

PREFACE

The eighth issue of SILC “Exploring English Studies: Aspects of Language, Culture and Education” comprises five papers dealing with different aspects of foreign language education, applied linguistics, contrastive studies and translation.

The opening paper by Zarina Markova and Teodora Yaneva (2020) deals with the problem of anxiety in foreign language learning. Based on the findings of a small-scale research using the Foreign Language Classroom Anxiety Scale (FLCAS), the authors suggest that the aspects of language learning which provoke most anxiety in foreign language learners are speaking and test-taking, and the negative peer-evaluation of their performance.

The paper by Irina Ivanova (2020) discusses some difficulties MA students experience in understanding research articles and extracting and presenting their essence in academic summaries. The analysis of students’ summaries reveals problems related to differentiating between essential and less significant information, making sense of empirical data, understanding author’s ideas and implications, referencing, paraphrasing, reformulating and reducing the text in the summary.

Tsvetalina Aneva’s (2020) article presents some practical ideas for teaching dynamic and stative verbs, based on descriptive qualitative and quantitative analysis. The findings show that errors frequently appear in the choice of defining verbs that can be used as stative or dynamic, depending on the context in which they appear. L1 interference and overgeneralisation are seen as the two most common sources of errors.

The paper by Snejana Obeyd (2020) focuses on the ways and mechanisms through which clausal substitution is realized in English and Bulgarian. The analysis is based on English literary texts and their different translations into Bulgarian, extracted from published sources or suggested by the author. The article also describes and discusses different means through which cohesion is rendered in English and in Bulgarian.

The last paper also deals with literary translation. Silvana Neshkovska and Sonja Kitanovska- Kimovska (2020) identify some key pitfalls in translating elements of literary texts of different genres, such as titles, culture-specific terms, slang, expletives, subtext, and style. The discussion is supported by instances of translation solutions extracted from Macedonian translations of literary works originally written in English.