

From the Editor

As another semester comes to an end, we have a very appealing issue for you to take on your summer vacation. There is one invited paper, two refereed articles, a description of a useful technique for your classes and another interview.

Our invited paper, *Teaching Pronunciation: Some EFL Considerations* is by Donna M. Brinton of the University of California, Los Angeles. Dr. Brinton was a plenary speaker at our last National Convention in Zacatecas. Her article deals with that often-ignored topic—pronunciation. Based on her research carried out at UCLA and with such famous linguists such as Charles Prator and Marianne Celce-Murcia, this article leads us to reflect on how we teach pronunciation and what we can do to improve our techniques.

Connie R. Johnson of the Universidad de las Americas-Puebla gives us a report on the research she is carrying out on students with learning problems. In her article, *Reasons for Failure: Are you Aware?*, the author, besides giving us a good background in the problem, also furnishes us with suggestions we can use to help those students who, although they want to learn, just don't do well in traditional language classes.

Another professor from the Universidad de las Americas-Puebla, Margarita Hord de Méndez, reports on her research into an aspect of language acquisition in children. Her article, *Sociolinguistic Competence: Evaluating it and Discerning Important Factors in its Development*, examines how children who have differing degrees of English ability and experience develop sociolinguistic competence, an awareness of the appropriate language to use in different contexts.

Peter Reilly of Interlingua has submitted a helpful article, *Teaching Empathic Listening in the Language Classroom*, that can provide you with techniques that will allow you to improve the effectiveness of classroom interaction.

Finally, we have our final presentation in the series of interviews with the founders of MEXTESOL. This time with Marcela Díaz. Again we don't have any book reviews. Have you recently read a book you liked or are you using the best textbook in the world? Well, write us about it. That's a book review!

The Editor