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Foreword

Welcome to the latest issue of Elsya: Journal of English Language Studies (E-ISSN: 2684-9224). This journal is an international, peer-reviewed, open-access journal dedicated to publishing articles that explore English language-related issues around the globe with insights gained from various academic disciplines such as Linguistics, Literature, and Education.

Elsya Journal has published Volume 3 Number 2 on June 2021. I would like to thank my co-editors, editorial board members, reviewers, the technical team, members of LITA and APPSBI, as well as the contributing authors for creating Elsya Journal's Volume 3 Number 2, June 2021.

This year has been an exciting time for Elsya Journal. The journal has received great interest from international academics and manuscript submissions around the globe as teachers, students and policy-makers alike are spurred to contribute to making education, especially English learning, adapt with the Covid-19 pandemic. Moreover, the Board has announced to give a special policy during the month of Ramadhan to allow rapid publication of manuscripts free of publication charges. Numerous manuscripts from multiple countries have successfully passed the rigorous evalution in internal and peer-review, and we are ecstatic to present some of them in the premiere issue.

This issue presents nine papers written by sixteen authors from Indonesia and five authors from Afghanistan, covering a wide range of interesting topics. *Mohammad Naim Rahim et al.* conducted a critical evaluation of Afghanistan's high school English language textbook to promote the country's Ministry of Education's mission to integrate in-demand skills in language textbooks. *Musawi & Baktash* also forwarded Afghanistan's Ministry of Higher Education's mission in evaluating and ranking the state of the art cloud-based applications to streamline the country's e-learning system. Similarly, *Neni Nurkhamidah* tested out selected smartphone medical applications to overcome the classical and practical language barriers for nursing students who struggle to understand English medical materials. Remembering the online teaching-learning process held in the current pandemic era hinders students' engagement and practice, *Willinsky et al.* proved that watching pantomime video via Zoom can significantly heighten students' enthusiasm as they are pushed to learn and use more foreign words than when teachers still rely on traditional textbooks. In evaluating how English teachers have adapted, *Madina & Kardena* revealed key problems in adapting to the scientific-based 2013 Curriculum, whereas *Fitri Handayani* focused on the gap of evaluation on the abruptly-made English listening material and activities.

Aside from addressing the adapation of educational system, researchers also tackled unique and urgent issues. *Nirwana & Darmadali* tries to tackle Indonesia's concerning threat of terrorism carried out by university students by integrating religious moderation values, such as tolerance, national commitment, accommodating to the local culture, and anti-violence, into the cross-cultural understanding learning process. *Riani et al.* gave an illustrative breakdown of the dissociative meaning differences of how people advertise products for men and women. Last but not least is a paper from *Anselmus Sudirman et al.* presented a state of the art on the different forms of cohesions in articles on EFL academic writing, as cohesions are seldom looked into yet have become a crucial component of academic writing.

Elsya Journal will continue to allow rapid publication and in-progress publication policy to facilitate the widespread dissemination of needed knowledge and solutions for the problems around the world related to English language. We hope that readers make frequent use of our valuable resources in for our world's shared sustainable development goals, particularly in quality education, gender equality, and peaceful and just nstitutions.

Best Regards,

Pekanbaru, June 2021

Budianto Hamuddin, M.Esl. Editor-in-Chief