

English Language and Literature

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News

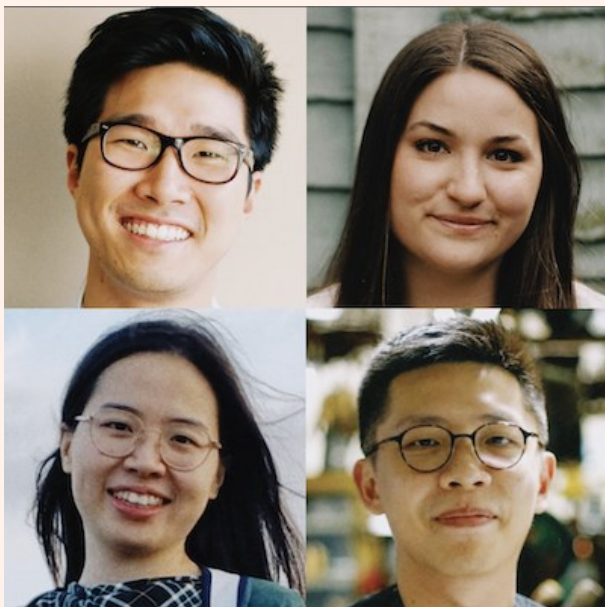
National
Institute of
Education

Nanyang
Technological
University
Singapore

Q1 2024

TALKS AND EVENTS

Q4 2023: Events



Phonology, Brain & Society

8 Sept 2023 and 17 Nov 2023

Dr. Adam Chong, Queen Mary UOL

Teasing apart sources of prominence in Singapore English

Dr. Julia Schwarz, University of Cambridge

Spoken word processing in dyslexia: Linking brain and behaviour

Ms. Katrina Li, University of Cambridge

Lexical tonal effects in code switching

Asst/Prof Jasper Sim, NIE NTU Singapore

Early phonological acquisition in multi-accent Singapore

[Watch recorded talks](#)



Technology and Data Analytics for Applied Linguistics series

29 Sept 2023, 6 Oct 2023, and 13 Oct 2023

Azrifah Zakaria, NIE NTU Singapore

Technology and data Analytics in applied linguistics: An introduction to using Python for text analysis

Rajashree Sundaram, NIE NTU Singapore

An introduction to Natural Language Processing (NLP) with Python

Xingang Pan, NTU Singapore

Introduction to generative AI and its application in image generation



Issues in narrative inquiry methods: Ten questions

19 Oct 2023

Prof. Gary Barkhuizen

University of Auckland

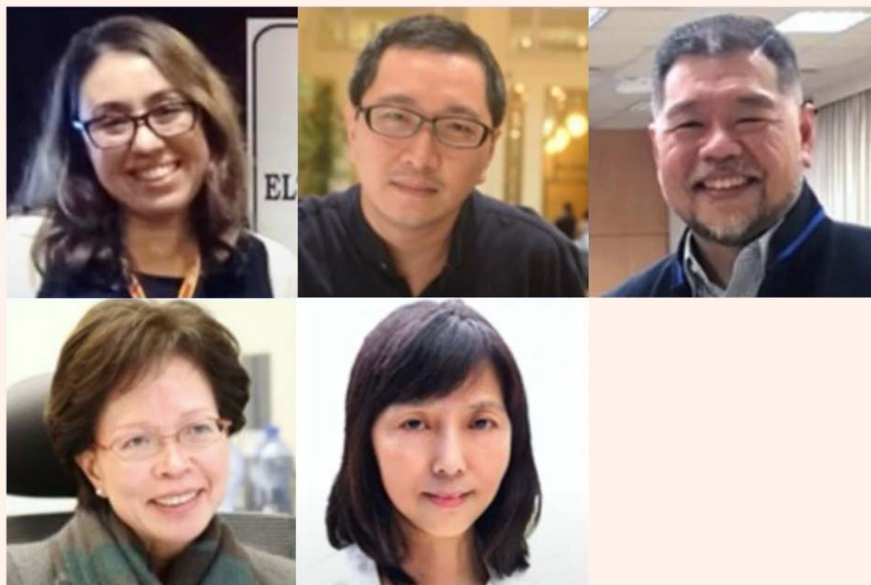


Why the best-loved self in teaching and learning?

