

English Today

Editorial policy

ET is a quarterly journal whose aim is to be compact, comprehensive, attractive, and accessible. It covers all aspects of the English language, including its uses and abuses, its international variations, its history, literature and linguistics, and its uses and neologisms. In short, no aspect of English Studies is beyond its reach.

Advice to authors

English Today is unlike most academic journals in that it is aimed at a very wide audience of educated readers – indeed, anyone who is interested in understanding recent developments in the English language in different parts of the world and domains of use. The readers of ET include educationalists, broadcasters, ELT teachers, teacher trainers, journalists, students and many others, in addition to those who would describe themselves as professional linguists

Bearing in mind this wide audience, we require authors to write accessible and thought-provoking articles, which illuminate some recent development in the way English is used. Please keep in mind that your article must say something interesting about the English language. It may focus on the functions of English (e.g. its spread and use worldwide) or on its forms, e.g. variation in English or style, usage, or a range of related matters. Or indeed your article may discuss both the functions and forms of English in a given context, including literary forms; but the point is that it should always clearly focus on some aspect of the English language itself, and not, for example, on particular experiments in language teaching or a discussion of general linguistic theory or literary matters.

One of the attractions of the English Today is that it regularly publishes new and up-to-date research reports that give academics (and others) the opportunity to reach a far wider audience than is the case in most academic journals. And our quarterly publishing cycle often allows us to publish suitable articles promptly.

In ensuring the scope and quality of its content the Editor is assisted by the Editorial board.

Submissions

Contributions are welcome from all relevant disciplines and walks of life and should be sent to:

englishtoday@telkomsa.net

Prospective writers who are not regular readers of ET may prefer to write to introduce themselves, with a proposal, plan, draft, or completed piece.

Unsolicited articles can often be of great value, and are welcome.

Submission of an article is taken to imply that it has not previously been published, and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere. Authors of articles published in the journal assign copyright to Cambridge University Press (with certain rights reserved) and you will receive a copyright assignment form for signature on acceptance of your paper.

Contributors are responsible for obtaining permission to reproduce any material in which they do not own copyright, to be used in both print and electronic media, and for ensuring that the appropriate acknowledgements are included in their manuscript.

Manuscript Preparation

English Today generally leaves the orthography of articles unchanged wherever possible, although the editorial style of the journal itself is that of Cambridge University Press. We would appreciate your cooperation in following the style set out below.

1. Length and submission

Major articles are usually between 2,000 and 4,000 words of main text, while short articles, reviews, and notes range from around 500 to 2,000 words. Subsidiary text and illustrative material, such as lists, specimens, and photographs can be added to articles.

The author of an accepted article should provide 100-150 words of biography and, if possible, a recent photograph.

Articles should be submitted as an e-mail attachment (in Microsoft Word or Rich Text format) along with a covering e-mail.

The Editors cannot accept responsibility for loss of, or damage to, authors' manuscripts. Authors should keep a copy of articles submitted.

2. References

2.1 In-text references

Should be as follows. Examples given are for hypothetical single authors and double authors (note use of commas, semicolons and &).

(Surname, 200X: X-X)

(Surname, 200X, 200X)

(Surname, 200X; Surname, 200X)

(Surname & Surname, 200X)

Newspaper articles (when there is no byline): (Newspaper, Day Month, Year, X-X)

Examples:

(Crystal, 2008: 5-6)

(Social Weather Stations, 2006)

(Mesthrie, 2005, 2006)

(Kachru & Nelson, 2005; Kachru, 2004)

(Greenbaum & Nelson, 1996)

(*Daily Telegraph*, 27 September, 2008, 3)

2.2 Final references

Final references should follow the following style guidelines:

Books

Surname, Name initial. (eds.) Year. *Title of Book: Subtitle of Book*. Place: Publisher.

Surname, Name initial & Surname, Name initial. (eds.) Year. *Title of Book: Subtitle of Book*. Place: Publisher.

Examples:

Mufwene, S. 2001. *The Ecology of Language Evolution*. Cambridge: University Press.

Kachru, Y. & Nelson, C. 2005. *World Englishes in Asian Contexts*. Hong Kong: University Press.

Chapters

Surname, Name initial. Year. 'Chapter title: Chapter subtitle.' In Initial. Surname of editor(s) (eds.), *Title of Book: Subtitle of Book*. Place: Publisher, pp. X-X.

Example:

Phillipson, R. 2002. 'Global English and local language policies.' In A. Kirkpatrick (ed.), *English in Asia: Communication, Identity, Power and Education*. Melbourne: Language Australia, pp. 7–28.

Articles

Surname, Name initial. Year. 'Article title: Article subtitle.' *Name of Journal*, Vol(Nr), X-X.

Example:

Martin, A. 2004. 'The "katakana effect" and teaching English in Japan.' *English Today*, 20(1), 50–5.

Newspaper articles

Surname, Name initial. Year. 'Article title: Article subtitle.' *Name of Newspaper*, Month, Day, X-X.

If no byline:

Name of Newspaper. Year. 'Article title: Article subtitle.' Month, Day, X-X.

Examples:

Chung, Carol. 2008. 'Blast off.' *Hong Kong Standard*, September 27, 2.

Hong Kong Standard. 2008. 'HK ranks second to mainland in FDI.' September 27, 14.

Online sources

Surname, Name initial (or similar). Year. 'Title of online document.' Online at <URL> (Accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

Callcentres.net. 2005. 'Philippines may face staff shortage.' Online at <<http://callcentres.net/CALLCENTRES/LIVE/me.get?site.sections&CALL1725>> (Accessed September 8, 2007).

Theses

Surname, Name initial. Year. 'Title of thesis.' Type of dissertation. Place: University.

Example:

Martinez, N. D. 1972. 'An integrative approach to teaching and learning Standard Filipino English pronunciation.' Unpublished Master's thesis. Quezon City: Ateneo de Manila University.

3. Quotations

3.1 Shorter quotations

Shorter quotations should be enclosed within single quotation marks.

Example:

By 2020, it is estimated that '300 million, or 40 per cent of the Chinese population to be in the middle class by 2020' (PBS, 11 January, 2006).

3.2 Longer quotations

Longer quotations should be indented and use a smaller font size.

6. Do's and Don'ts checklist

Below is a checklist of (please) 'do's' and (please) 'don'ts' which might find useful:

Do's:

Do focus on an issue relevant to contemporary English;

Do include examples of language 'data' wherever relevant, e.g. examples of different variants of English, including grammar, vocabulary, or direct and accurate quotations, or photographs etc.;

Do write clearly and engagingly.

Don'ts:

Don't choose an irrelevant topic;

Don't frontload the article with a lengthy literature review and description of methodology (be very concise if covering such points);

Don't write in an obscure and impenetrable style.

Proofs

Whenever possible, contributors receive proofs for checking and should return them as promptly as they can, by airmail if necessary. Typographical or factual errors only may be changed a proof stage. The publisher reserves the right to charge authors for correction of non-typographical errors.

Contributor copies

Contributors receive a complimentary copy of the issue in which their work appears and a PDF of their piece.

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