

## Curriculum Vitae

**Name:** Thomas N. Robb

**Home address:** 6-27 Hirakata-Motomachi  
Hirakata-shi, Osaka-fu  
JAPAN 573-0052

**Nationality:** American

**Work: Professor Emeritus**  
Faculty of Foreign Studies  
Kyoto Sangyo University  
Kamigamo-Motoyama  
Kita-ku, Kyoto 603-8555 Japan

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### Education and Degrees

5/78 - 5/92 Ph.D. University of Hawaii at Manoa. Department of Linguistics. Dissertation: *Aspects of the Pitch-Accent System of Ibuki-jima*.  
1/74 - 5/75 M.A., University of Hawaii at Manoa. Department of Linguistics.  
9/64 - 5/68 Undergraduate at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. Graduated with A.B. degree in linguistics.  
6/67 - 9/67 Studied intermediate Chinese at Stanford University under a NDFL Fellowship.  
9/62 - 6/64 Student at Red Bank Catholic High School, Red Bank, NJ.

### Relevant Occupational Experience

4/17 - Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Kyoto Sangyo University  
4/81 - 3/17 Professor, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Kyoto Sangyo University.  
Chair, Department of English for 7 years.  
Chair, English Curriculum Committee for General Education for 5 years.  
4/79 - 3/81 Special Lecturer (Tokubetsu Kooshi) at Doshisha University, Faculty of Literature.  
4/78 - 4/79 Part-time Lecturer at Doshisha University, Faculty of Literature.  
5/75 - 3/77 Instructor At National LL School, Osaka.  
4/72 - 3/74 Lecturer (Sennin Kooshi) at Kansai University of Foreign Studies, Department of English.  
3/70 - 1/74 Instructor and Coordinator of the intermediate level "SB" course at Overseas Training Department, Matsushita Electric Industrial Corp., (National/Panasonic) Kadoma, Osaka, Japan.

### Fellowships and Awards

9/74 - 12/74 Graduate Assistantship at the University of Hawaii, Department of Linguistics  
6/77 - 8/77 Graduate Assistantship at the University of Hawaii, (LSA Linguistics Institute).  
6/67 - 9/67 NDFL fellowship (National Defense Foreign Language Fellowship) to study Chinese at Stanford University  
3/06 D. Scott Enright Award TESOL Interest Section Service Award.  
11/10 "Kunrei-shou" prize from the University Computer Education Association (Japan) for the MoodleReader project (with Makimi Kano).  
8/17 *The Milne Innovation Award* (The Extensive Reading Foundation)  
7/22 CALL Lifetime Achievement Award, (Computer Assisted Language Learning Journal)

### Societies and Associations

#### **Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT)**

2/76- Founding Member  
11/78 - 11/79 Vice President  
11/79 - 1/82 President  
1/82 - 1/90 Executive Secretary

#### **Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), 6/76-**

3/88 - 3/90 Associate Chair & Chair, EFL Interest Section  
3/91 - 3/94 Executive Board (Affiliate Representative)  
3/99 - 3/02 Chair-Elect & Chair, CALL Interest Section  
3/02 - 3/12 Steering Committee, CALL Interest Section  
3/12 - 3/20 CALL-IS Mobile Apps for Education Showcase Coordinator  
4/20 - 4/22 Founder and First Chair, Reading & Vocabulary Interest Section  
4/22 - 4/24 Past Chair, Reading & Vocabulary Interest Section

#### **Pacific CALL – Founding Member 2004-**

Vice-President 2004 ~ 2006  
President 2006 ~ 2008  
Past President & Advisor 2009 -present

#### **International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL), 1982-**

Committee Member of the LitSIG , 2020 -

#### **The Extensive Reading Foundation, 2005~ Founding member**

Executive Board, 2008~ Present  
Chair, 2015~ Present  
Treasurer 2012 ~ Present  
Convener of The First Extensive Reading Congress, 3-6 September 2011  
Co-Chair of The Fourth Extensive Reading Congress, 4-7 August 2017

#### **Moodle Association of Japan (MAJ), 2010 – 2017**

Chair, Research & Development Committee, 2011 – 2015

## **WorldCALL**

Executive Committee 2013 - present  
Scholarship Committee Chair, 2008, 2013, 2018 & 2023 events.