20 Nov 2023

Prof. Cheryl Craig
Texas A&M University

[Watch recorded talk](#)



Behind the accolades: Understanding award-winning teachers and their practices

9 Dec 2023

Dr. Kiren Kaur NIE NTU Singapore
Dr. Dennis Yeo NIE NTU Singapore
Dr. Jason Loh NIE NTU Singapore
Prof. Amy Tsui University of Hong Kong; National Taiwan Normal University
Prof. Icy Lee NIE NTU Singapore

[Watch recorded talk](#)

Q4 2023: Keynotes and invited talks

Forum Diskusi Peningkatan Kualitas Pendidikan Dasar (FOKUS) - Discussion Forum on Improving the Quality of Basic Education — Jakarta, Indonesia

Developing Educators: Strengthening Foundations & Supporting Teachers

Dr. Alexius Chia

This keynote address was delivered at the discussion Forum on Improving the Quality of Basic Education (FOKUS) held on 5 December 2023. The keynote address focused on the pivotal role of quality teachers in fostering a strong education system. It highlighted strategies to empower educators through NIE's initial teacher preparation programmes and Singapore's teacher support systems. Learning support programmes in schools for literacy and numeracy were also discussed.

51st Annual TESL Ontario Conference

Feedback in L2 writing: Lessons from the past, visions for the future

Prof. Icy Lee

Prof Icy Lee delivered a keynote presentation entitled "Feedback in L2 writing: Lessons from the past, visions for the future" at the research symposium at the 51st Annual TESL Ontario Conference held online on 8 November 2023. In this presentation, Prof Lee took stock of what has been learnt from extant research on feedback in L2 writing, which significantly contributes to our understanding of L2 writing teacher feedback literacy.

11th International Conference on Multimodality — Institute of Education, University College London, UK

Towards an Applied Multimodality for Social Change: Designing Futures

Assoc/Prof Victor Lim Fei

Assoc/Prof Lim examined ways to nurture students' multimodal literacy, understanding how students' learning experiences can be designed with a greater semiotic awareness in embodied teaching, and valuing the students' lifeworld practices in schools. He concluded with a reflection on the signs of maturation in the multimodality community and consider how we can contribute in concert towards an applied multimodality to design social futures.

32nd ETA-ROC International Symposium on English Teaching — Taipei, Taiwan

Teaching from the Heart: An Evaluation of Award-winning EL Teachers

Dr. Jason Loh

This keynote presentation was delivered at the 32nd ETA-ROC International Symposium on English Teaching held in Taipei, Taiwan, on 11 November 2023. In this keynote on "Teaching from the Heart: An Evaluation of Award-winning EL Teachers", Dr Jason Loh shared the findings from his study on award-winning teachers in Singapore.

City University of Hong Kong

Locating Anglophone Singapore Literature in the New Millennium

Assoc/Prof Angelia Poon

Assoc/Prof Angelia Poon gave an invited talk at City University of Hong Kong on 30 October 2023 entitled "Locating Anglophone Singapore Literature in the New Millennium." She provided the historical context for Singapore's transformation into a global city for the new millennium and explored key literary developments in relation to that.

International School Chinese Language Education (ISCLE) Conference — Yew Chung International School (Hong Kong)

From Reading the Word to Reading the World: How We Can Develop Critical, Ethical, Global Thinkers through Literature

Assoc/Prof Suzanne Choo

Assoc/Prof Suzanne Choo delivered a keynote presentation at the International School Chinese Language Education (ISCLE) Conference held at Yew Chung International School and University of Hong Kong in December 2023. In this presentation, Assoc/Prof Choo compared two main traditions of ethical criticism. The first is American ethical criticism emphasizing critical analysis of ideologies in texts and the second is Chinese ethical criticism emphasizing sociohistorical engagements with ethical concerns in texts.

AWARDS

2023: ELL



ELL AG was awarded the Partner of Academy of Singapore Teachers (AST) Award during the Academy awards for professional development ceremony. This award recognizes ELL's partnership with AST (ELIS) in furthering the professional development of Singapore teachers.

