

THE AUTHORS

1. **Hisayasu Ito**, Professor at Ritsumeikan University in Kyoto City, Japan, has published a number of articles, and his research interests include English language education, Pragmatics, especially Speech act theory, and New Testament studies. His recent publication is *The story of Jesus and the blind man: A speech act reading of John 9* (Acta Theologica Supplementum 21, 2015). He is also a co-author of an English Text, *Your World: Global Issues for English Learners*, and a co-editor of the NTJ commentary series. He served the roles such as Director of Language and Culture Institute and Deputy Director of English in the past, and now periodically takes the roles of English Program Coordinator and a steering committee member of the Language Education Center, etc. His Ph.D. is from the University of the Free State, South Africa.

2. **Larry Kimber** has been teaching English in Japan for more than twenty years in a variety of contexts that range from university courses to pre-school classes in his home. He received an EdD in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) from the University of Exeter in 2008 after completing his doctoral thesis on the theme of English immersion in Japan. His main research interests include bilingualism and intercultural communication within the field of EFL. He is presently an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Humanities at Fukuoka University.

3. **Sean O'Connell** is currently an Associate Professor at Nanzan University, Japan. He received his Ph.D. in Intercultural Communication from the University of Queensland, Australia. His research interests include intercultural communication curriculum design, teacher-training and MOOC design. Currently, he is involved in three projects on: 1) intercultural business communication curriculum development, 2) MOOC design and implementation in Japan, and 3) intensive teacher-training workshop creation. All three projects are being funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).

4. **Brad Deacon** is an assistant professor at Nanzan University. His research interests include applications of neuro-linguistic programming to EFL. He is a co-editor of the recently published "Explorations in NLP and Language Teaching" which is available on www.amazon.com. He can be reached at: braddeacon@mac.com.

5.1. **Robert Croker** is a professor in the Faculty of Policy Studies at Nanzan University, Japan. He is interested in classroom research, and teaches classes on action research, qualitative research methods, and mixed methods. Presently, he also coordinates a small English program for engineering students. He received his PhD from Nagoya University.

5.2. **Meagan Kaiser** is an instructor of English at Nanzan University, Japan. She received her Masters Degree in TESOL from Ball State University in the United States. Her research interests include learner motivation, materials design, and technology in the classroom.

5.3. **Naoko Kato** is an instructor at Nagoya Bunri University, Japan. Currently, she teaches conversational English classes. She also had taught first- year writing classes for the mixture of English as a native language and a second language students. Her research interests range from the first-year writing for English as the second language learners to pragmatics among multilingual speakers.

6.1. **Richard Miles** is an Assistant Professor of English in the British and American Studies Department at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan. Currently, he is finishing his PhD at Macquarie University in Australia, on persuasive techniques used in oral presentations by Japanese university students. His research interests include all forms of action research, and especially those related to teaching, assessing or delivering oral presentations.

6.2. **Christopher Davanzo** is an English Language Instructor at Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan, and was previously a high school and middle school social studies and literature teacher in the US. He holds a master's degree in English Language Teaching and currently researches effective methods and implementation of English instruction to second language learners.

7. **William Baber** currently is at Kyoto University teaching and researching as an Associate Professor in the Graduate School of Management. He has combined education with business throughout his career. His work has included economic development in the State of Maryland, language services in the Washington, DC area, and educating business students in Japan, North America, and Europe. Baber studies cross-cultural adaptation and business negotiation in intra and intercultural contexts. Contact: baber@gsm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

8. **Damien Okado-Gough** is a lecturer in the Department of British and American Studies at Aichi Prefectural University in Japan. His research interests include motivation and Willingness to Communicate (WTC) amongst Japanese university students, and, having been a political journalist in his home country of Northern Ireland, critical discourse analysis of press reporting of the ethno-political conflict there.

9. **Anthony Cripps** is a Professor of English at Nanzan University, Japan. He received his EdD from Exeter University, England. His research interests include learner autonomy, material design, MOOCs, pedagogical innovation and teacher training. He is currently involved in three research projects on: 1) creating intensive teacher-training workshops, 2) MOOC design and implementation in Japan, and 3) intercultural business communication curriculum development. All three projects are being funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).