

## PREFACE

The first issue of volume 12 of *Studies in Linguistics, Culture, and FLT* for 2024 covers various topics related to the fields of linguistics, methodology, cultural studies, literature, translation studies and last but not least there are also two book reviews.

The first two articles in the journal are in the field of FLT. “How do teachers perceive translanguaging? Teachers’ perceptions about translanguaging practices in the EFL classroom” by Tuntun Sinaga and Gede Eka Putrawan deals with the question of EFL pedagogy and the implications translanguaging carries with its use. The answers to the posed questions are ambivalent and contradictory as there are teachers in Indonesia who are against these practices and insist on monolingual instruction.

The next paper is by Kamila Ammour and is titled “Multilingual practices of Algerian EFL learners in digital environments: A functional approach”. The interrelation between the teaching of a foreign language and the new digital technologies is put to the fore. Here again, emphasis is put on teachers’ reactions expressed in the data collection survey by indicating the transfer of face-to-face communication skills to virtual contexts, thus adopting English within digital learning settings.

“Paratextual reframing of visual elements in Al Jazeera’s coverage of the 2022 conflict between Russia and Ukraine” presented by Karina AlOteibi, Ahmad S Haider, and Hadeel AlSaed analyses the visual elements in some English articles on the Russia-Ukraine war in comparison with their Arabic equivalents. Surprisingly enough, the findings show that “Al Jazeera occasionally produces various, varied, and incongruent interpretations of the narrative” which may distort and even change the whole idea of the presented story.

Again, with a focus on translation, Gökçen Hastürkoğlu provides a study on the allographic notes in the Turkish translation of the ecological work *Silent Spring*, thus raising awareness about some environmental issues. The analysis of the translated version of the book has shown that the translator has decided to use a lot more paratextual elements, explaining even terminology that is considered familiar to the general public.

Yet another paper dwells upon translation issues, this time commenting on various options for subtitling English movie lyrics into Arabic. The authors Sundus Hassan and Ahmad S Haider touch upon the difficulties and the complexities of subtitling as regards content and form and the constraints that are imposed on the narrative as an audio-visual mode.

The translation of metaphors is the object of attention in “Analysis of the interface between language competence and conceptual metaphor in translation studies” by Ivaylo Dagnev and Zlatka Chervenкова. The researchers explore the interrelation between language competence requirements and conceptual metaphor studies. It turns out that metaphorical competence is of crucial importance for a successful translation. The results are based on a survey of an article from the *Economist* translated by 3 groups (2 non-professional and 1 professional) with the help of the Metaphor Identification Procedure proposed by the Pragglejaz Group in 2007.

“Could marriage be a glorified transactional relationship? A cognitive blending approach to analogies of marriage in Dholuo” is the title of a study by George Ouma Ogal, Vicky Khasandi-Telewa and Evelyne Mahero. It elaborates on the issues of how cultural resources and experiences influence the conceptualization of marriage in Dholuo by applying the Conceptual Integration Theory as a point of orientation. The findings were conducted on the basis of 66 analogies, thus concluding that conceptual mental spaces provide a model for interpreting marriage as an “abstract concept”.

The next three articles are related to literature studies.

Kuğu Tekin’s paper “Power and love versus death: ‘Death constant beyond love’” by Gabriel García Márquez” deals with the philosophy and literary aesthetics of Gabriel García Márquez’s political satire expressed in different ways in the discussed short story. Issues such as transience of life, mortality, ambition for power and corruption are presented and analysed in the story.

“Space in William Shakespeare’s *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*” by Cătălina Bălinișteanu-Furdu and Daniela Anisie dwells upon the influence of space on different characters and upon the power and ability of those characters to change these spaces. Binary oppositions such as private vs. public, natural vs. artificial/unnatural, order vs. disorder are discussed in relation to the links between spaces and characters’ personalities.

Silvana Neshkovska with her “Anglicisms in the Macedonian political discourse: A serious threat or a welcome addition” provokes linguists with the widespread use of Anglicisms in Macedonian political discourse as is the case with most languages. As she wonders “the question that arises is whether the general public endorses or condemns such a linguistic strategy”. A questionnaire that is provided for respondents of all ages and educational levels tries to give an answer to their sensitivity of that issue as for the purity of Macedonian as their mother tongue.

Finally, the journal contains 2 book reviews.

One of them by Veronica-Loredana Balan on *A Topography plagued by marginality in Victorian novels* by Cătălina Bălinișteanu-Furdu problematizes the issue of gendered stereotypes as regards marginality and otherness of individuals in 19<sup>th</sup> century Victorian novels especially in cases in which these people were trying to climb the social ladder or to retain their newly achieved social position. Traditional roles and moral values are also touched upon as well as some binary oppositions such as “private vs. public, nature vs. culture, surface vs. depth, appearance vs. reality, man vs. woman, hunters vs. hunted, free vs. confined, possessors vs. possessed”. All of these questions are related to a period in which society was exposed to a number of political, scientific and social changes.

The other book review is by Antony Hoyte-West on *Agatha Christie's Poirots in word and picture: Strategies in screen adaptations of Poirot histories from the viewpoint of translation studies* by Lucyna Harmon. The author presents a picture of over 70 television and cinematic versions of Agatha Christie's works from the perspective of the Polish literary and translation studies scholar Lucyna Harmon. The different strategies and techniques applied in the filmed adaptations are interpreted with the help of a thorough taxonomy Harmon herself has invented. Harmon uses a content-based analysis and compares the original text to the translated adaptations commenting on their being either faithful or unfaithful as to the way Poirot and some other characters are presented.