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6th International Conference on Language, Literature and Society 2019

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Developing Inter-Personal Relationship and International Understanding through Language and Literature

Dr. S. Ramaratnam

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Interpersonal relationship is fundamental to human relationships... the ability of all peoples, of all kinds, to live together, in the same world, at peace. The important aspect of a good inter-personal relationship consists in effective communication and for an effective communication we need proper use of language. The proper use of language can be learnt from literature and that is how the theme for this year's conference becomes relevant. The world has taken giant strides in the field of communication systems with the boom of technology, but we have to go a long way in the proper use of language for effective communication and in building good inter-personal relationships. A positive teacher-student relationship strongly contributes to student learning. Our students need to be inculcated into values, morals and ethics. We need to give them an insight into spirituality. Spiritual direction is an inter-personal relationship in which we learn how to grow, live, love and be loved in our life. Taking a leaf out of literature, in *As You Like It*, we find that the brothers Oliver and Orlando are at the logger heads but when the latter saves the former from a lioness in a forest, the situation changes and Orlando repents for his high handedness. The Indian Epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata are veritable guides with respect to interpersonal relations.

Keywords: Interpersonal Relationship, Communication, Language, Literature

Seeking boundedness through intercultural communication

Victoria Magaba

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People do not live in isolation; they live in communities which are not always homogeneous. Planet earth has had tremendous migration of people across the globe for survival (two main reasons being fleeing war-torn countries and religious intolerance), identity, ecological reasons, etc. In the 18th century, the industrial revolution contributed immensely to the migration of people which led to people of different races and ethnicities coming into contact and having to learn to co-exist. This led to power struggles, politics and segregation along mostly racial lines and later ethnic and linguistic lines. Conflict ensued as the underlying processes of “the other” were embedded in most linguistic interaction attempts. Even so, the need to co-exist was unavoidable, hence there was language change, which led to the creation of pidgin (a simplified form of communication between speakers of different languages) and creole (formed from different languages and ending up being a fully-fledged language). In some cases, language change inevitably led to language shift. Globalisation had a ripple effect in channelling people to engage and it bridged the gap by breaking new ground in dispelling negative perceptions of those who were viewed as different as it brought interconnectedness. Intercultural communication has since gained traction; however, the fourth industrial revolution could upset the status quo if people lose sight of what is important and fail to intercede to restore linguistic rapport.

Keywords: *Industrial revolution, globalisation, fourth industrial revolution.*

Enduring Fabric of Reminiscences: A Study of the Different Roles that Memory and Nostalgia Play in Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss*

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The paper studies Kiran Desai's *The Inheritance of Loss* and examines how the authors position their characters on the social periphery. I further analyze the various ways in which Desai uses the narrative tools of memory and nostalgia in the novel. On one hand, the judge wants to escape from his past and blend with the English way of life. However, when he recalls his undistinguished Indian upbringing, he is ashamed and eventually, becomes a recluse unable to maintain a healthy social and family life. Unlike the judge, Biju fondly remembers his past life in India. Memory provides him a space of comfort and the reminiscences offer him an escape route from the exploitations and subjugations that he has to face on a daily basis as an illegal immigrant in the United States.

Key words: *Memory, reminiscence, marginality, isolation, immigration, diaspora, relation.*

Phonological comparison of Shanghai dialect used in everyday communication and that in Shanghai opera in the 21st century

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Shanghai is a rapidly developing Chinese metropolis, the language of which has evolved along with its economic development. Although the Shanghai operas (“Huju”) are performed in Shanghai dialect, the dialect in Huju is different from what is spoken in Shanghainese households. This paper takes the Shanghai opera piece, “The Last Night of Jin Daban” (2008), as an example of Shanghai operas in the “Xinpai” (“new style”) Shanghainese period. Shanghai dialect used in this piece is compared with the pronunciations of a chosen counselor who is proficient in “Xinpai” Shanghainese. Through contrasting the Shanghai dialect used in this piece and the pronunciations of a chosen counselor, there are two major differences between the everyday dialect and the “Huju” dialect: “Tuan Jian Yin” (“round and pointy sounds”) and pronoun choices. The phonetical differences are due to dramatic effects, language evolution, and corresponding context.

