

# English Today

The International Review of the English Language



## English in the Gulf

- Shetland English
- Urban dictionary
- Canadian debates
- Chinese English

# English Today

The International Review of the English Language

---

journals.cambridge.org/eng  
Cambridge University Press  
32 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10013-2473, USA

**Founding Editor:** Tom McArthur

## Editors

Kingsley Bolton, *City University of Hong Kong and Stockholm University*  
David Graddol, *UK*  
Rajend Mesthrie, *University of Cape Town*

## Editorial Board

Evelyn Ch'ien, *University of Minnesota, USA*  
David Crystal, *University of Bangor, UK*  
Azirah Hashim, *University of Malaya, Malaysia*  
Nobuyuki Honna, *Aoyama Gakuin University, Japan*  
Bernd Kortmann, *University of Freiburg, Germany*  
Merja Kytö, *Uppsala University, Sweden*  
Andrew Moody, *University of Macau, Macao, China*  
Salikoko S. Mufwene, *University of Chicago, USA*  
David Nunan, *University of Hong Kong, China*  
Anne Pakir, *National University of Singapore, Singapore*  
Pam Peters, *Macquarie University, Australia*  
Mario Saraceni, *University of Portsmouth, UK*  
Barbara Seidlhofer, *VOICE, University of Vienna, Austria*  
Loreto Todd, *University of Ulster, UK*  
Katie Wales, *University of Sheffield, UK*  
Catherine Walter, *University of London, UK*

**Editorial correspondence:** Sarah Rowan  
englishtoday@telkomsa.net

## Copying

This journal is registered with the Copyright Clearance Center, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923. Organisations in the USA who are also registered with CCC may therefore copy material (beyond the limits permitted by sections 107 and 108 of US copyright law) subject to payment to CCC of the per copy fee of \$12.00. This consent does not extend to multiple copying for promotional or commercial purposes. Code 0261-4448/2011.

Organisations authorised by the copyright Licensing Agency may also copy material subject to the usual conditions. ISI Tear Sheet Service, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104, USA is authorised to supply single copies of separate articles for private use only.

For all other use, permission should be sought from the Cambridge or New York offices of the Cambridge University Press. Information on *English Today* and all other Cambridge journals can be accessed via [journals.cambridge.org](http://journals.cambridge.org)

## Subscriptions

English Today (ISSN 0266-0784) is published by Cambridge University Press four times a year in March, June, September and December. Volume 27 subscription prices including postage (excluding VAT), valid until 31 December 2011, are £124 (US \$217) for institutions print and electronic access; £118 (US \$201) for institutions print only; £111 (US \$185) for institutions electronic only; £34 (US \$54) for individuals print only ordering direct from the publisher and certifying that the journal is for their personal use. Single issues cost £32 (US \$55). A special rate is available for students £25 (US \$39). Special rates also apply for members of TESOL, IATEFL and other organisations. For further details, contact [journals@cambridge.org](mailto:journals@cambridge.org).

EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered subscribers should provide their VAT registration number. Orders, which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to a bookseller or to Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8RU or in the USA, Canada or Mexico, to Cambridge University Press, The Journals Fulfillment Department, 100 Brook Hill Drive, West Nyack, New York 10994-2133. Japanese prices for institutions (including ASP delivery) are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices, POSTMASTER: send address changes in USA, Canada and Mexico to language teaching, Cambridge University Press, 100 Brook Hill Drive, West Nyack, New York 10994-2133.

## Advertising

Advertising queries for all parts of the world except the USA, Canada and Mexico to: [ad\\_sales@cambridge.org](mailto:ad_sales@cambridge.org)  
Address enquiries in the USA, Mexico and Canada only to: [journals\\_advertising@cup.org](mailto:journals_advertising@cup.org)

All URLs referenced in this journal were correct approximately two months before publication.

© Cambridge University Press 2011

---

**English Today** is designed and typeset by Techset  
and this issue is printed in the United Kingdom  
by the University Press, Cambridge.

# English Today

The International Review of the English Language

ET108 Volume 27 Number 4 December 2011

- 
- 2 **Editors' comment**
- 3 **Academic and public attitudes to the notion of 'standard' Canadian English** STEFAN DOLLINGER
- 10 **An investigation of English pronunciation teaching in Ireland** DEIRDRE MURPHY
- 19 **The Shetland Islands: globalisation and the changing status of Standard English** PETER SUNDKVIST
- 26 **The local flavour of English in the Gulf** BLAIR FUSSELL
- 33 **'Linguistic schizophrenia' in Hong Kong** JULIE M. GROVES
- 43 **Urban dictionary: youth slang and the redefining of definition** RACHEL E. SMITH
- 49 **'Me talk funny': A stroke patient's personal account** JÜRIG R. SCHWYTER
- 53 **Phrasal verbs: 'a process of the common, relatively uneducated, mind'?** KATE WILD
- 58 **The 'Outer Circle' as a role model for the 'Expanding Circle'** KANAVILLIL RAJAGOPALAN
- 64 **English, Chinglish or China English?** MEGAN EAVES
- 71 **Spelling reform – a lesson from the Greeks** MICHAEL BULLEY
- 

CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS