

Foreword from the Chief Editor

When I first heard about it just a few months ago, I was truly thrilled by Jock Wong's proposal to run a special issue on the topic of ELT in the time of coronavirus. Having confidence in Jock's leadership, vision and devotion, I had no doubt that this special issue would be a huge success. Now, a few months later, I see that the high-quality contributions we have received are the best testimony.

During the process of preparing this special issue, I see two recurrent themes, namely responsibility and solidarity. I see a strong sense of responsibility from Jock, all contributors and our editorial team. During this unprecedented time, we may feel frightened and lost. However, as members of the same academic community, we share the same challenges and what we need to do, like frontline soldiers, is to fight with swiftness and resolution. I salute Jock for initiating this project and all contributors for sharing their best practices in English language education with our readers. I trust this special issue will help promote good online practices for English language teaching and learning during this crisis and beyond.

I also see that solidarity matters. We agree that this pandemic is impacting and will continue to impact our lives dramatically. Some measures we have taken may be a new normal in the future. Hence, in addition to topics covered in this special issue, we need to join hands and put in effort to address many other important and tricky matters for language education during the post-pandemic era. Some of these matters include, but not limited to:

1. educational equality and fairness in using technology in different parts of the world;
2. challenges for moving traditional classroom teaching online;
3. teachers' and students' perceptions about this transition;
4. implications of online teaching for teacher development;
5. how to develop course materials, teach effectively, and engage students;
6. how to maximize learning in a virtual environment;
7. how to assess students in an all-online mode of teaching.

In the face of a crisis, like the current coronavirus pandemic, responsibility and solidarity are the best weapons. I congratulate Jock and all contributors for the publication of this special issue and thank them for the insights and inspirations they bring to our community. I look forward to more submissions on this topic. To be continued.

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