2023: Teaching

Nanyang Education Award

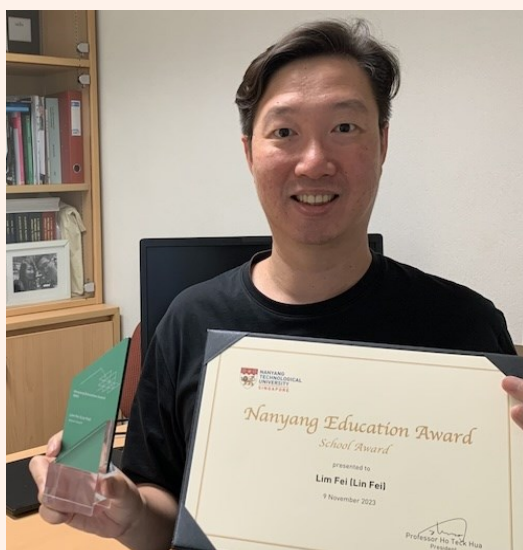
The Nanyang Education Award is the highest honour conferred by the University to faculty members in the field of teaching. The Award recognises the dedication and achievements of faculty members who displayed excellent teaching practices and enriched the learning experiences of NTU undergraduates and NIE Trainee Teachers. These award recipients inspire students through their deep passion to teach well and their genuine concern for their students' learning.

Nanyang Education Award (College)

Dr Norhaida Aman

Nanyang Education Award (School)

Assoc/Prof Victor Lim Fei



NIE Excellence in Teaching Commendation Award

The NIE Excellence in Teaching Award recognizes the dedication and achievements of faculty members who display excellent teaching practices and enrich the learning experiences of their students. They inspire students through their passion for teaching and their care for their students' learning.

Assoc/Prof Poon Mui Cheng Angelia

Assoc/Prof Vahid Aryadoust

Dr Loh Kok Khiang Jason

Dr Sally Ann Jones

Dr Robbie Lee Sabnani

2023: Service

National Day Honours

The National Day Medals are awarded in recognition of their contributions to education in Singapore and their dedicated service to the Institute, the University, and the nation.

Commendation Medal

Dr Alexis Chia



NIE Excellence in Service Award (Team)

This award is open to all NIE staff and recognizes the high level of quality service provided by teams. Through their professionalism, commitment and dedication, they go the extra mile to provide excellent service to internal and external stakeholders.

Assoc/Prof Victor Lim Fei

For contributions to Archetype of the Future-ready Teacher (Review of V3SK and GTCs)



2023: Student awards



Zhang Hui

Zhang Hui is the recipient of the Dean's Commendation for Research award. The Dean's commendation has been specially instituted to recognize graduate students who have excelled in their research by publishing papers in peer-reviewed international journals during their candidature period in NIE. Zhang Hui's supervisors are Assoc/Prof Cheung Yin Ling and Dr Mark Seilhamer.



Zhang Weiyu

Zhang Weiyu is the recipient of the Dean's Commendation for Research award. The Dean's commendation has been specially instituted to recognize graduate students who have excelled in their research by publishing papers in peer-reviewed international journals during their candidature period in NIE. Weiyu's supervisor is Assoc/Prof Cheung Yin Ling.



Zoey Chow Zi Hui

Dr Chang Qizhong's supervisee Ms. Zoey Chow Zi Hui's paper, titled "Parents' Frequently Asked Grammar Questions", received high commendation in the Education category in the Global Undergraduate Awards 2023. The paper was the culmination of Zoey's URECA research project, and studied parents' behaviour on online English grammar forums.



Kelly Sng

A recent graduate from ELL's BA in Literature and Education programme, Kelly Sng was one of three winners of the 3rd Singapore Unbound Awards for the Best Undergraduate Essays on Singapore and Other Literatures. Kelly won for her essay, "Mind the Gap': Exploring Hwee Hwee Tan's Portrayal of Cultural Tensions in a Modern, Globalising World," which was based on her Academic Exercise supervised by Assoc/Prof Angelia Poon. Kelly tackles the nuances, ambiguities, and complexities of globalization in the novels of Hwee Hwee Tan and makes a key intervention by engaging in a critical dialogue between Tan's two novels: *Foreign Bodies* (1997) and *Mammon Inc.* (2001). According to the judge, the result is a rich, attentive, and nuanced analysis of Tan's "two divergent styles of writing, which serves to offer "profound ambivalence towards the emergent phenomenon of globalisation."



