

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Journal of Modern European Languages and Literatures (JMEL). This edition of the Journal of Modern European Languages and Literatures (JMEL) is in online printable format only. All contributors have online downloadable access to the front and back cover pages of the journal.

In this edition, **Ifeoma Mabel Onyemelukwe** looks at how critical disability theory, though preceded by a good number of models of disability as instruments for analysing disability in various disciplines, was rarely used in literature. Her paper attempts to fill this gap by proposing that ableism activism theory is apt for critical analysis of ableism/ableism activism in literature. Using a eight-point criteria for evaluating and classifying a literary work as ableism activism literature, she examines Sembène Ousmane's postcolonial novel *Xala* in the light of ableism activism theory. Her findings show that *Xala* qualifies to be ranked as ableism activism literature.

**Joseph N. Eke** posits that the knowledge about a people that engenders attitudes and responses towards them come mostly from knowing diverse aspects of their culture. As such, differences and distance between cultures, asymmetry in cultural attitudes and relations plus the cultural competence of the translator would affect adequacy in the transfer of meanings of health contexts, etc. Employing intercultural textual and translation analysis the author illustrates with selected translated text units from the German translations of Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart* (TFA) and *Arrow of God* (AOG). The paper concludes that observed misrepresentations of the source culture, emphasis on sufficient knowledge of the interrelating source and target cultures as well as a thorough understanding of particular contexts of cultural meanings facilitates adequate transfer of meanings and make intercultural understanding and representation feasible through translation.

**Ngozi Lilian Nebonta and Justina Nneka Okoye's** joint paper is an analysis of the African woman in Ken Bugul's *Cendres et Braise* and Regina Yaou's *La révolte d'Affiba*. Using the textual approach, the study unravels how women's self-assertion is portrayed several ways like defying tradition in the two novels. The authors conclude that the stories are geared towards defending the woman's personality and calling for understanding between man and woman.

**Akachukwu Henry Ibekwe** describes by means of contrastive analysis, the syntax of the predicate in French and Yoruba with the aim of identifying the problems that face the Yoruba learner of French. The findings show that the constituents of the predicate are grouped, structured and positioned differently in French and Yoruba grammar. The paper therefore calls for emphasis on the differences between both languages so as to ascertain where difficulties may arise for Yoruba students learning French as a foreign language.

**Adaugo Promise Tabugbo** compares the processes of nominalization in Spanish and izon in order to determine the points of divergence and convergence, and the possible difficulties in learning the nominalization process in Spanish for izonphone learners. She observed that not all nominalization processes are governed by particular rules in these two languages, and therefore, advocates the early introduction of comparative studies of languages (mother tongue and foreign language) in the foreign language classroom.

Finally, **Tiamiyu, Adewale Nuraeni** writes on adultery in the Romantic period. The author explains that previous studies on Flaubert's *Madame Bovary* failed to examine the concept of Romanticism through the criticism of romantic period therein; and have not identified adultery as a romantic period. Highlighting the genres of this epoch, the study revealed that Emma Bovary is a heroine and a victim of influence of the literature she read, coupled with the neglect she suffered in her marriage.