Editorial

Possibilities in English Language Education

Azlin Zaiti Zainal
Faculty of Languages and Linguistics
Universiti Malaya

This issue of *MaJER* (Volume 21, Issue 1) explores some of the most pressing challenges in English language education. It highlights innovative strategies and research that address contemporary needs. The three featured articles represent diverse yet interconnected dimensions of the field and offer fresh perspectives and practical insights for educators and researchers. Among these dimensions include the role of technology in facilitating English language teaching and learning, and in promoting collaboration among ELT practitioners.

The first article, *Visulgraph to Support the Teaching and Learning of Line Graph Description*, introduces an innovative pedagogical tool tailored to ESL learners grappling with the complexities of graph description. Through the lens of visual learning, the study not only underscores the value of multimodal teaching strategies but also emphasises the critical role of vocabulary in enabling learners to articulate trends and movements in graphical data. The article's findings reveal improvements in learners' vocabulary acquisition and comprehension, reinforcing the importance of integrating visual aids into language instruction. This study serves as a compelling example of how targeted innovations can bridge gaps in traditional teaching approaches, especially for tertiary-level learners.

The second article, *Distribution and Use of Phrasal Verbs in a Grade I ESL Textbook*, critically examines the representation of phrasal verbs in an Indian ESL textbook. By comparing textbook content with established corpora such as the British National Corpus (BNC) and the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), the authors identify gaps in the selection and presentation of these complex linguistic structures. This study highlights the pedagogical challenges of teaching phrasal verbs—a notoriously difficult aspect of English vocabulary—and calls for corpus-informed materials that better reflect authentic language use. The insights presented are invaluable for curriculum developers and educators seeking to enhance vocabulary instruction in foundational language courses.

The final article, *The Reinvention of ELT Associations During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Challenges and Strategies*, captures the resilience and adaptability of teacher associations during a time of global disruption. Through qualitative analysis, the study explores how ELT associations across Southeast Asia navigated challenges such as declining member

participation, financial constraints, and the shift to digital platforms. The study not only documents the strategies employed to sustain engagement and foster professional development but also underscores the enduring importance of collaborative networks in advancing the field of ELT. This article offers a roadmap for other associations seeking to remain relevant and impactful in an increasingly digitised educational landscape.

These articles collectively demonstrate a commitment to advancing English language education through rigorous research, pedagogical innovation, and collaborative efforts. They remind us of the power of education in overcoming barriers, whether linguistic, pedagogical, or logistical. As educators and researchers, we are called to continually reimagine and refine our practices to meet the evolving needs of learners worldwide. These articles also highlight the importance of exploring the different technological applications in addressing issues related to ELT in varying educational contexts and in advancing the field through creative methodological approaches.

We hope this issue inspires you to explore the many possibilities within your teaching and research endeavours. As always, *MaJER* remains committed to fostering dialogue and dissemination of ideas that shape the future of English language education. We encourage submissions on related topics and look forward to continuing this important conversation.

Dr. Azlin Zaiti Zainal
Editor-in-Chief
Malaysian Journal of ELT Research (MaJER)
MELTA Malaysia