

Letter from the Editor

Dear Readers,

What a challenging year this has been. Many of us had to make the leap from synchronous, face-to-face classes to a hybrid of synchronous and asynchronous, face-to-face and online classes at a moment's notice. It was stressful and exciting and demanding and fun. But we are rising to the challenge and overcoming some of our hesitancy over using technology in the classroom. This may just be good for our pedagogy!

I'm very excited for this issue of *WAESOL Educator*. The first article is of special interest to public school teachers as Washington schools transition to the new [WIDA English language development standards](#). Feel free to copy and paste the link to this issue for your K-12 friends and colleagues who will need to pay close attention to this important change. There is also a great article on providing multi-tiered support for language learners in the K-12 system. Two articles focus on support for underserved populations including [multilingual elders](#) and [multilingual children with disabilities](#) and another on [equitable practices](#).

And just in time to ramp up your tech game for a new school year, there are six articles that highlight pedagogical technology. In the section on ELT Resources Review, there are articles on [flipping your classroom](#) and the effective use of [Loom](#), [Flipgrid](#), [H5P](#) and [Weebly](#), as well as one on how to continue to provide [systematic and practical corrective feedback](#) while in a Zoom class. Another article with tech at its center focuses on [neologisms](#)—the new words or phrases that often rise from a particular social, cultural, or political moment, much like the one we're in now.

If getting back to basics is what you need now, there is a book review that suggests that [teaching creative writing](#) to students might be a great way to help them avoid screens and spark their imagination. Finally, two articles address [student-centered teaching](#) and [student motivation](#) in Asia, but have further-reaching implications for culturally-conscious language teachers everywhere.

I hope you enjoy the issue and that you will consider sharing your knowledge and expertise by writing an article for *WAESOL Educator* in the future.

Best wishes and stay safe out there,

Bridget Green

WAESOL Educator Editor

Bridget Green has over 30 years' ESL/EFL teaching experience in the US, Japan, Spain, the United Arab Emirates, Ecuador, and Uganda. In addition, she has over 15 years' teacher-training experience at the post-secondary level. She has two master's degrees—one in International Studies from the University of Sheffield and one in TESOL from Gonzaga University. She is currently excited about a videography project she will be doing for the Regional English Language Office Belgrade through the English Language Specialist office of the State Department. Her experience writing and editing ELT materials for Oxford University Press and Heinemann was the beginning of her training in materials development, which is her absolutely favorite thing to do. You can contact her at editor@waesol.org.

