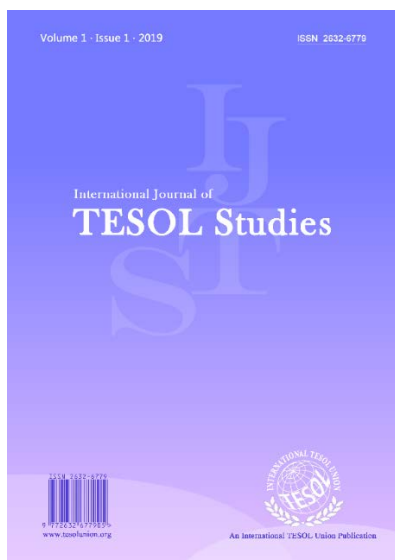


Call for Papers

The relevance of 'EFL', 'ESL' and other such terms in contemporary Asian contexts

About the Journal



International Journal of TESOL Studies (IJTS) (ISSN: 2632-6779) is a fully peer-reviewed international journal published by Cranmore Publications, UK. It is a flagship publication managed by the International TESOL Union (UK), a professional platform to unite schools, colleges, universities, research institutes, and government organizations to promote depth and diversity in TESOL and language education.

IJTS is indexed/abstracted/listed by *MLA Directory of Periodicals*, *ProQuest*, *EBSCOhost*, *Gale*, *BASE*, *CNKI*, *DRJI*, *Google Scholar*, *Semantic Scholar*, and *ORE Directory*.

Introduction

Traditionally, terms like 'native English', 'English as a second language (ESL)' and 'English as a foreign language (EFL)' have been popularly used in scholarly circles (e.g. in the area of TESOL) for decades to characterize the varieties of English in the world. Similar terms like 'inner circle', 'outer circle' and 'expanding circle' English, coined by the late Braj Kachru, have also been used, in many instances uncritically. However, now that we are well into the twenty-first century, when the internet and social media are all pervasive, perhaps it is time to question and reevaluate the use of such terms. After all, how foreign can English be (e.g. in China and Thailand) when it is frequently encountered in the internet? Is English still a second language when it is learned after the home language but used for all purposes outside home (e.g. in Singapore)? What if it is not an official language but is used colloquially on an everyday basis (e.g. in Malaysia)? Such are pertinent questions in our quest for a deeper understanding of the nature of English varieties around the world and its implications for English language education. The *International Journal of TESOL Studies* invites submissions for a special issue on how to characterize varieties of English found in Asian, a linguistically, culturally, economically and politically diverse region.

Types of Submissions

Papers should be around 7,000-8,000 words in length (excluding the reference section). Each paper should focus on one country (but may pay special attention to particular cities or regions in the country). The paper should begin with a brief introduction of the linguistic scene in the country, the official status of English, and the role and/or importance of English (or a form of English). The main part of the paper should characterize the main variety (or varieties) of English used in the country, arguing whether the terms (ESL, EFL, outer circle, expanding circle, etc.) are relevant or irrelevant in this country's context, and how the variety may best be characterized otherwise. Examples of use and other relevant data should be presented to support the arguments made. Implications for English language education should also be drawn.

Deadlines

Interested researchers need to send an email by 31 January, 2020 indicating their interest in writing for this special issue to the guest editor, Dr. Jock Wong at jockonn@gmail.com, or the Chief Editor, Dr. Xinghua Liu at liuxinghua@sjtu.edu.cn. Deadline for paper submission is 30 June, 2020. The expected time of publication is first quarter, 2021.

Format of Submissions

Authors should submit their manuscripts through the IJTS online submission interface: https://www.tesolunion.org/submit_an_article/

Guest Editor

The guest editor for this special issue is Dr. Jock Wong (jockonn@gmail.com), Centre for English Language Communication, National University of Singapore.

Sponsorship

Currently, the following two means of support are available to support this project:

- Published papers will automatically enter the pool of selections for the International Journal of TESOL Studies Paper Award.
- Contributors of the published papers who wish to further explore their chosen areas of research can contact the Chief Editor and indicate their interests in applying for the International TESOL Union Seed Funding for TESOL Studies.