Keywords: Shanghai dialect, Shanghai opera, Phonetics

Rhetorical strategies employed in student English academic essays

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The present study investigates the rhetorical strategies used in the body paragraphs of English academic essays written by ESL (English as a Second Language) undergraduate students. These students have undergone English for Academic Reading and Writing course in at a university in Malaysia. The present findings have some pedagogical implications in an EAP (English for Academic Purposes) classroom. In teaching students in writing the discussion section of a research article, *claims* (contribution to research/significance of the study), *acknowledging limitations* and *making recommendations* are the three significant rhetorical moves to be taught to NNS (Non-native speaker) students. The findings show that these three rhetorical strategies are not employed in the students' body paragraphs at all.

Keywords: Communicative purpose, academic writing, interview, pedagogical implication

The Continued Pain of Refugees: The Study of Selected Partition Narratives

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1947 Partition is one of the most crucial events of the Indian History which has divided a country into two: India and Pakistan that is followed by violence, forceful migration, massacre, rape, abduction but unfortunately ‘official history’ do not record the personal experiences of ordinary people who have to endure trauma and sufferings due to partition. There are umpteenth of writers such as Khushwant Singh, Amrita Pritam, Qurratulain Hyder, Yashpal, Bapsi Sidhwa and others who have projected the pain and trauma of millions that how macro political events affect the micro lives.

During Partition, many people were uprooted from their homeland, thousands of women were abducted and raped, and millions of people were killed hence, it’s difficult to weave their stories. In Partition narratives, multitudinous writers have portrayed the pain and agony of refugees who have been forcibly migrated and have to leave everything behind. However, ironically, histories don’t record their trauma. The present paper will focus on the psyche of refugees of 1947 Partition to understand the trauma and sufferings of those who have been the victims as well as the witnesses of such horrendous event.

Key Words: *1947 Partition. Official History, Trauma, Victims*

Grammatical uses of *so* in EFL writings: Functional variability among learners in China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan

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This paper presents a distribution of the grammatical functions of *so* in the essay writings produced by 200 L1 English speakers and 1500 EFL learners in China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. Based on the data drawn from the International Corpus Network of Asian Learners of English, this study compares four non-discourse marker uses of *so* between the EFL learners and L1 English speakers: (1) a conjunction phrase specifying purpose (e.g., *so that*), (2) an adverb (e.g. *Everybody was so nice*), (3) a pro-form (e.g. *I think so*), and (4) a part of a fixed phrase (e.g. *so far*). This study aims to show the wide variability among the EFL learners with different L1s, identifying the tendency of usage both common and specific to the sub-groups of EFL learners. The findings suggest that compared to L1 English speakers, the EFL learners generally underuse *so* as a pro-form and as a marker indicating ‘purpose’, demonstrating a relatively skewed distribution. The varied patterns of usage among the ELF learners suggest that teaching a complex marker such as *so* entails different pedagogical approaches, paying attention to the unique overall patterns of distribution, and collocational features specific to each sub-group of EFL learners.

Keywords: so, grammar, L2 writing, EFL learner, corpus; Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese

Translating Politeness of *Persadaan Tendi* Texts in Karonese Society into English

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Perdadaan tendi is the process of introducing the bridegroom to both of their relatives in Karonese society. This study explores the politeness in persadaan tendi texts. It was conducted using the qualitative method and translation studies. The data was analyzed by using an interdisciplinary approach. The focuses of the analysis were on the politeness of the material and social cultures in the persadaan tendi texts of Karonese society. The results reveal that kalimbubu, kampil and manok sangkep are cultural politeness. Kam as subject and ndu as a suffix mean 'you', they are linguistic politeness. The authors find the cultural and linguistic politeness in the source language in translating the persadaan tendi texts in Karonese society, but they have no equivalent in the target language. The translation on cultural texts is workable by applying the discourse analysis and cultural analysis.

Key words: *persadaan tendi, politeness, translation*

Role language in Manga localization: A fascinating writing activity in EFL classroom

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This study introduces an innovative approach to teaching English using linguistic stereotypes in Manga comics. Role language, a set of linguistic stereotypes associated with certain character types, can introduce an authentic learning experience to unmotivated EFL learners and provides a possibility to pursue a career in the Manga/ Anime industry. The author will show some examples of role language found in Japanese Manga and how they are translated into English. As Japanese is a language that has various linguistic features that reflect the gender, personality, and age of the speaker, translating Japanese English requires rich knowledge of these two languages and their cultures. This process is called “localization”: a process of adapting an existing translation and rewriting it in order to better fit and make sense in another language.

