

EDITOR'S NOTE

English Matters VII presents a collection of papers by both full-time and part-time PhD. students of the Institute of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Presov. The areas of their PhD. research have been reflected in the papers.

The literature and culture areas are represented by Maroš Buday, Stanislav Kužila, Zuzana Lukáčová, Ingrid Madárová, and Jana Ščigulinská.

Maroš Buday in his article deals with a novel approach of looking at postmodernist writing. He suggests that postmodernism in literature constitutes a complex and chaotic phenomenon that prohibits its deeper exploration by conventional means that postmodernist literary theory has at its disposal. The aim of his paper is to show how the joining of two dominant postmodernist literary theories – metafiction and intertextuality – can be useful in the deconstruction of postmodernist writing and the author suggests that together, metafiction and intertextuality may be further examined as a unifying theory of textuality in terms of postmodernist literature.

Stanislav Kužila in his article focuses on the diaspora as portrayed in fantasy fiction in the Andrzej Sapkowski's Witcher saga. In his analysis the author focuses on three possible diasporas; the relocation of the human race, the relocation of the Elder race, and the relocation of the workforce, while only one from those can be considered a genuine diaspora.

The article of *Zuzana Lukáčová* focuses on the Victorian era. Her main aim is to investigate this period as a key part of the history of Great Britain. The aim of this investigation is to develop an understanding and clarify selected aspects of culture and everyday life in the Victorian period.

Ingrid Madárová in her article pays the attention to the English language as the means for intercultural communication and considers its role within worldwide communication as "English as an international language". Since English is identified as one of the most spread languages for the worldwide communication it is important to recognize the continuous shift of the role of the English language from a foreign/second language into the global nature of the English language, in the context of worldwide communication.

The article of *Jana Ščigulinská* deals with a short story "Lullaby" (1981), written by Leslie Marmon Silko, and presents the consequences of the encounter between the Anglo-Western world and the world of Native Americans. Even though memories play inevitable role as they expose collective trauma of Native Americans the author highlights other functions of the memories within this story, where they according to the traditional storytelling have obviously a positive impact on the life of the individual, the community as well, as they create the balance between the traumatic loss of the cultural identity and the survival through its restoring.

Linguistic areas are covered by two authors Gabriela Gumanová and Diana Krajňáková. *Gabriela Gumanová* in her paper aims to investigate the concept of the analogue rule, as a

method employed in translatology, while focusing on the term-formation processes employed in the texts of European Union in both, English and Slovak. Her paper analyses thirty-two randomly selected terms taken from randomly selected EU text from the field of pharmacovigilance in both language versions, and it attempts to investigate the effectiveness of the application of the analogue rule.

The article of *Diana Krajňáková* focuses on the attitudes of Slovak students towards thesis abstract writing, their previous theoretical and practical experience with such a genre and the ways of writing its Slovak and English versions. Even though, as the author presents, the university students are becoming more and more aware of the importance of the genre of abstract in their academic lives majority of them still claims that their abstracts were self- or non-professionally translated.

ELT methodology is the key focus in three articles by Zuzana Nováková, Barbora Pavelová and Jan Pikhart.

Zuzana Nováková in her paper provides a brief overview of approaches to teaching speaking. She also explores the model of speech production and examines models of communicative competence suggested by linguists, methodologists, and practitioners who address linguistic and extralinguistic features involved in speaking a foreign language. In the final part of the paper, she tackles the area of direct and indirect approaches to teaching speaking with an emphasis on current trends that highlight a combination of features of both direct and indirect approaches. She concludes by giving an account of direct approaches focused on the accuracy of speaking and indirect approaches aimed at the development of fluency in speaking.

The paper of *Barbora Pavelová* deals with the interconnection among communication, its effectiveness, social roles and communication register in the educational process. The author focuses on the term communication itself as well as the concept of communication register and highlights the importance of effective communication in the classroom.

Jan Pikhart in his article attempts to tackle formative assessment with a focus on effective feedback using no grade-score expressed results. While grade-score expressed results are deeply rooted and commonly used, as the author claims, they may have a negative effect on the learning process in particular. The author argues that a good-quality feedback provides information that teachers and their students can use in enhancing teaching and learning activities. In the concluding part, the author offers a number of practical suggestions for implementing effective feedback as one of the key strategies of formative assessment.

Editor