

## **This issue**

This issue of the ES*pecialist* exceptionally contains only four articles, due to their length.

The first article, by Pimenta, analyses data of the reading of narratives in a foreign language. It aims at studying how a group of readers focus their attention, perception and memory, concentrating on an intentional search for events mediated by time markers. The author follows Vygotsky's and van Dijk's concept of reading.

Salager-Meyer, in a diachronic study of medical journals, analyses them over a period of 185 years (until 1995), trying to find out, both quantitatively and qualitatively, from a socio-constructivist perspective, the direction in which bibliographical references developed.

The other two papers study written discourse in its social setting.

Meurer studies prediction with reference to the textual organization of parts of a self-help counselling book.

Souza, on the other hand, studies English-Portuguese job application letters contrastively, looking for the observance or violation of Grice's Cooperation Principle, confronting them with the newspaper announcements of those jobs.