Liu Tingting

ELL's PhD student, Liu Tingting won the Duolingo English Test Doctoral Dissertation Award. Tingting is supervised by Assoc/Prof Vahid Aryadoust and her PhD dissertation is on "Investigating the test method effect on response processes in L2 listening assessment: Application of sensor technologies and psychometrics". Duolingo is an American Educational company focusing on making language education accessible to millions of people. The freemium software offers language courses in over 40 languages on iOS, Android, and PC devices. The Duolingo Dissertation Award was made to support innovation in language testing and research.



Wu Ying

Former PhD student of ELL/NIE, Dr Wu Ying was awarded the National Social Science Funds of China (NSSFC) (Youth Project) grant for the project "Linguistic Landscape of the Greater Bay Area Urban Cluster: From the Perspective of Language Security". Assoc/Prof Rita Silver is a Co-Principal Investigator in this project. The NSSFC is a highly national competitive grant with only 59 recipients in China for 2023. The project is an investigation on the only cross-border urban cluster in Greater Bay Area (Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao) across social domains of government, transportation, business centers, educational institutions, and medical institutions. The project involves data of 9 cities in mainland China and 2 cross-border regions of Hong and Macao.

Alumni spotlight



Dr. Liu Yanhua

ELL's PhD graduate, Liu Yanhua, recently received the inaugural British Association for Lecturers in English for Academic Purposes (BALEAP) Doctoral Studies Award (2023). The award aims to showcase doctoral theses which make a significant contribution to the field of EAP. Yanhua's thesis is entitled "Investigating Metadiscursive and Visual Features in Three Minute Thesis Presentations". It examines how linguistic metadiscourse and visual resources are employed in 3MT presentations to guide the non-specialist audience to understand and keep them engaged. Its findings have implications for researching and teaching spoken academic communication for non-specialists. Yanhua was supervised by Assoc/Prof Ramona Tang and Assoc/Prof Fei Victor Lim. We asked how Yanhua is doing:

"I spent seven wonderful years at NIE/NTU Singapore on a PhD, an MA, and a Postgraduate Diploma in English Language Teaching (with Distinction). I have a decade of teaching experience spanning China, Singapore and the UK.

I currently serve as the Academic Lead (Postgraduate) and Lecturer at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (Guangzhou). I teach academic communication skills for both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

I recently launched the university's first Three Minute Thesis (3MT), a popular international competition event, with another "first" thesis writing competition ongoing." – Yanhua

📖 PUBLICATIONS AND GRANTS

Q4 2023: Journal articles



Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural

Authenticating 'mother tongue' in a multilingual minority community

Ying Wu, Rita Elaine Silver & Anwei Feng

[Access article](#)

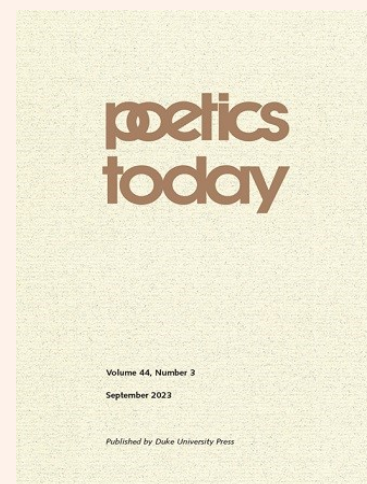


Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural

Home language environment and bilingual acquisition in pre-schoolers from low-income homes: differential impact of language and literacy related factors

Viniti Vaish, Baoqi Sun & L. Quentin Dixon

[Access article](#)



Poetics Today

A rending and a raising: Ecstatic religiosity and textual renewal in J. M. Coetzee's Jesus Trilogy

Ian Tan

[Access article](#)



Applied Linguistics
Topic and accent coverage in a commercialized L2 listening test: Implications for test-takers' identity.

Vahid Aryadoust
[Access article](#)



Journal of Moral Education
From moral adaptation to ethical criticism: Analyzing developments in Singapore's character education programme

Suzanne Choo & Deborah Chua
[Access article](#)



Education Policy Analysis Archives
Education in a democratic and meritocratic society: Moving beyond thriving to flourishing

Ee-Ling Low
[Access article](#)



Reading in a Foreign Language
Learners' reading metacognition and summary writing skills nested in psychological and sociocultural factors

Casuncad Mary Gwyneth Chan & Vahid Aryadoust
[Access article](#)



System
Learners' cognitive processing problems during comprehension as a basis for L2 listening research