This study will show how role language analysis has been introduced in a college-level EFL writing course successfully. Students create Manga in Japanese first, then in English. When they make Manga, they have to establish a role language in Japanese and reflect it in its English version. This localization process using role language helps students to understand the differences between Japanese and English, and how such differences could be expressed naturally. Role language analysis can motivate students, especially those who wish to work for the Manga/ Anime industry in the future.

Keywords: *Manga, Role language, EFL writing, localization*

Regressive and Progressive Effects of Korean Assimilation by L1 and L2 Listeners

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This study investigates whether native Korean and Mandarin Chinese listeners learning Korean show similar perceptual compensation patterns involving Korean nasalization and lateralization. This study also examines the effect of assimilation direction (i.e., regressive and progressive assimilations) and sentential context on perceptual compensation. To these ends, twenty-one Korean listeners and twenty Chinese listeners with a high level of proficiency in Korean participated in four kinds of discrimination tasks. In the discrimination task involving words, the target tokens were embedded into one of three types of contexts (i.e. no change, unviable change, and viable change). The participants listened to 360 target tokens and compound words including target tokens (e.g., no[n] and no[l].li ‘logic’ for regressive lateralization). For the discrimination task involving sentences, the target tokens were embedded in words ending with either their original forms or assimilated forms. The participants listened to 200 target tokens and sentences containing target tokens (e.g., ci[p] and kunun ci[m]mwunul talassta ‘He hung the door of his house’ for regressive nasalization). The participants were asked to discriminate between a priming target token and the first syllable of a compound word for regressive assimilation and its second syllable for progressive assimilation in a word and a sentence. In the results, the Korean listeners revealed a sensitivity to context in both regressive and progressive assimilations involving words and sentences. The Korean listeners compensated for nasalization and lateralization and also demonstrated the effect of sentential context. However, the Chinese listeners were not able to use word and sentential context in perceiving assimilated speech.

Key words: *compensation, assimilation direction, nasalization, lateralization*

Strike by Lines: A Textual Enhancement Investigation

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This study aims to further explore the perception students on the utilization of textual enhancement techniques in understanding a literary text. Narrative Research Method was used as the design to discover the learners' perception on textual enhancement on how students employ Textual Enhancement as an effective tool in understanding a particular literary genre and what attitudes were manifested from them after using textual enhancement in reading. This method was corroborated by theories such as the Guided Reading Theory and Readers Response Theory. These theories guided the researchers to choose the appropriate reading material for the Grade 10 students who are the target subject of the study. Three major themes resulted from the study; (a) Textual Enhancement is an effective aid in reading because it helps the reader understand the message of the literary text, (b)Textual Enhancement gives a sense of satisfaction or fulfillment to the readers because of the joy they experience while reading, (c) the advantages and disadvantages in the use of Textual Enhancement .These themes infer that although Textual Enhancement has disadvantages, it is still considered to be one of the effective strategies in reading because it helps the learners comprehend the text he is reading. The result of this study suggests that the utilization of various textual enhancement techniques facilitates the input processing which results to easier understanding of the literary text.

Keywords: Textual Enhancement, Guided Reading Approach, Literary Text, Narrative Research Method

Structure of Paniniyan Vyakaran

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Sanskrit is the oldest language of human civilization across the world. Well-organized and principled grammar makes it more scientific and undisputedly advanced. The contribution of Panini to the Sanskrit grammar played vital role in refining the oldest language of the world. Paniniyan vyakaran comprises formula based eight chapters and therefore known as Ashtadhyayi. It includes both Vedic and colloquial words used in contemporary times. The scientific order of formula makes it beyond correction. Moreover, the most vital feature of Ashtadhyayi is to conclude only in 4000 words that too a most rich language of world so far. The scientific system of Ashtadhyayi commands the respect from all great linguistics of the world. Many of them confess like *“Panini Vyakaran is greatest ever contribution of Human being and greatest invention of words”*

Ashtadhyayi formulae are classified in six categories: 1. Sanjya Sootras, 2. Paribhasha Sootras, 3. Vidhi Sootras, 4. Niyam Sootras, 5. Atidesh Sootras and 6. Adhikar Sootras.

