

Foreword

The editorial board extends their deepest gratefulness to all who have a significant contribution to the success of Philippine ESL Journal, which has become an important forum through which research in ESL, language teaching, and linguistics not only in the Philippines but also in other countries in Asia and the Pacific is propagated. Our heartfelt gratitude goes to **Dr. Aireen Barrios, Dr. Ariane Borlongan, and Dr. Maria Cequena**, fulltime faculty in De La Salle University, Manila, for their invaluable help in reviewing the articles. Our special thanks go to this issue's contributors who chose PESLJ as a venue of their publication. Lastly, PESLJ is indebted to its growing readership who disseminates information about the journal and cites its articles, helping PESLJ thrive as a prominent journal that provides notable contributions in the field of ESL research across Asia.

In this final edition of 2012, five papers from conscientious authors provided rich findings and insights that have important implications for ESL research.

From Taiwan, **Yi-chun Pan and Yi-ching Pan's** paper has given cogent arguments to justify the effectiveness of translation method in EFL classroom, brushing aside two major criticisms that support those who consider it as an obstacle to language learning. The paper explored how translation can aid in the development of students' language proficiency through task-based activities.

From Iran, **Farhad Ghorban Dordinejad and Mokhtar Heidary's** paper buttressed other previous findings regarding the relationship between critical thinking ability and reading comprehension skills. Their study involving 120 Iranian EFL students indicated that there is a close relationship between critical thinking and reading comprehension and that these two variables are not dependent on gender.

Jessie Barrot's discourse analytic study involving 60 elementary pupils proffered rich findings regarding the lexical and syntactic features of the pupils' narratives. His study may benefit publishers, material developers, and classroom teachers as its findings can help guide in the selection of reading materials.

Roy Randy Briones' paper, another discourse analytic study, utilized Genre analysis to examine the Move patterns found in research article introductions published in the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines. The study is important because it offered new insights regarding the conventions that writers in a local discourse community adhere to.

Lastly, **Teresita Tajolosa's** paper, which compared male and female university students' use of taboo words and euphemisms and topic preferences, offered clear implications for sociologists and educators regarding the language of the youth which may have been influenced by language contact and varied cultures including the culture of the internet and the media.

Leah Espada Gustilo, Ph.D.

Managing Editor

Philippine ESL Journal