Christine Goh
[Access article](#)



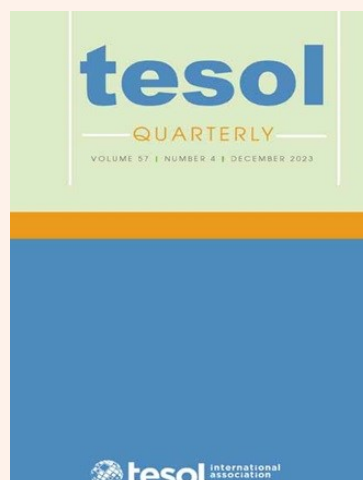
Synergy
Making space in the library: Considerations for design and furniture choices to support student wellbeing

Chin Ee Loh
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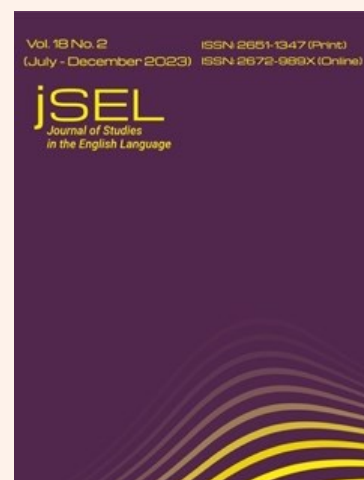
Narrative
The ethics of animal excess: Violence and Bataille's vigilance in Ian McEwan's *Black Dogs*

Ian Tan
[Access article](#)



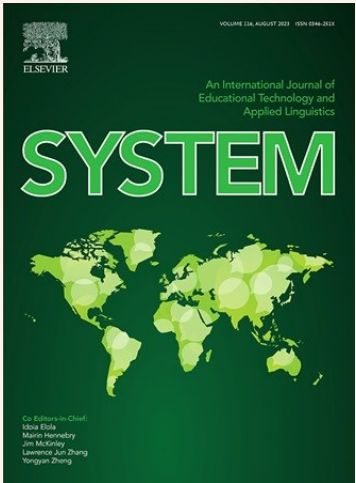
TESOL Quarterly
Exploring contradiction-driven language teacher identity transformation during curriculum reforms: A Chinese tale

Kailun Wang, Rui Yuan & Icy Lee
[Access article](#)



Journal of Studies in the English Language
Harnessing the power of technology in ELT

Willy Ardian Renandya, Francisca Maria Ivone & Maria Hidayati
[Access article](#)

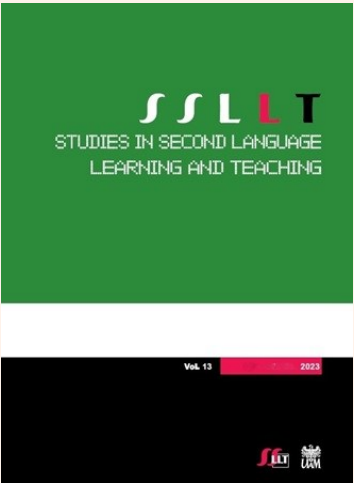


System

Does modality matter? A meta-analysis of the effect of video input in L2 listening assessment

Tingting Liu & Vahid Aryadoust

[Access article](#)



Studies in Second Language Learning and Teaching

Bibliometrics and scientometrics in applied linguistics: Epilogue to the special issue

Vahid Aryadoust

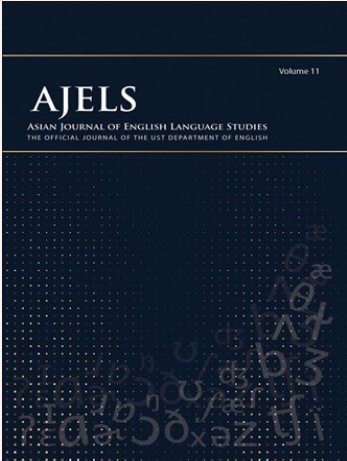
[Access article](#)



Teaching and Teacher Education
Taking stock of the research into professional learning communities: Paradigms, pathways, and possibilities

Kwun Man Chiang, Hongbiao Yin, Icy Lee & Chih Hao Chang

[Access article](#)