Structural salient features of Ashtadhyayi are: 1. Pratyahar method (Shortening of Word/s) 2. Anuvritti Krama (Continuity) 3. Utsarga and Apvaad method (both general and exceptional workds) 4. Aabheeya Asiddhi method, 5. Poorvatrasiddha method etc. All these features prove scientific basis of Ashtadhyayi as grammar document.

Sentential influence on compensation for English assimilation by L1 and L2 listeners

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The aims of this study were to examine the effect of sentential context on compensation for English place assimilation and to compare compensation patterns between native English listeners and native Korean listeners with a high proficiency level in English. To this end, we conducted discrimination and identification tasks. In the discrimination experiment, two types of stimuli (i.e., compound words and sentences) were presented involving English place assimilation. In the discrimination task involving compound words, a target token was embedded in one of three phonological contexts (i.e., no change, unviable change, and viable change), and in the task involving sentences a target token was presented in the viable change context. In compound words, the participants were asked to indicate whether a priming target token and the first syllable of a compound word were the same or different in words and sentences (e.g., ‘beat, bea[t] sound/ bea[t p] note/ bea[t p] box’ in words and ‘bea[t], The bea[t p] box battle finished in sentences’ in sentences). In the identification experiment, a target token including a coronal or non-coronal consonant in coda was embedded in a sentence that provided the semantically neutral context for the two types of target tokens (e.g., Jane found the ca[t]/ca[p] by the front door). The results of the discrimination experiment showed a strong effect of the sentential context and listener group. The general results indicated that the Korean advanced learners of English showed similar perceptual patterns to native English listeners’ in words and sentences.

Key words: sentential context, compensation, coronal place assimilation, L2 listeners

An Interpretation of the Humor-producing Mechanism in Chinese Crosstalk (相声) from the Perspective of Implicature Theory

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Chinese Crosstalk (相声) is one of the most popular theatrical performances in China, which amuses the audience mainly by dialogue language. This paper is to interpret the humor-producing mechanism in Chinese Crosstalk from the perspective of H. P. Grice's Implicature Theory. Firstly, I will give a brief introduction of Chinese Crosstalk; then, I will introduce H. P. Grice's Implicature Theory in detail, different implicatures are listed and their features are discussed. Next, I will analyze different humors in terms of different implicatures. There are also some reflections on the Implicature Theory by analyzing the linguistic data in Chinese Crosstalk. Finally, some conclusions are reached.

Keywords: *The Humor-producing Mechanism in Chinese Crosstalk (相声); Implicature Theory; Interpretation*

Auspicious and Ominous Signs in the Miscellaneous Notes of the Song Dynasty

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The belief in auspicious and ominous signs is usually regarded as a kind of superstition from the scientific viewpoint, but it has become a part of folk culture since ancient times. There have been numerous literatures showing the Chinese people's notions and attentiveness to these signs for which not only religious beliefs and various thoughts like Confucianism have been involved in the propitious and inauspicious interpretations but also symbolic associations with the recognition or disfavour on the performance of the ruling class from the Heaven have been made all through the dynasties. This paper gives a focused study on the auspicious and ominous signs recorded in the miscellaneous notes (*biji* 笔记) of the Song dynasty (960-1279). With quoted examples from the Song notes and the use of supporting references including official historic records and literary works, it gives an elaboration and analysis on the Song auspicious and ominous signs from social and cultural perspectives. Discussions and comments are made on three main aspects: (1) the classification and cultural context of these signs relating to natural phenomena, animals, birds, plants, objects, etc.; (2) the attitudes and interpretations of Song people towards these signs; and (3) the factors like human's common and natural psychology and Confucian thought in developing the propitious and inauspicious concepts and signs into a part of the traditional folk culture.

Keywords: auspicious and ominous signs, miscellaneous notes, folk culture, Song dynasty

Juggling between the Exonormative and Endonormative Model of English: Developing a Model of Proficiency in English for the Indonesian Local Context.

