

PREFACE

The first issue of volume 10 of *Studies in Linguistics, Culture, and FLT* titled “Problems and Solutions in Linguistics, Literature, and FLT” contains four papers focusing on various aspects of language, literature, and methodology.

The issue starts with a paper on the use of conjunctions by Luganda speakers of English as a second language in Uganda based on an oral and written discourse corpus. Dorica Deborah Mirembe and Bebwa Isingoma’s findings come to show the differences between the usages of “and” and “but” as sentence openers in oral communication as opposed to written discourse samples where there is practically no evidence of the use of “and” at the beginning of sentences in the corpus. One of the conclusions resulting from their study is the complete absence of correlatives such as “scarcely ... when” and “no sooner ... than”, while at the same time the corpus abounds in constructions with the conjunction “if” accompanied by mixed tenses. The observations, according to the authors, turn out to be a consequence of the structural nativization of English in Uganda.

The next paper by Mihaela Culea and Andreia Irina Suciu deals with some hot issues of post-Brexit Britain treated in Ali Smith’s novel *Autumn* published in 2016 soon after the British referendum. It showcases British society’s concerns related to distress, uncertainty, hard times due to economic crisis, “chaos” and mixed feelings, to name but a few. Although autumn is the season for yielding the crops, this particular one does not bring joy and great expectations; and yet, there is a touch of hope.

Hana Riani’s paper dwells upon legitimation strategies as an instrument of control in society. It analyzes the linguistic devices used in Ben Affleck’s speech before the American House Foreign Affairs Committee on Congo crisis (2011) by applying a critical discourse analysis and a qualitative analysis. The author argues that the activist relies on issues such as common values deeply rooted in US history, cultural traditions and political ideology in his intercourse with the audience on the new “war on terror”.

The last paper in the issue titled “Language Competences amidst Corporatization, Digital Technologies, and Learning English for Specific Purposes” discusses one of the latest tendencies in foreign language teaching related to the involvement of new digital technologies in ESP teaching. Tamara Stefanovic, Ana Kazanegra-Velickovic and Neda Nikolic claim that not only are digital technologies the top-notch techniques in the globalized world we live in but that they are used quite successfully in educational practices coupled with face-to-face and in-person communication. Another problem that they also reflect on is related to the corporatization of education.