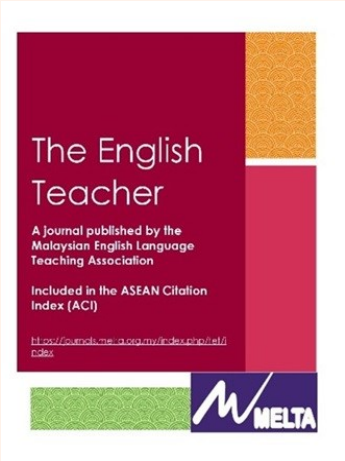


Asian Journal of English Language Studies

How mind-body-world ecologies work: The use of gestures for idea generation in a Grade 4 composition class

Yin Ling Cheung

[Access article](#)

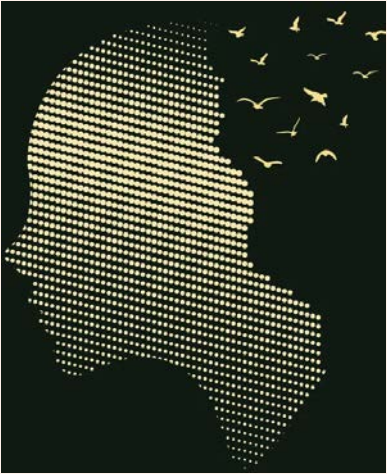


The English Teacher

Formative Assessment in the English Language Classroom: A Review of Diversity and Complexities

Kiren Kaur

[Access article](#)



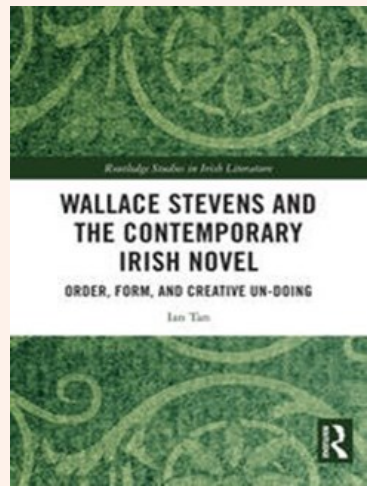
Migrating Minds: Journal of Cultural Cosmopolitanism

The cosmopolitan foundations of ethical criticism: Perspectives from the “East” and the “West”

Suzanne Choo

[Access article](#)

Q4 2023: Books

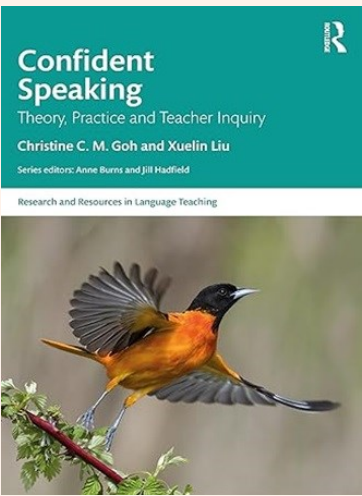


Wallace Stevens and the Contemporary Irish Novel: Order, Form, and Creative Un-Doing

Ian Tan

This book is a major contribution to the study of the literary influence of the American modernist poet Wallace Stevens. It contemporizes Stevens’s literary influence with reference to novelistic style, themes, and thematic preoccupations that stake the claim for the international status of the contemporary Irish novel as it shapes a new understanding of “world literature” as exchange between national languages, cultures, and alternative formulations of aesthetic modernity as continuing project.

[Access book](#)

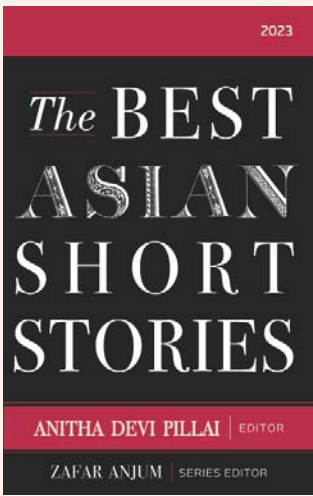


Confident Speaking: Theory, Practice and Teacher Inquiry

Christine Goh & Xuelin Liu

This book is a valuable resource for language teachers and teacher educators, as well as researchers interested in the teaching and development of second language speaking. It provides language teachers and teacher educators with evidence-informed ideas to help second language (L2) learners speak fluently and confidently in different social and academic contexts.

