

Réamhrá/Introduction

Teanga 22 returns to the format of previous years, in which the papers cover a wide range of topics. The papers by Hourigan and Murray, Little, Shanley and McDermott, and Amador Moreno arise from the IRAAL conference on Content and Literature in Language Learning held at the University of Limerick in November 2002. These papers reflect a diversity of approaches to the interactions between written texts and language learning. In a departure from tradition which marks the growth of *Teanga* as an international journal of Applied Linguistics, this issue also features papers that have been submitted from scholars in Ireland and abroad independently of IRAAL activities. Papers by Hoare and by McKendry and Purdy are particularly relevant to language teaching and learning, while those by Palma Fahey and Reffell concentrate on aspects of the English language in Ireland, both at home and in the Irish diaspora. A broad international perspective is seen in O'Rourke's examination of language attitudes in Galicia and in the comparison of language attitudes in Ireland and the Basque country by Lasagabaster and Ó Laoire. Yet another field is represented in O'Malley's use of medical discourse analysis in examining discourse in the midwife's clinic. These papers encourage the international exchange of ideas and information, and it is hoped that *Teanga* will continue to develop its international profile in this way.

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