

EDITORIAL

‘Be happy for this moment. This moment is your life.’ -Omar Khayyam

These words by the great Omar Khayyam remind us of the importance of living in the present moment and cherishing every single second of our lives. As we step into the new year of 2023 with renewed hope and determination, let us also take a moment to reflect on the changes that have occurred in the field of English Language Teaching (ELT) over the years.



ELT has evolved significantly over time, and with every passing year, new trends emerge in this field. The growth in technology has had a profound impact on the field, and learner-centered teaching is becoming increasingly popular. Furthermore, task-based language teaching and intercultural communication have also gained greater attention in ELT. The need for intercultural competence is more significant now than ever, as globalization continues to drive business and trade. In technical education, strong language skills are critical, especially for engineering students, who must convey complex technical information with clarity and precision.

This issue of JELT brings to the forefront various articles that shed light on different aspects of language in technical education. Dr. Jaya Verma’s article on the evaluation of the English language communication skills of engineering students emphasizes the need for effective assessment tools to measure language proficiency, and to ensure that students are being assessed on the required cognitive skills.

Dr. Tukaram Rangrao Hapgunde’s article on the role of YouTube in developing spoken English is a practical guide on using technology to enhance language learning. Dr. Saranraj L’s comparative study on the effect of difficulty index and discrimination index in formative assessment of MCQs in technical English courses provides insights into the effectiveness of assessment tools. Meanwhile, Dr. Pratheeba Bose’s article on academic listening skills in the Indian context emphasizes the importance of listening skills in technical education.

Finally, Prof. Geetha Duriarajan’s column on ethnographic research challenges conventional notions of research in technical education. By advocating for a more holistic and nuanced approach to research, she highlights the potential of ethnographic research to provide valuable insights that can help educators develop more effective language learning strategies.

The columns by Prof. K Elango and the book reviews by Prof. Deepti Gupta and Prof. Veena Kapur are also noteworthy contributions to this issue. As we delve into the articles and columns of this issue we are reminded of the significant changes that are occurring in the field of ELT and the importance of adapting to these changes. The INDIA READS project by ELTAI encourages us to enjoy reading and to be the change that we wish to see in the world.

In this new year, let us embrace change and strive to make a positive impact in the field of ELT.
Happy Reading

Prof Neeru Tandon