[Access book](#)



The Best Asian Short Stories

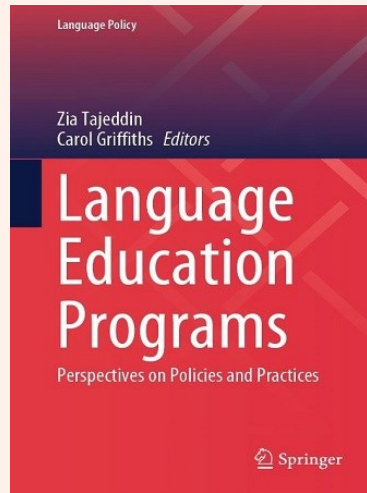
Anitha Devi Pillai

Every heart knows the weight of loss. Twenty-three authors have penned diverse stories set in Asia that invite you to reflect, empathize and find solace in their shared experiences. Through diverse stories that range from a momentary parting to the enduring void left by a lifetime’s farewell, this anthology carries within it stories that navigate the vast landscape of human emotion.

‘The Best Asian Short Stories 2023: Loss’ anthology is an embrace for every reader who has ever felt the weight of letting go.

[Access book](#)

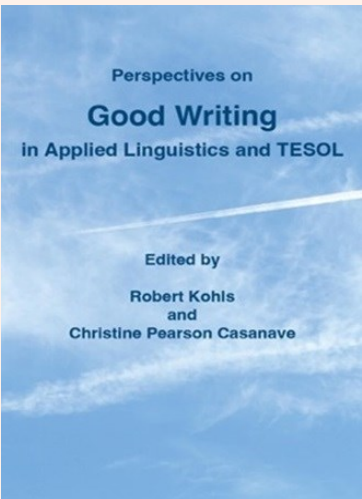
Q4 2023: Book chapters



Loh, J., Renandya, W. A., Pang, E., & Aryadoust, V. (2023). **Language programme evaluation.** In Z. Tajeddin & C. Griffiths (Eds.), Language education programs: Perspectives on policies and practices (pp. 37-52). Springer.

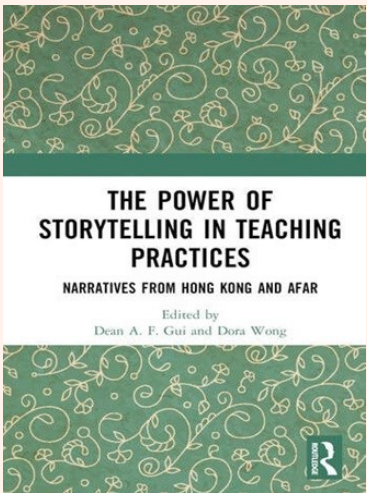
Jason Loh
Willy Renandya
Vahid Aryadoust

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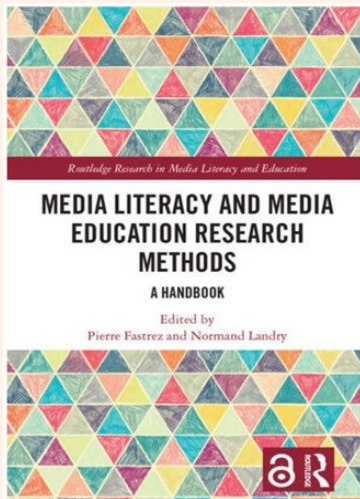
Lee, I. (2023). **My experience with second language writing as a nonnative speaker of English: Struggles, successes, setbacks, and lessons learnt about ‘good’ writing.** In R. Kohls & C.P. Casanave (Eds.), Perspectives on good writing in applied linguistics and TESOL. University of Michigan Press.

Icy Lee
[Access chapter](#)



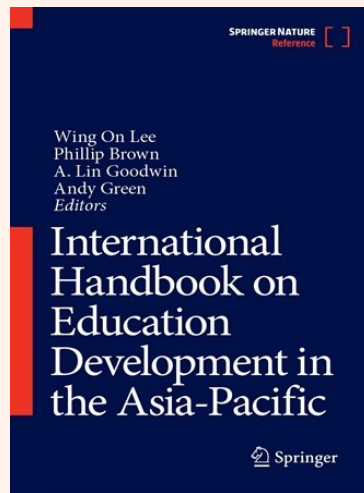
Lee, I. (2023). **The power of teacher narrative: Critical incidents as an impetus for teacher professional development.** In Gui, D.A.F., & Wong, D. (Eds.), The Power of Storytelling in Teaching Practices: Narratives from Hong Kong and Afar (1st ed.). Routledge.

