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**Book Review: TSUI, Amy B.M., and James W. Tollefson (eds.), *Language Policy, Culture, and Identity in Asian Contexts* (Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum, 2007), pp. ix + 283. ISBN 0-8058-5694-3**

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planning'; 'There is not much variety' versus 'I do different things every week', and so on. A suggested follow-up activity is to ask the students to write a proposal about how their working environment could be changed to make it more suited to their preferred working style.

Keith Harding is to be congratulated on creating so many practical tasks for a subject that has often been treated as slightly esoteric and outside the norm of ELT methodology. Going through the book, however, it seems clear to me that some of the activities are more interesting and relevant than others. It is therefore up to the ESP teacher to assess and adapt the tasks to meet the particular needs of her/his students. The potential buyer of the book should perhaps note that the author has deliberately excluded activities related specifically to English for Business and English for Academic Purposes because he feels there is enough published material already in these two areas. There is also a lack of ready-made longer texts for teachers to copy and start using immediately in their classes. However, the author does provide some suggestions for collecting and adapting such materials.

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TSUI, Amy B.M., and James W. Tollefson (eds.), *Language Policy, Culture, and Identity in Asian Contexts* (Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum, 2007), pp. ix + 283. ISBN 0-8058-5694-3.

This edition on language policy, culture and identity in Asia is timely in this day and age of the pervasiveness of English as an international language. There are in total 14 papers from all the major regions of Asia ranging from North Asia, South East Asia, Australasia and the Indian Sub-Continent. The editors, Amy Tsui and James Tollefson, have written a good paper presenting a background of how we could understand the areas where language policy has an effect on the construction of a national cultural identity. They focus on how countries in Asia are grappling with the growing influence of English whilst at the same time balancing the need to promote their own national languages.

The first part of this volume focuses on globalization and its impact on language policy, culture and identity and there are five papers with two contributions from Japan and Korea, respectively, and three from South East Asia. Kayoko Hashimoto's paper entitled, 'Japan's language policy and the "lost decade"', describes the role of English in Japan when the country went through a period of economic uncertainty in the 1990s. The role of English in Japan is seen as internationalizing the country with no ancillary drawback of cultural homogenization. Yim Sungwon's paper entitled, 'Globalization and Language Policy in South Korea', resonates on the same concern of linguistic imperialism of English in South Korea.

The next paper by Maya Khemlani David and Subramaniam Govindasamy entitled, 'The construction of national identity and globalization in multilingual Malaysia', discusses how Malaysia's language policies, schools and textbooks addressed the

issues of national integration and globalization. In her paper entitled, 'Remaking Singapore: language, culture and identity in a globalized world', Phyllis Ghim-Lian Chew has detailed the phenomenal growth of English in Singapore and how the phases of language reforms from the 1990 in the island republic have shaped the identities of its residents. The final paper in this part by Thomas Clayton entitled, 'Transition, culture and language in Cambodia', details the factors affecting language choice for both the majority Khmer and the minorities in Cambodia today.

The second part of the volume discusses language policy and the (re)construction of national cultural identity. The first paper in this part entitled, 'Language policy and construction of identity: The case of Hong Kong', by Amy Tsui, provides a clear and concise description of language policy or a lack thereof since the inception of the territory in 1842. The paper details the initial linguistic hegemony of English and the swings in the construction of a Hong Kong and later hybrid Chinese identity. The next paper by Mukul Saxena on 'Multilingual and Multicultural identities in Brunei Darussalam' considers how the English, Malay and even Arabic have significant roles in constructing and deconstructing the multilingual and multicultural identities of Bruneians. Richard Benton's paper on the status of the Maori language in New Zealand argues that although there is an unequal power relationship between English and Maori, the Maori language serves as a cornerstone to Maori identity.

The third and final part of this volume which is on the role of English in language policy and language politics has four papers from the Indian sub-continent. The paper by Rama Agnihotri entitled, 'Identity and Multilinguality: The Case of India', focuses on the historical developments that affected language choice from the time of British India till the present. The issues of language and education confronting India today as well as some recent proposals in revising the national curriculum within the backdrop of the growing importance of English is a core concern shared by many countries in the region. This growing role of English is also discussed by Tariq Rahman in his paper entitled, 'The role of English in Pakistan', with special reference to tolerance and militancy where he discusses in depth the history of language policies since independence with a focus on how English has a strong following from within the power structure of Pakistan in general and its army in particular. Tania Hossain and James Tollefson's paper entitled, 'Language policy in education in Bangladesh', describes the fortunes of Urdu, Bengali and English as the language went through a period of upheaval in the 1970s and linguistic nationalism thereafter. In somewhat the same vein Selma Sonntag details the features of change and permanence in language politics in Nepal. The paper explains how language choice and language policies is linked to the state of political uncertainty that has been plaguing Nepal since the 1990s. Finally, the editors conclude the volume with a summary of key issues discussed in the volume from examples across Asia.

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