Key Terms and Concepts in English Language Teaching and Learning

P.N. Ramani

Applied Linguistics

Linguistics is the study of human language in general. This includes the structure of language (i.e., grammar; phonetics and phonology; semantics; and so on). It also includes the purposes for which language is used in the real world. Combined with other disciplines, it has given rise to specialized fields, such as

- *historical linguistics* (i.e., the study of language change over time and region),

- *psycholinguistics* (i.e., the study of the relationship between language and the human mind),

- *sociolinguistics* (i.e., the study of the relationship between language and society),

- *applied linguistics* (i.e., the study of the applications of language study),

- *critical linguistics* (i.e., the study of the relationship between language and ideology),

- *corpus linguistics* (i.e., the use of databases of authentic language for language descriptions), and so on.

Applied linguistics is a branch of linguistics that deals with applying linguistic theory to solving language-related issues in the real world and, as such,covers many fields. For instance, the field of *language planning* is concerned with issues – problems and challenges – relating to the planning and implementation of regional and national language policies. The field of language planning would address issues such as the following:

- the dominant language in a region or a country(e.g., the *lingua franca* or the official language);

- English as an International Language, Global English, Indian English, and so on;

- the language(s) to be taught and learnt in school, college and for jobs (e.g., two- or three-language formula; knowledge of and proficiency in the regional language for jobs in a particular state in the country like India; bilingualism;the role of the mother tongue-L1 in second language teaching and learning);

- the status and maintenance of other languages, including the minority languages; and so on.

Some of the other fields encompassed by applied linguistics would be *lexicography* (writing dictionaries), *forensic linguistics* (i.e., use of linguistic evidence in solving crimes),*speech therapy*, *translation studies*

and *language teaching and learning.* Application of linguistic theory in second and foreign language studies is perhaps the most common and significant field within applied linguistics. Formal programmes of study in applied linguistics leading to certification in language teaching and learning are likely to focus on language acquisition (including second language acquisition) and learning, curriculum and syllabus design, theories of language and language learning, approaches and methods (including the use of technology), testing and assessment, phonology and grammar, literacy studies, and so on.

STARTING A CHAPTER —GUIDELINES

1. For starting a new chapter one is required to collect subscriptions from at least 25 teachers and send the total amount collected by a bank Demand Draft taken in favour of ELTAI and send it to our office at Chennai (Address found in our websites www.eltai.in) only by Speed post or courier service.

2. In his capacity as the Convenor of the chapter, the one who collects the subscriptions may issue a temporary receipt, if required. And theELTAI office will send individually to all the members enrolled the formal official receipt with the Membership ID after the receipt of the total subscription amount.

3. It is suggested that the following benefits of membership of ELTAI may first be made known to teachers.
    i. A free copy of our bi-monthly, Journal of English Language Teaching.
    ii. Reduced Registration fees for attending all our programmes including our Annual conferences.
    iii. Preference given to our members in the publication of their articles in our Journals.
    iv. Eligibility for getting subsidized membership of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language. (IATEFL).
    v. Opportunities for interaction with ELT professionals in India and abroad.
    vi. Access to our E-Journals—The ELT Practitioner, Journal of Technology for ELT and Journal of Teaching and Research in English Literatu.

4. It is easy to enroll members at seminars/workshops/conferences organized by any institution.

5. For any clarification eltai-india@yahoo.co.in may be contacted.

6. Guidelines for Our Contributors

7. Articles on ELT are welcome. Share your ideas, innovations, experiences, teaching tips, material reviews and web matters with your fellow professionals. Please see pages 46-47 for detailed guidelines.

8. REQUIREMENTS

9. A4, Font size: Times New Roman 12, Double Spaced, Margin of 1 inch on all four sides. Title of the article should be in Caps, bold, centered.

10. Abstract in about 150 words

11. Full paper should not be in more than 2000 words.

12. Articles should be sent only as AN EMAIL ATTACHMENT – AS A WORD DOCUMENT to eltai_india@yahoo.co.in with a copy to rayanal@yahoo.co.uk (CDsand Hard copies will not be accepted.)

13. A photo of the author should also be sent in the .jpg file format as an email attachment along with the article.

14. Preference will be given to the publication of articles submitted by our members.