

## From the Editor

We have some interesting articles for you in this issue. Our first article is by Connie Rae Johnson of the Universidad de las Américas in Puebla. In this paper she advises teachers on the result of research she has conducted into a problem affecting students at all levels and ages: A lack of cognitive learning abilities that results from a weakness in our educational system--students are being asked to memorize and comprehend, but not to analyze, synthesize or evaluate. Prof. Johnson offers a series of exercises that can be used to help students raise their cognitive learning level.

Our second article deals with age and learner independence. This refers to letting the students choose the form part of their educational development will take. The authors, Carlos Barbisan and María Sara Rodríguez, examine many practical questions that commonly come up when trying to apply the concept of learner independence in our classrooms. They also present some practical techniques that can be used to put their ideas into practice.

The third article addresses the problem that teachers have faced since our theories of language teaching changed in the late 1970's: How can we change from being language experts teaching linguistic forms to "teachers" in the new communicative/humanistic approaches? How can we change from the teacher-centered classroom to the learner-centered methods?

Our *Book Review Section* includes the first part of a review of four textbooks designed to help students improve their pronunciation. The second part of this review will appear in our next issue. The *Teaching Tips* column presents an interesting and innovative way to look at reading comprehension.

Again, we want to encourage you to participate in MEXTESOL, either by submitting an article for the Journal or by writing us a letter to let us know about your opinions about the Journal in general, or about any of our articles in particular. You can also participate by joining your local affiliate and attending local meetings and academic sessions. This year our XX National MEXTESOL Convention will take place in Puerto Vallarta from October 14 to 17, 1993. We hope to see you there.