

*Revisiting English. New Paradigms*

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Studi italiani di linguistica teorica e applicata XLV, 1 (2016), pp. 93-106

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to elicit a reflective perspective on the current status of English and on the implications of teaching it within a moveable scenario where new language contacts are challenging English traditional standards and its varieties. Among the changes English is undergoing, one is English as a Lingua Franca (ELF) that is establishing itself as the most widely used form of plurilithic communication adopted by people of different language backgrounds to communicate with each other. Another feature of current English is the number of its users that are by large non-native speakers whose role and function are emerging as innovative in English language education. After a general introduction on the effects of globalisation through English, the implications of the growing diffusion in multilingual contexts of nativised varieties of English, of the potential role of non-native speakers and of ELF in English language teaching and education will be illustrated and discussed.