## **Other Associations**

Japan Association of College English Teachers (JACET), 1976-2004  
Japanese Linguistics Society (Nihon Gengo Gakkai) 1977-2003  
American Association of Foreign Language Teachers (ACTFL), 1980-  
International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), 1993-2010  
CALICO, 1985-  
EuroCALL, 2001-

## **Editorial Board Memberships**

TESL-EJ (<http://tesl-ej.org>)  
TESL-EJ, Editor-in-Chief 2021-Present  
TESL-EJ, Editor 2017-2022  
TESL-EJ, Co-editor 2008-2017  
Technical Editor 1995-2008  
CALL Journal (Routledge)

## **Reviewer**

Reading in a Foreign Language  
CALL Journal (Routledge)  
System  
Modern Language Journal  
Language Learning & Technology Journal

## **Ph.D. Dissertation**

01/92 Aspects of the Pitch-Accent System of Ibuki-jima, Doctoral Dissertation University of Hawaii at Manoa, Department of Linguistics.

## **Published Journal Articles, Book Chapters & Collected Volumes**

- 04/85 On the Accent of 2 and 3 Mora Nouns on Ibuki-jima, Kagawa Prefecture, Kinki Phonetics Society Research Bulletin, 1,88-105.
- 04/86 The Saliency of Feedback on Error and its Effect on EFL Writing Quality, TESOL Quarterly 20:1,83-95, Thomas N. Robb, Steven Ross & Ian Shortreed. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3586390>
- 03/86 On the Use of the T-Test for Differentiating Accent Classes, Bulletin of the International Research Institute for the Linguistic Sciences Kyoto Sangyo 7:2,196-213 <https://doi.org/10.2307/3586390>
- 06/88 First Language Methods in the Second Language Classroom, RELC Journal, 19(1), 29-48 Ross, Shortreed & Robb
- 01/89 Extensive Reading vs Skills Building in an EFL Context, Reading in a Foreign Language, 5:2:239-251 with B. Susser
- 11/90 Extensive Reading: Theory and Practice, JALT Journal 12:2, 161- Bernard Susser & Thomas Robb
- 12/95 Web Projects for the ESL/EFL Class: Famous Japanese Personages”, CAELL Journal, Vol. 6.4 pp. 21-24.
- 01/99 A Study of the Effect of Direct Test Preparation on the TOEIC Scores of Japanese University Students, TESL-EJ, 3.4, 22 pages. With J. Ercanbrack.
- 09/00 The life and death of software: Examining the selection process with B. Susser, CALICO Journal, Vol. 18, No. 1, pp. 41-52
- 10/00 “Teaching Writing with Web Projects: Famous Personages in Japan” in Technology Enhanced Learning Environments, Elizabeth Hanson-Smith, Editor, TESOL. 125-134.
- 09/01 “Extensive Reading in an EFL Environment” in Understanding the Courses We Teach, John Murphy & Patricia Byrd, Editors, University of Michigan Press, (pp.218-235).
- 10/02 Extensive Reading in the Asian Context -- An Alternative View, Reading in a Foreign Language 14.2. <http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/rfl/October2002/discussion/robb.html>
- 09/03 Google as a Quick 'n Dirty Corpus Tool, Teaching English as a Second Language Electronic Journal, Volume 7, No. 2, INT.
- 2004 “Evaluation of ESL/EFL Instructional Web Sites,” in New Perspectives in CALL for Second Language Classrooms, Lawrence Erlbaum (with Bernard Susser), pp. 279-293
- 2006 “CALL and the Non-autonomous Learner: Build It, But Will They Come?” in E Hanson-Smith & S Rilling, *Learning Languages through Technology*, TESOL, pp. 69-76.
- 2006 “Helping teachers to help themselves,” in *Teacher Education in CALL*, P. Hubbard & M. Levy, (Eds.), John Benjamins Publishing. pp. 335–347.
- 11/10 学生の授業時間外の英語学習時間の増大と英語力の向上 (Improvement in English by increasing extramural study time.) Japan University Association for Computer Education. [http://www.juce.jp/archives/ronbun\\_2010/02.pdf](http://www.juce.jp/archives/ronbun_2010/02.pdf)
- 2010 Getting them to Read Outside of Class: Let Moodle be the Enforcer! *MexTESOL Journal*, 34(2), 123-129.
- 2010 A Digital Solution for Extensive Reading, in *Bringing Extensive Reading into the Classroom* (Chapter 10), Oxford University Press, pp. 105–110.
- 2010 Computer Literacy and Competency: A Survey of Indonesian Teachers of English as a Foreign Language, with Jong-Bae Son and Indra Charismiadji, *CALL-EJ*, 12(1), 31-42.
- 03/11 Implementing a Teaching/Learning Procedure over an Entire Curriculum. Kyoto Sangyo University “Koutou Kyouiku Forum” (高等教育フォーラム), 2011(1), 13-18.
- 04/11 Son, J.-B., & Robb, T., & Charismiadji, I. (2011). Computer literacy and competency: a survey of Indonesian teachers of English as a foreign language. *CALL-EJ*, 12(1), 26– 42.
- 2011 Implementing a Teaching/Learning Procedure over an Entire Curriculum. *Koutou Kyouiku Forum* (“Higher Education forum”), Kyoto Sangyo University. No.1, March, 2011.
- 04/13 授業時間外の学習時間の増大による英語力の向上, 大学教育と情報 2012年度 No.4 (通巻 141号) p. 17-19. [http://www.juce.jp/LINK/journal/1302/pdf/03\\_01.pdf](http://www.juce.jp/LINK/journal/1302/pdf/03_01.pdf)

