



Book Review

Teaching English as an International Language
By Ali Fuad Selvi, Nicola Galloway, and Heath Rose

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Teaching English as an International Language, written by Ali Fuad Selvi, Nicola Galloway and Heath Rose, is a ground-breaking work that looks at the evolving status of English in a global context. The book meticulously examines the transformation of English from a language used predominantly within specific national boundaries to a global lingua franca. This shift has profound implications for the teaching of English, which the authors explore through a mixture of historical context, sociolinguistic analysis and pedagogical insights.

This book provides a comprehensive historical overview of English, illustrating how historical events, cultural exchanges and technological advances have led English to its current status. This contextual basis is crucial for understanding the subsequent discussions on language teaching paradigms. The authors then look at contemporary teaching models and discuss the influence of World Englishes (WE), English as a Lingua Franca (ELF) and the Multilingual Turn on the teaching of English. These paradigms challenge traditional approaches and propose a more integrative, global perspective. The book does not shy away from addressing the complexities and controversies surrounding these models and offers a balanced and critical examination. It is characterized by a rigorous academic approach combined with practical insights. The authors' expertise in linguistics and language teaching is evident in their nuanced discussion of the role of English in a globalized world, making the book essential reading for educators, linguists, and anyone interested in the intersection of language and globalization.

The content of this book is structured in such a way that it leads the reader from the theoretical foundations to practical applications. The early sections, including Chapter 1, "*Background: More than a First, Second, or Foreign Language*", Chapter 2, "*From English to Englishes: How Did We Get Here?*", and Chapter 3, "*English Today: A Truly Global Language*", provide a detailed analysis of the historical milestones and cultural influences that have made English a global language (Seidlhofer, 2004). Subsequent chapters, including Chapter 4, "*Major Paradigms and Trends in Teaching English as an International Language*", Chapter 5, "*Implications for Language Educators*", and Chapter 6, "*Practical Applications for Language Educators*", focus on modern teaching paradigms such as World Englishes, English as a Lingua Franca and the Multilingual Turn. Each of these paradigms is examined in depth, with the authors critically assessing their impact on language teaching. The discussion of World Englishes, for example, emphasizes the diversity of English varieties and questions the dominance of native speaker models in language teaching.

The book also moves on to practical pedagogical strategies that provide educators with practical insights for implementation in the classroom. This includes discussions of curriculum design, teaching methods and assessment practices that take into account the global nature of English (Davidson, 2007). The authors provide concrete examples and case studies that demonstrate how these theoretical concepts can be applied in real classroom scenarios. In its entirety, the book serves as a comprehensive guide that bridges the gap between academic theory and classroom practice in English language teaching. It is a careful compilation of research, theory, and practical advice, making it a valuable resource for anyone concerned with language teaching in a globalized world.

The critical analysis in the book, particularly in Chapter 4, is solid and insightful. The authors take an in-depth look at the evolving paradigms of English language teaching and critically evaluate the shift from a monolithic view of English to its global diversity. They question the traditional native speaker model and argue for an approach that recognizes the legitimacy of Englishes worldwide. This critical stance is further illustrated in Chapter 5, where the authors discuss the pedagogical implications of these paradigms and call on educators to adopt more inclusive and culturally sensitive teaching methods. However, the book occasionally lacks detailed case studies or concrete classroom examples to illustrate these theoretical positions, which could have provided a clearer roadmap for practical implementation.

In Chapters 1 and 3, the book contextualizes the status of English in the modern world. It looks at the socio-political and cultural dynamics that have brought English to its current position as a global lingua franca. This contextualization is crucial to understanding the need to rethink the teaching of English. The authors argue that as English transcends national boundaries and interacts with different cultures, traditional approaches to teaching English are no longer sufficient. This discussion forms the basis for the subsequent exploration of new teaching paradigms and methods and is thus a cornerstone of the book's argument.

The book is primarily intended for English teachers, researchers and curriculum developers. In Chapter 5, the book provides valuable insights for teachers grappling with the challenges of teaching English in a globalized world. It is also an important resource for students of linguistics and education, particularly those specializing in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) (Marr & English, 2019) and applied linguistics. The in-depth analysis and practical recommendations make it a useful reference for anyone working in the field of English language education.

The book also excels at translating theory into practical applications, as seen in Chapter 6, where the authors offer concrete strategies and teaching methods that educators can use in their classrooms. They emphasize the

importance of developing a curriculum that takes into account the different forms of English and the cultural contexts in which they are used. This includes examples and suggestions for classroom activities that promote an inclusive environment and respect and include students' linguistic diversity. These practical applications are crucial for educators who want to adapt their teaching practices to the realities of a globalized, multilingual world in which English functions as an international means of communication.

The book culminates in Chapter 7, "*Conclusion: Implementing and Documenting Innovation*", in which the authors summarize their findings and recommendations. This book is a compelling and critical contribution to English language teaching that will have a significant impact on how educators approach language teaching in a global context. It argues for an inclusive, culturally aware methodology that does justice to the diversity of English speakers worldwide. The depth of analysis, combined with practical strategies for implementation, makes this book an indispensable resource for anyone working in the field of English language education.

Reading this book, particularly Chapters 4 and 6, has profoundly influenced my understanding of the complexities of teaching English in today's globalized world. It has encouraged me to re-evaluate traditional teaching practices and take into account the diverse linguistic backgrounds and cultural contexts of English language learners. Of particular value are the practical applications described in Chapter 6, which offer actionable strategies that can be implemented in a variety of educational settings. This book has not only broadened my perspective on language teaching, but has also given me the tools to adapt my teaching methods to better meet the needs of a global and diverse student body.

About the Author

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