Editorial

Dear ELT Research Journal Reader,

We are happy to publish the first issue of the third volume of *ELT Research Journal* that covers various topics related to ELT research. In this first issue of the third volume, we publish four research papers. However, before we launch ourselves into these research papers, a brief preamble into what necessitates such critical endeavours will help us place the research present here in wider context.

Since the digital and high-speed communication technologies have made an inevitable impact on the use and development of language and culture, these constitute effective teaching of language crucial in the present times. Learners are already engaging themselves extensively with technology and hence it is no wonder that they expect their educational institutions also to use the same. Due to this major paradigm shift it is now mandatory for educators to develop mechanisms to update themselves. Realizing the emerging issues and challenges in mind the present issue focuses on *Investigating Interface between Language Pedagogy, Culture and Technology.*

The first research paper is by Zhichang Xu from Monash University, Australia on *Online Teaching and Learning: When Technology Meets Language and Culture.* Hisstudy makes an attempt in exploring answers for three basic questions: 1) what do instructors and students actually do in online synchronous discussion forums? 2) what language and cultural issues are involved in the discussion forums? and 3) what are the pedagogical implications of using technology in teaching and of learning language and culture? For the study the researcher has gathered empirical online discussion forums data from four courses which have been analyzed.

He has also explored the pedagogical implications of using technology for teaching language and culture courses in the Online Learning Forum (OLF) Environment.

The second research paper in this issue is by *Neerja Vyas and Virendra Singh Nirban* from Birla Institute of Technology and Science, India. Their study focuses on *Students' Perception on the Effectiveness of Mobile Learning in an Institutional Context.*Their study briefly reports on the results of a survey of one hundred students from first degree and higher degree programme at an academic institution, and anlalyzing their attitude and perception regarding the use of mobile technology in education. An analysis of the quantitative survey findings is presented focusing on the prospects for mobile-learning (m-learning) practices in university learning and teaching environments. The paper also highlights the crux of research studies undertaken in the area of m-Learning across domains. It finally presents a perspective to use mobile technologies optimally to improve the educational practices in Indian context.

The third research paper entitled *Social Networks as Practical Classrooms: A Study of Language Change and its ELT* is co- authored by Rajyashree Khushu-Lahiri and Urjani Chakravarty from Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar, India. Their study posits that social networks have not only changed the individuals' linguistic behaviour but also made it easy for them to acquire facility in a language in a relatively short span of time. Further the study explicates this phenomenon within a pragmatic framework which provides a set of rules governing conversation and the social use of language enabling a communicative approach to the teaching of language.

The fourth and the last paper is by Sanjay Arora from Central University of Rajasthan,Ajmer,India. The paper entitled *Interface between Language and Technology: Destabilizing Standards,* focuses on the impact of technology on English language. For this it has been segmented into three parts. The first part discusses in brief the status of English in the pre-technology phase, followed by an extensive discussion of the changes that have come up in the language due to interface with technology concluding with the repercussions of this interface and the future prospects of the language.

For the coming issues of *ELT Research Journal*, we would like to encourage our readers to review newly published books and materials, and to submit questions and make comments about published work in this journal to disseminate ideas among researchers from all around the world. Once more, we would like to remind you that we need your comments and suggestions for our future issues.

We are looking forward to receiving your submissions to *ELT Research Journal*.

Happy reading.

Pushp Lata

Guest Editor
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