

## Call for Abstracts *TESOL Quarterly* 2025 Special Issue

### **The Role of the Learner in Task Performance and Acquisition: Evidence from New and Emerging Perspectives**

The use of tasks has become ubiquitous in contemporary approaches to language teaching and learning. Despite the learning opportunities that well-designed tasks offer, however, there is considerable variability in the extent to which learners take advantage of these opportunities. Learner factors (e.g., emotion, engagement, personal investment, willingness to communicate) play an important role in the success of tasks in promoting language acquisition. Research in task-based language teaching (TBLT), however, has been slow to address the role of the learner in task performance and the role of the learner in the learning that takes place through tasks. This has resulted in a somewhat narrow perspective on teaching and learning through tasks.

This special issue will address this gap in the TBLT literature with a collection of empirical studies that brings new and emerging theoretical and methodological perspectives together with established perspectives on the role of learner factors in task performance and acquisition. Submissions will be of two primary types: (1) studies that investigate the role of learner factors in task performance, and (2) studies that investigate the impact of learner factors on language acquisition that are relevant to TBLT. Proposed studies should be theoretically grounded, motivate and explain the approach(es) adopted, outline careful and robust data analysis, and include implications for theory and practices related to TBLT. Of particular interest will be studies triangulating the discourse analytical and learner response methods commonly used in TBLT research with new and emergent methods of inquiry such as biometrics, psychophysiology, non-verbal behaviour, and idiodynamic analysis (see *The Role of the Learner in TBLT: Theory and Research Methods*, Routledge, 2023, for examples).

Submissions should include: (1) a title of up to 15 words, (2) a detailed abstract of 500-1000 words; (3) author bios of 150 words each, and (4) author affiliations and contact information.

#### **Timeline:**

- Abstracts due 31 January 2024
- Short-listed abstracts announced 15 February 2024
- Full manuscripts due 1 August 2024
- Final revisions due 1 January 2025
- Publication in mid-2025

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