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The position of English language has essentially dominated various fields ranging from business, industry and commerce, banking, transportation, tourism, advertising, education and others. In term of English language users, the non-L1 English speakers outnumber L1 of English speakers in many countries around the world. Thus, communication in English occurs among the non-L1 English speakers. However, English language teaching, particularly in countries where English is regarded as foreign language, still has a tendency helping to learn to be able to communicate with L1 English speakers. To this end, exonormative model of English has become the norms. The aim of this study is to develop a model of 'Proficiency in English' which meets the needs of the English language users within the Indonesian context. This study employed an iterative design-based research approach that consists of four main stages i.e. 1) the analysis of practical problems, 2) the development of solutions, 3) the evaluation research of the solutions in practice, and 4) the reflection to produce design principles and enhance solution implementation (Amiel & Reeves, 2008). This article describes the results of the first stage of the study which reveals that the teachers of English employ their endonormative model of English to their students in the process of teaching English despite of their desired goal for attaining the exonormative model of English.

Keywords: Exonormative model of English, Endonormative model of English, English language teaching, Proficiency in English

Prose as a Medium of Class Distinction in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*

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This paper studies prose in Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* as a method of class distinction. Patricians speak in blank verse, whereas plebeians speak in prose. But Shakespeare diverts from this uniformity by having Casca and Brutus converse in prose on one occasion each. Casca describes the responses of the plebeians to Caesar's rejection of the crown offered by Antony during the Lupercal festivals. And Brutus gives an oration in prose in which he implements the Aristotelian theory of rhetoric while addressing the angry plebeians to persuade them of the necessity of murdering Caesar in order to save the republican political system of Rome. In both cases, the aristocrats use prose when talking about or to the low classes. The study analyzes these speeches and shows how prose functions as an indigenous property of the low classes, and the diversion of the patricians from blank verse is a failing experience. The study also demonstrates the superiority of the low classes in using prose, as in the case of the cobbler at outset of the play.

A Comparative Analysis and Interpretation of The Short Story Version and the Dramatic Text Version of Nick Joaquin's "The Summer Solstice"

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Considered as one of the greatest writers of Philippine Literature, Nick Joaquin was tagged to be a time traveler and a shape shifter of gender norms. Despite the generation gap of Nick Joaquin and his readers today, the role of feminism in his works remains a highlight and branding in his works. "The Summer Solstice" or "Tatarin" is considered to be a timeless classic and one of the most acclaimed literary works in Philippine Literature. Nick Joaquin himself turned "The Summer Solstice", originally written as a short story, into a play entitled "Tatarin: A Witches' Sabbath in Three Acts". The objective of this paper is to discuss the comparative analysis done on the two different versions of "The Summer Solstice". Specifically, this paper aims to compare and contrast the short story and the dramatic text version of "The Summer Solstice", and to contextualize the literature in the modern Philippine society. The researcher used two literary criticism approaches in this paper: the formalist criticism approach and the reader-response-criticism approach. Findings show that there are substantial differences between the two texts. Other than the process of transforming the short story into a dramatic text version, differences in characters, plot, setting, and language were examined. This paper also addresses how gender politics and the role of the female were highlighted in the text. Finally, this literary analysis is beneficial for modern society to recognize gender microaggressions in everyday life through literature.

Keywords: Nick Joaquin, Summer Solstice, Tatarin, Short Story, Philippine Literature, Drama
Themes: Literature and Society

Bringing Education to the Communities: Its Conceptualization, Implementation & Evaluation

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Mo Li, Yi Tang, Lingling Dai, Lianfei Yin and Jun Yang

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Schools create progressive communities through outreach programs. Jose Rizal University Graduate School students under Dr. Maria Renita F. Fabic's Advanced Research Statistics and Problem Solving and Decision Making classes, conducted three community outreach projects among the Senior High School students of Culiati High School, Alternative Learning System students of Addition Hills Integrated School and prisoners of the Tagaytay City Jail with the theme "Bringing Education to the Communities" on March and April 2019. The graduate students made this study from planning to implementation to evaluation. In the evaluation, the study determined to know the following: 1) knowledge of the respondents toward JRU outreach projects 2) satisfaction rating on the projects 3) feedbacks about these projects and 4) proposed interventions on future projects. Findings showed that the respondents were not able to identify their role as beneficiaries in the program. Respondents assessed the projects with a weighted mean of 3.54 interpreted as high assessment level with regard to venue, topic, speaker and materials used. Females assessed differently the projects than compared to males. When grouped according to age group, venue, and speaker, assessment varies significantly. Respondents' comments emphasized the importance of the Research lecture to their studies. Recommended intervention methods are the modification of the training evaluation questionnaire for easy accomplishment by the respondents and youth camp for the students and listening brigade for the prisoners.

