



10 years ESJ Special edition

Preface:

This special edition of the *European Scientific Journal* comprises papers authored by researchers from the field of language studies who set out to reflect and respond to one of the following themes (or to both of them, in their combination): *Ceci n'est pas une pipe.* and *Thinking and Doing Otherwise.* These themes captioned the 5th and 4th editions of the Colloquium of the Research Group Body and Image in Discourse and the Symposium on Transculturality, Language and Education, respectively, a two-in-one event that took place in the Universidade Federal de Uberlândia, Uberlândia, Brazil in 2019.

Ceci n'est pas une pipe., the statement on René Magritte's 1929 canvas titled "The Treachery of Images", appears right below the image of a pipe. The painting as a unit has the potency to question, challenge and deny a direct, unequivocal, and obvious relationship between the visible and the sayable. This unresolved issue inspired the two research questions posed for researchers investigating processes of meaning-making that involve the body, images, and discourses, and who were willing to be affected by the Magrittean work: a) Within the realm of the studies on the relationship between body, image, and discourse, what theoretical/methodological reflections emerge to you as an effect of the provoking Magrittean statement *Ceci n'est pas une pipe.?* and b) If the Magrittean canvas had no image and the term *pipe* were withdrawn from the statement *Ceci n'est pas un (e)* ., leaving a gap in its place, what image/word could replace them? These questions were intended to inspire researchers from various epistemological traditions to discuss the functioning of language in contemporary discursive practices related to different social groups in and outside the educational domain.

Thinking (and doing) otherwise was the thought-provoking theme selected by the organizing committee of the event to invite researchers to reflect on alternative, innovative ways of doing research and act in the fields of language education and literature. The objective was to gather scientists to share research results, investigative strategies, and teaching experiences that resulted from and/or helped constitute creative, hybrid, and transdisciplinary frameworks. Such frameworks suggest a kind of intellectuality that points to an academic and educational doing that differs from crystalized oppressive patterns. *Thinking (and doing) otherwise* was a theme proposed to challenge and problematize regimes of meanings, values, and epistemologies that create docile and subaltern subjectivities. The Symposium brings together members of the Working Group on Transculturality, Language, and Education, affiliated with the National Association of Graduate Studies and Research in Letters and Linguistics (ANPOLL). It makes visible the way its members have thought and practiced their theories and articulated concepts

such as those of difference, identity, language, power, and resistance. In this edition, the symposium especially explored contemporary conditions of thinking, doing research, and engaging in educational contexts. The guiding question of the event was: What characterizes and/or supports our ways of thinking and doing otherwise in our fields?

It is worth pointing out that this special volume is released only in 2021 because the year 2020 came to be too atypical and relentless due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Much has happened in this circumstance and many have been the changes in our lives. The publication of this volume materializes the effort of the authors and reviewers to overcome such a difficult year and keep their spirits high, towards life. The articles herein reflect not only the profound epistemological work and contribution of each author; they also shed light on socially relevant themes that tell of the current struggles and challenges inside and outside the language classroom and for a more dignified life.

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