language teaching

In this issue we continue with a focus on writing, with Brian Paltridge's discussion of issues in academic writing in various contexts around the world. Paltridge examines language analysis, teaching, and assessment, and looks at how the relationships between these perspectives inform our ever-evolving construct of academic writing. In the abstracts section, we include abstracts from some new journals, and readers new to these may be interested to observe the different research styles which are represented. As always, our aim is to provide a window onto the richness and diversity of research work in our field.

Using the journal

language teaching abstracting journal is designed for professionals who need a convenient reference to current research in second and foreign language education.

There's an increasing number of journals, published in many countries of the world, that you need to read to stay on top of your field. Even a well-resourced library cannot provide access to them all. and there isn't enough time to consult them all. **language teaching** abstractors scan a wide range of journals, in order to bring you the best of international research in a format that's accessible and easy-to-use.

Each four-part volume contains around 700 abstracts reporting research in some 200 journals from around the world. The abstracts give concise and informative summaries of the original articles, and are grouped broadly by subject area, e.g., *language teaching, reading and writing, bilingual education, language testing, teacher education*. This format allows for easy browsing, as well as indicating the directions in which research on particular themes is moving.

You'll find what you're looking for quickly and easily in **language teaching**. Subject headings run along the top of each page . . . A comprehensive keyword index directs you to the particular topic you're interested in . . . Abstracts are arranged alphabetically by author . . . Authors and titles are in bold for easy reference . . . And full details of the original sources are given, so that you can follow up items of particular interest.

Subject and author indexes appear in each issue (with an annual source index in the October issue) ; and a full list of the journals consulted appears in January each year. The Editor is always pleased to have new journals brought to her attention.

State-of-the-art review article

language teaching also features in each issue a state-of-the-art review article on a particular topic. These reviews are original articles specially commissioned from experts in the relevant field. They each offer a unique overview and synthesis, with an extensive bibliography. The articles cover a wide range of diverse and important topics, to keep you up-to-date with developments in foreign and second language education.

Some future titles include:

- *vocabulary* (Paul Meara)
- *younger foreign language learners* (Richard Johnstone)
- *intercultural competence* (Mike Byram and Anwei Feng)
- *pronunciation* (Jane Setter and Jennifer Jenkins)
- *action research* (Anne Burns)

Annual research review

Each July, we present an annual research round-up. In this ever popular feature, Richard Johnstone provides a stimulating and authoritative overview of significant research and emerging research trends in language teaching and learning over the previous year.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0261444804002204 Published online by Cambridge University Press