Keywords: community development, outreach projects, assessment

The Role of Language and Literature in Unifying Society through Culture

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The global crisis today is centered around terrorism, inequality and environmental hazards. The alienation of man from man and the resulting cultural disconnect between humans is the cause of this crisis. Man is not only a social animal but also a cultural animal and so a cultural re-orientation can offer an effective solution to this crisis. Culture is based on the basic moral values of a society. In order to reestablish these values, mankind needs a structured approach. A reprogramming society's psyche through language and literature is the need of the hour. While there have been various approaches to this problem from the point of view of language and literature of each land, there, we have a readymade solution to most of the problems of humanity in the Vedic culture and corresponding Sanskrit language and literature. Sanskrit is one of the most ancient languages of the world. Its structure is consistent with the tenets of the Vedic culture, creating a bridge between humanity and utopia. Humanity is based on four *purusharthas*- *dharma*, *artha*, *kaama*, *moksha*, that explain how the four aspects of life - cultural, monetary, material and spiritual – need to be perfectly aligned with each other to ensure a fruitful life. Man constitutes society, societies constitute a nation, and nations constitute a collective global society. In this manner, man is the focal point of international understanding. Through mankind's interpersonal concurrence in thought we can ensure global peace and Sanskrit language and literature offer a solution to this.

Keywords: Language, Literature, Culture, Society

Speech and Oral Communication Students' Manner in Asking Smart Questions Using English Language as Medium of Interaction Inside the Classroom

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The study focused on the manners of Speech and Oral Communication students in asking smart questions using English Language as medium of interaction inside the classroom, specifically their communication skills' level of confidence and assertiveness when associated with non-intellective variable age and sex. Descriptive research and no sampling scheme were utilized because the whole population of two classes with ninety-seven students was used as respondents. Findings manifested that respondents are moderately effective in their communication skills but less self-confident and assertive in using English as medium of interaction. Findings paved way the notion that students must realize the importance of being a smart communicator to become successful in completing college requirements and in the future thus must value self-confidence and assertiveness in their communication manners to empower them as students and as future human resource. A globally competitive world recognizes future human resource that makes difference by valuing that the power to speak and act rather than seek permission and just follow instructions develop productivity and self-fulfillment. Speech classes should introduce stringent interaction exercises in building self-confidence and assertiveness in oral communication to prepare students become self-assured in the future. Finally, educational institutions must be vigilant of the technological advances reshaping our world because communicative competence takes greater significance because the product is essentially a service and the recipients of the service are impressionable students.

Keywords: Speech Manner, Students, Communication Skills, Confidence and Assertiveness

The Sociolinguistics of English Language Instant Messaging in Egypt: a Study Based on Corpus Analysis and Questionnaire Responses

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The study investigates the register (linguistic characteristics) of English in the Instant Messaging (IM) discourse as one of the most common Computer-mediated Communication modes in Egypt where English is considerably used. In addition, the paper touches upon the contexts and functions of code-switching in English-Arabic discourse in Egypt. The study targets younger generations by which English is more extensively used in many contexts and for various purposes. It investigates the characteristics of English used, reasons for the preference of English to Arabic in certain contexts, types of English errors, contexts of English use, age of users, addressees, and purposes of code-switching. Two sources of data are involved: a corpus of 30 IM conversations (by both male and female participants), and responses to a survey in which a group of 49 participants (including some of the conversation providers). Findings of both qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis indicated that English in Egypt is used as an interactive medium of communication among Egyptians regardless of their English proficiency levels in both formal and informal contexts among Egyptian professionals, students and younger generations in general for various purposes. Moreover, IM English used by Egyptians is generally mixed with Arabic, and this code-switching between English and the varieties of Arabic occurs in many contexts to fulfill different functions. Details of frequency of using Arabic with different types of interlocutors, and of the varieties and forms of Arabic used are provided in the discussion.

