, Anita Desai and Arun Joshi depict the theme of search for identity in their novels. Bhagat also depicts the theme of search
for identity in *Five Point Someone*. It deals with new subjects of human existence and man’s quest for self-identity in complicated situations. Bhagat shows the struggle of his protagonists to establish their identity in the society.

**2.2.2.2 Optimism**

Bhagat also illustrate optimistic views in *Five Point Someone*. He always shows hope even in a hopeless situation. For instance, Prof. Cherian, the representative of the dictatorial education, realises the futility of being extremely serious about getting marks in the exam. He realises that college is not only forgetting good marks in exam; but it is also the time for making forever friends and doing something innovative.

**2.3 Conclusion:**

*Five Point Someone* is written with a lively humour but with the serious purpose of life. Light humour and serious purpose constitutes basic core of this novel. C. Bhagat has tried to show the crude realities of life. C. Bhagat intends to construct the inner world of the consciousness of youth. He has also tackled the realities of contemporary society that is the cause of growing depression. The demon of materialism is creating chaos in the life of youth. He advises to follow the directives of nature to avoid gloom and nothingness. It conveys the message that more than academic excellence, the integration of the diverse demand of
human life is essential to save humanity from dismay, sadness, nervousness and depression.

To conclude, C. Bhagat attack on the faulty educational system of IIT. The continuous activities such as assignments, tests, quizzes etc. activities makes the students nervous.
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