

## EDITORIAL PREFACE

It is with great pleasure that the Department of English Language and Literature, Faculty of Philology, University of Belgrade announces that Belgrade BELLS is now indexed in ERIH PLUS, thanks to the previous editor, Professor Biljana Čubrović, and that we are working on being included in other academic journal indexes.

The first part of this Volume, *Theoretical and Applied Linguistics*, contains six articles from both fields. It opens with a paper by **Andrej Bjelaković** and **Biljana Čubrović**, who present the results of their survey, a forced choice questionnaire, which focused on the pronunciation of the LOT vowel among first-year students of English Language and Literature, whose L1 is Serbian (n=102). The authors determine pronunciation preferences of Serbian learners of English and the extent of the gradual drift towards American pronunciation. **Krasimir Kabakčiev** investigates the probable distribution and re-distribution in diachrony of some aspectual devices in English by using his own model of compositional aspect, while Leiss' theory of the article-aspect interplay in Proto-Germanic in diachrony completes a picture in which aspect in Old English after the emergence of the definite article must have been explicated in compositional terms like in Modern English. **Oleksandr Kapranov** is investigating whether the vowel schwa is problematic for Norwegian learners of English as a foreign language. The investigation is based on a corpus of phonemic transcriptions written by learners in a series of four tasks. The study provided by **Ivana M. Krsmanović** addresses engineering students' attitudes towards the use of computer-assisted language learning (CALL) in EFL courses and of the website which is specially designed as an online learning tool for the courses they attend. **Mateusz Pietraszek** analyses gender and level differences in the attitudes towards English pronunciation. His results are based on the responses of 111 students who took part in the survey. The aim of the paper provided by **Danijela Prošić-Santovac** and **Ana Halas Popović** was to gain insight into students' attitudes towards the use of authentic and non-authentic materials

in English language teaching including their perception of the stakeholders' agency in the process.

The second part of the Volume, *Literary and Cultural Studies*, contains seven articles. It opens with a paper by **Éva Antal** who describes comradeship and sisterhood in 19<sup>th</sup> century English social-feminist utopias and discusses the current issues of distribution of female and male tasks, forms of comradeship, companionship and sisterhood presented in the framework of ideal-utopian future communities. **Roberta Grandi** sheds light on androcentrism in *Watership Down* and *Tales from Watership Down* by Richard Adams. **Arijana Luburić-Cvijanović** and **Viktorija Krombholz** analyse Will Self's novel *Garden of Unearthly Delights* by examining the antihero as the epitome of his age and the city as the transgressive *locus terribilis*. **Vera Nikolić** investigates the traits of the postmodern Canadian novel, such as historiographic metafiction and fragmentation, while also analysing the novel *The English Patient* and its film adaptation of the same name. **Sladana Stamenković** explores how DeLillo's novels *Cosmopolis* and *The Silence* approach the interaction between hyper-reality and the media in human lives parallelly, seemingly offering the same conclusion – that technology and mass media are the key factors of how people perceive both their environment and self, and in that, how they perceive reality and the world. The paper submitted by **Orsolya Szűcz** consists of two parts: the first part of her paper describes how Eimar McBride's novel *A Girl is a Half-formed Thing* addresses both Celtic and Post-Celtic Tiger, modernist and postmodernist challenges while creating an innovative style of its own. The second part analyses how language operates through various narrative devices in the novel, showing the connections with the body, aspects of the reading process itself and stylistic elements. Finally, **Aleksandra Vukotić** examines the value of innocence in Toni Morrison's *God Help the Child* with a focus on the representation of childhood. Although little children are considered to be inherently innocent, the author shows that it is all but a fantasy for Morrison's youngest protagonists, who enter the world of adulthood prematurely as they are exposed to racial and sexual abuse.

We wish to thank all our contributors and reviewers, who invested so much work and energy in helping us provide the papers you are about to read.

The completion of this Volume would not have been possible without the hard work and effort of many people of the Editorial Team: Tamara Aralica, Andrijana Bročić, Bojana Gledić, Nataša Ilić, Aleksandra Orašanić and Aleksandra Vukelić. We owe them a great debt of gratitude for everything they have done.

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*Nenad Tomović*