Keywords: Code-switching, English and Arabic, Online Communication in Egypt, Sociolinguistics

**An Ecocritical Study of Assamese (An Indian official language) Modern Poetry
(Special reference with the poem of Navakanta Baruah, Ram Gogoi, Harekrishna Deka,
Hiren, Bhattacharrya)**

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Ecocriticism is a literary theory which emerged in the world of western literature. In 1978, the term was first introduced by William Rucekert in his essay *Literature and Ecology: An Experiment in Ecocriticism* and its derived from the Greek word Oikos and Kritis .Ecocriticism is an umbrella term used to refer to the environmentally oriented study of literature and the art, and the theories that underline such critical practice. It is a new critical method available to critics to analyze the literature. It is concerned with nature writing and ecological themes in all literature. It deals with ecological problems like pollution, global warming, climate change deforestation and other ecological exploitations. It is associated with the desire to investigate and remedy the current environmental problems. Ecocriticism is the study of literature and environment from an interdisciplinary point of view where all sciences come together to analyze and possible solutions for the correction of the contemporary environmental problems. The Modern Assamese poet ecocentric vision is described in their poems. The poems of Navakanta Baruah, Ram Gogoi, Harekrishna Deka, Hiren Bhattacharyya, the discussion of environmental consciousness is noticeable. In the poem *Kramaxa Eti Xathukotha* and *Eyat Nadi Asil*, Navakanta Baruah describe about a gradually died river and destroyed environment. In *Pothar*, Ram Gogoi described the sorrowful description of after flood. Another poet Harekrishna Deka, describe nature as subject for the base of the reflection of psychological corner in his poem *Bhoi*, *Guwahati-1* etc. In the poem of Hiren Bhattacharyya named *Paniye Mora Mon Mati*, *Xoisar Xudixya barnamala*, poet attempt to keep evergreen the World.

Keyword: Environmental consciousness, Ecocriticism, Assamese Poetry

**Orthography-induced transliteration of proper names:
How Mandarin and Cantonese speakers render non-Chinese names in writing**

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This comparative survey-based study investigates Mandarin and Cantonese speakers' strategies in transliterating foreign athletes' names into written Chinese, and aims to examine the effects that orthography plays in transliteration. Previous studies on name translation (e.g., Hsieh, et al., 2009; Wiebusch and Tadmor, 2009; Li, 2017; Wang, 2012) show that speakers adopt a myriad of methods, resorting to sound-based transliteration, meaning-based translation, as well as both transliteration and free translation.

Forty informants, comprised of 20 Mandarin and 20 Cantonese university students, were recruited to transliterate 40 names, grouped in 5 categories and chosen from three major European football leagues, i.e., Spanish La Liga, German Bundesliga, and English Premier League. To assess the effects of orthography, Spanish <j> (a velar fricative /x/, as in *Rojo*), Portuguese names ending in <-inho> (with <nh> pronounced /ɲ/, as in *Fabinho*), Anglophone names with a silent <h> (as in *Wickham*), and German names <Sch-> (as in *Scholes* and *Schlupp*) were targeted.

The study found that spelling in the source name significantly influences the target name in Chinese. Informants relied more on spelling than phonetics, and Mandarin speakers are more likely than their Cantonese counterparts to transliterate a foreign name based on the source spelling. The study sheds new light on our understanding of (non-)linguistic tactics adopted in transliteration. Orthography arguably asserts its power comparable to phonetics and semantics in name translation.

Keywords: *transliteration, orthography, Mandarin Chinese, Cantonese*

Students' Written Communication in the Context of Social Media

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Social media have widely changed the landscape and forms of communication. These platforms of social media have been mainly used as an avenue for communication. However, social media platforms have no police grammar that checks the formality and correctness of language being used. They can either post updates showing various forms of language vices. In this study, it tried to investigate whether social media have influenced the way students write and to what is now their nature of written communication in the context of social media. The study employed mixed designs of qualitative-quantitative to determine the influence and to describe their written communication. The results revealed all correlation coefficient values were not significant as indicated in their corresponding p-values which were all greater than the level of significance of 0.05 in all areas of written communication and that their written communication have shown language vices categorized as lexical, graphic, orthographic, and grammatical features. It importantly revealed that students have been manipulative in the use of either academic and non-academic English. Based on these findings, interventions programs must be done inside the class through the use of Academic Writing Guide that strictly prohibits them in practicing these language vices they use in social media.

Keywords: *social media, language vices, written communication, academic and non-academic English*