CAMBRIDGE TEACHER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

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Alive to Language

Perspectives on language awareness for English language teachers

Valerie Arndt, Paul Harvey and John Nuttall
# Contents

Acknowledgements viii  

**Key terms and transcription conventions** x  

**Introduction** 11  

**1 Language-in-use** 18  
1.1 Overview 18  
1.2 A basic framework for awareness of language-in-use 19  
1.3 Features of language-in-use 21  
1.3.1 Knowledge of the world 21  
1.3.2 Context 27  
1.3.3 Variety 33  
1.3.4 Medium 37  
1.3.5 Attitude 41  
1.3.6 Effectiveness 43  
1.3.7 Structure 47  
1.3.8 Flexibility 50  

**2 Discourse** 54  
2.1 Overview 54  
2.2 Some definitions and key concepts 54  
2.3 Aspects of discourse 58  
2.3.1 Relevance and choice 59  
2.3.2 Structures of spoken interaction 66  
2.3.3 Meanings 74  
2.3.4 Shared knowledge 78  
2.3.5 Organisation 84  
2.3.6 Purposes 91  
2.4 Discourse studies and their relevance to ELT 94  

**3 Grammar** 98  
3.1 Overview 98  
3.2 What is grammar? 98  
3.2.1 Some different interpretations 99  
3.2.2 Some different viewpoints 101  
3.3 Grammar in action 103  
3.3.1 Children 104
Contents

3.3.2 Adult EL1 users 108
3.3.3 Learner (EL2) English 111

3.4 Factors in teaching grammar 113
3.4.1 Decisions and judgements 113
3.4.2 Explanations and terminology 115

3.5 Pedagogic approaches to grammar 117
3.5.1 Traditional grammar 117
3.5.2 ELT approaches 118
3.5.3 A ‘reduced model’ of grammar 125

3.6 Some alternative approaches 125

4 Variety 131
4.1 Overview 131
4.2 Terminology 131
4.2.1 Some common confusions over definitions 132
4.2.2 Code-switching 135
4.3 Attitudes towards varieties of English 136
4.3.1 Evaluating varieties 136
4.3.2 Evaluating quality of language use 138
4.3.3 ‘New’ Englishes 140
4.4 The notion of appropriacy 142
4.4.1 Appropriacy in ELT materials 144
4.4.2 Teaching appropriacy 149

5 Change 152
5.1 Overview 152
5.2 Some background to language change 152
5.3 Reasons for change 154
5.3.1 History 155
5.3.2 Borrowings 159
5.3.3 Creativity 160
5.3.4 The media 162
5.3.5 Technology 164
5.4 Language systems and examples of change 167
5.4.1 Vocabulary 168
5.4.2 Grammar 169
5.4.3 Pronunciation 174
5.5 Socio-cultural influences on language change 177
5.5.1 Gender 178
5.5.2 Taboo language 179
5.5.3 Politically correct language 180
5.5.4 Attitudes and acceptability 181

6 Power 183
6.1 Overview 183
6.2 Approaches to language and power 183
6.3 Some language and power issues 184
6.3.1 Language choice: manipulation and accessibility 185
6.3.2 Knowledge about language 193
6.3.3 The power of standard varieties 195
6.3.4 English as a ‘sexist’ language 198

6.4 Asymmetrical discourses 200
6.4.1 Some settings and contexts 201
6.4.2 Gender-based discourse 209

6.5 English as an international language (EIL) 211
6.5.1 The spread of English 212
6.5.2 Attitudes towards EIL 214
6.5.3 Ownership of the language 216

6.6 Empowerment of learners 217

Commentaries 222

References 275

Index 285
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Key terms and transcription conventions

Key terms

Below are the conventions we have used in this book to refer to some key terms:

- **EIL** English as an International Language – i.e. as the language currently most widely used for international political, business, academic and information technology purposes
- **EL1** English used as a first or mother-tongue language
- **EL2** English used in a wide variety of 'second' and 'foreign' language contexts, but not as a first or mother-tongue language
- **ELT** English Language Teaching in the context of EL2 teaching and learning
- **L1/MT** a person’s first or mother-tongue language
- **L2** any language which is not a person’s first or mother-tongue language

This symbol next to an activity indicates that there is a commentary for the activity concerned.

Transcription conventions

In some cases where we have included spoken texts as examples, we have used a minimal set of transcription symbols to indicate some of the features of spoken language as follows:

- **↓ or ↑** indicates general downward or upward pitch movement within a ‘chunk’ of language or an intonation unit, e.g. ‘Can I help you?’
- **UPPER CASE** indicates stressed syllables, e.g. ‘NO, you CAN’T’
- **+, ++, +++** indicates breaks (or pauses) of varying length in the flow of sound, + being the shortest
- **[** indicates overlap (two speakers speaking at the same time)