Icy Lee
[Access chapter](#)



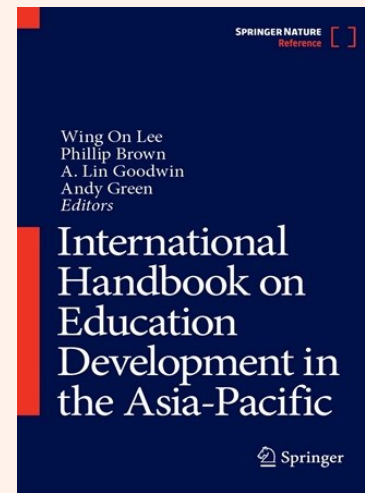
Weninger, C., & WJ Liang (2023). **Methodological considerations in researching teachers' views and practices of media literacy.** In Fastrez, P., & Landry, N. (Eds.), Media Literacy and Media Education Research Methods: A Handbook (1st ed.). Routledge.

Csilla Weninger
[Access chapter](#)



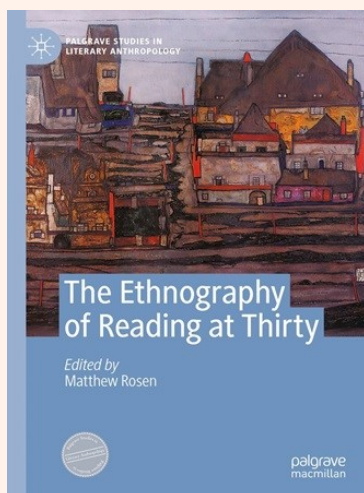
Low, E. L. (2023). **Enabling Sustainable Success: Lessons from Singapore.** In Lee, W.O., Brown, P., Goodwin, A.L., Green, A. (eds) International Handbook on Education Development in the Asia-Pacific. Springer, Singapore.

Low Ee Ling
[Access chapter](#)



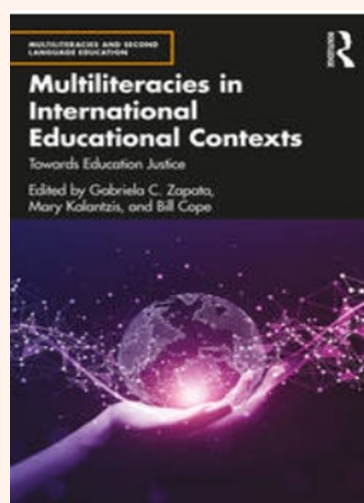
Choo, S.S., Quek, S.Y.S. (2023). **Empowering Students Through Cosmopolitan Literacies: Pedagogical Examples from Classrooms in Confucian Heritage Cultures.** In Lee, W.O., Brown, P., Goodwin, A.L., Green, A. (eds), International Handbook on Education Development in the Asia-Pacific. Springer, Singapore.

Suzanne Choo
[Access chapter](#)



Loh, C. E. (2023). **Reading as Self-making: Using Mobile Ethnography to Examine the Contemporary Literate Practices of Middle-Class Adolescent Girls in Singapore.** In Rosen, M. (eds), The Ethnography of Reading at Thirty. Palgrave Studies in Literary Anthropology. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.

Loh Chin Ee
[Access chapter](#)



Lim, F. V. (2023). **Multiliteracies in Singapore English-Language Classrooms: Developing a Pedagogic Metalanguage for Multimodality.** In Zapata, G.C., Kalantzis, M., & Cope, B. (Eds.), Multiliteracies in International Educational Contexts: Towards Education Justice (1st ed.). Routledge.

Victor Lim Fei
[Access chapter](#)

Q4 2023: New grants

Deepening Multimodality and Technology Research for Teaching and Learning

Victor Lim Fei

Transforming Pedagogy in the Digital Era: An Exploration of Digital Literacy and Its Empowering Potential in Singapore's Secondary Chinese Language Classrooms

Victor Lim Fei

Student perception and engagement with automated written corrective feedback provided by Grammarly: Case studies from Singapore and Hong Kong

Cheung Yin Ling

The ethnolinguistic repertoires and linguistic practices of Malay and Indian bilinguals in Singapore

Jasper Hong Sim