# *Editorial: Digital Technology in Language Teaching and Learning*

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The prevalence of technology in all aspects of life over the past few decades has dictated that schools prepare and equip students to live and work in a world where information is produced and disseminated rapidly. Schools have a further responsibility to train students to acquire critical digital literacy (Bacalja, Aguilera & Castrillon-Angel, 2021) so that they can consciously and responsibly use technology not only for learning but also in all other spheres of their lives (Buzzard, Crittenden, Crittenden & McCarty, 2011).

This responsibility was further accentuated when the COVID-19 pandemic significantly changed the role of instructional technology in schools. Homes became classrooms and teachers had to find innovative ways to impart knowledge and engage learners (Seufert, Guggemos, & Sailer, 2021), especially in language teaching and learning classrooms where innovative ways of teaching include Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL), Technology Enhanced Language Learning (TELL) and Multilingual Computer-Assisted Language Learning (MCALL). This heightened the realisation that simply using technology for technology's sake without being directed by appropriate pedagogical principles fails to equip students with all the necessary skills to function in modern society.

It is then very appropriate that *TESOL in Context* has dedicated this special issue to the ways in which technology is being used across a variety of classroom contexts, ranging from school to university and adult literacy settings. This special issue comprises five research articles and three book reviews expounding on how teachers, guided by particular pedagogical principles, have chosen and employed different technological tools in their language teaching to inspire student learning.

The editors of this special issue, Dr Shashi Nallaya, Dr Julie Choi and Dr Sue Ollerhead would like to express their immense gratitude to the reviewers, editorial board members and journal coordinator Skye Playsted for their time, expertise and dedication in bringing this issue to fruition.

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