- 10/13 Robb, T., & Kano, M. (2013). Effective extensive reading outside the classroom: A large-scale experiment. *Reading in a Foreign Language*, 25(2), 234-247. <http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/rfl/October2013/articles/robb.pdf>
- 2014 Extensive Reading, in *Language Learning Beyond the Classroom* (Chapter 1), D. Nunan & J. Richards, Eds, Routledge, pp. 3-12.
- 04/14 Robb, T. (2014). Quizzes—A sin against the sixth commandment? In defense of MReader, *Reading in a Foreign Language*, 27(1), 146-151. <http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/rfl/April2015/discussion/robb.pdf>
- 06/14 Robb, T. (2016). *The Myth of the Headword. Extensive Reading in Japan*, 9(1) 4-6.
- 2019 Homework in the Japanese university classroom: Getting students to do it., *Teaching English at Japanese Universities*, pp.115-122. Routledge.
- 2022 Robb, T. (2022). Encouraging schools to adopt extensive reading: How do we get there? *Reading in a Foreign Language*, 34(1), 184-194. <http://hdl.handle.net/10125/67419>
- 2022 The Relevance of Nation's *Four Strands Model*" to *Online Teaching, International Journal of TESOL Studies*, 4 (3) 6-14. <https://doi.org/10.46451/ijts.2022.03.02>
- 2022 Robb, T., Response to Taylor's reforming assessment is key to successful ER implementation: Expanding on Robb (2022). *Reading in a Foreign Language*, 34(2), 420-421. <http://hdl.handle.net/10125/104135>
- 2023 Robb, T., (2023) Forward to *Handbook of CALL Teacher Education and Professional Development: Voices from Under-Represented Contexts*, Springer Nature. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-99-0514-0>
- 2024 Ivone, F.M. & T. Robb, *CALL in low-tech environments* in Cambridge Handbook of Technology in Language Teaching & Learning (forthcoming).
- 2024 Robb, T. & Ewert, D., Classroom-based Extensive Reading: A Review of Recent Research, in *Language Teaching Journal* (Cambridge) <https://doi.org/10.1017/s0261444823000319>

### **Conference Plenary Presentations**

- 03/09/96 "Computer Literacy and the Internet: Directions for the Information Highway?" Plenary lecture at BC TEAL Annual Convention, Vancouver.
- 02/24/99 "Will Technology Replace the Teacher?" Korea Association of Teachers of English, Hannam University, Taejon, Korea
- 09/12/01 "Click & Read? More than meets the eye!" Keynote speech at the Conference on Technology and Language Learning, June 26, 2001 at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong. Repeated on June 29, 2001 at Nanjing University, Nanjing, China.
- 11/30/01 Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, Plenary Lecture: "Computer Technology: A Magic Bullet for Language Education?"
- 03/28/02 "Examining Self-Access." Plenary address for the "Second National Conference on Curriculum, Testing and New Technologies" Sultan Qaboos University, Muscat, Oman. Delivered via video hookup with U.S. Consulate, Osaka.
- 10/28/04 International CALL Conference, EAFIT University, Medellin, Columbia Plenary Session, "CALL and the Abandonment of the Non-Autonomous Learner"
- 05/09/06 Podcasting for ELT--What, Why and How, Malaysian English Language Teachers Association (MELTA), Malacca.
- 08/18/07 Virtual Worlds, Web 2.0 and Online Learning, Beijing Foreign Language University Online Education ("BeiWai") Summer Seminar, Weihai, China.
- 10/04/09 Usability: Not just a pretty (inter)face: Lessons learned from the MoodleReader module, Aizu University, IEEE Special Session..
- 12/10/09 Can we Still Call CALL CALL?, The 4th GLoCALL Conference, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 10/23/10 The Application of One-on-One Video Chat over an Entire Curriculum, 2010 KAMALL Conference, Seoul.
- 11/26/11 Extensive Reading – It works so why more schools aren't using it?, GETA annual conference, Gwangju, Korea
- 01/14/12 Extensive Reading – The Easy Way, KAPEE conference, Pusan, Korea
- 04/26/13 Considerations for the Implementation of Technology, IAFOR Asian Conference on Language Learning, Osaka, Japan
- 09/28/13 Considerations for the Effective Use of Technology for Language Learning (& Workshop), JALT Osaka Chapter TECH Day.
- 11/09/13 Considerations for Implementing Technology in Language Education, Lecture & Workshop, Kyushu Okinawa Chapter of LET, Fukuoka University.
- 02/22/14 The Role of Technology in the Promotion of Reading. Qatar TESOL, Doha.
- 03/05/14 Two-day workshop on Extensive Reading, University of Veracruz, Xalapa, Mexico.
- 02/27/15 Extensive Reading: An effective addition to Bahrain's English curriculum?, The 14<sup>th</sup> ELTPN Conference, Manama, Bahrain.
- 03/14/15 Options for Doing Extensive Reading Online, TESOL Arabia 2015 Featured Speaker Presentation
- 10/11/15 Will the madness never end?: Continuing problems in the use & abuse of CALL", Plenary Session, JALT Kyoto Chapter "ICT and Language Education" Conference.
- 06/01/16 Considerations for Teaching and Learning with Ubiquitous Technologies, Malaysia English Language Teaching Association Annual Conference, Ipoh, Malaysia
- 11/04/17 Extensive Reading Under Difficult Circumstances, LLTC 2017 Conference, Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.
- 04/05/18 Extensive Reading – An effective yet challenging approach to language learning; TEERA Annual Conference, Feng Cha University, Taichung, Taiwan.
- 16/08/18 Getting them to do it: Why tracking is important. GLoCALL 2018, Suzhou, PR China
- 30/10/20 Can badges encourage students to do more online work? The 2nd MEC TESOL International Conference
- 19/06/21 How to Do Extensive Reading without Graded Readers, UNNES-TEFLIN National Conference 2021, Universitas Negeri Semarang, Indonesia
- 02/12/21 The Importance of Extensive Reading and How to do it without Graded Reader, INCULT2021, Universiti Teknologi Mara

### **Other Invited Publications**

- 1996 The Web as a Tool for Language Learning, *Journal of Language Laboratory Association, Kansai Chapter*, Vol. 6, 1996.
- 12/02 "Lessons Learned: Tracking online learning", *LET Kansai Chapter Monograph Series*, No. 10, December 2002 (pp. 13-21)

- 05/06 "Using Keypals with Post-Secondary Immersion Students", The ACIE Newsletter (American Council on Immersion Education), 9.1, (pp.4-5).
- 05/09 "Approaches to Teacher Education in Technology" invited Symposium, Sixth International Conference on Language Teacher Education, National Capitol Language Resource Center, Washington, D.C. (30 May 2009).
- 08/14 Robb, T. The Effect of Grade Weighting on Student Extensive Reading Performance. TESL Reporter, 46.
- 04/14 "MReader – What, How and Why?" LET Kyushu-Okinawa bulletin. 21-27.

### Conference Proceedings

- 06/04 "CALL and the Abandonment of the Non-Autonomous Learner", The Second AsiaCALL Conference Proceedings (CD-ROM). (Rangsit University, Bangkok, Dec 1-3, 2003).
- 12/06 The Paradox of the Active User: Promoting Technological Change in the Schools, Proceedings, the 2nd CLaSIC Conference (Center for Language Studies International Conference), National University of Singapore. (CD-ROM)
- 2008 "The Moodle Reader Module: A Central Quiz Repository for English Learners", Proceedings of the International Institute of Informatics and Systemics (IIS).
- 2009 The Reader Quiz module for extensive reading. In M. Thomas (Ed.), Selected proceedings of the thirteenth annual JALT CALL SIG conference 2008 (pp. 109-116). Tokyo: Japan Association for Language Teaching.

### Webinars

- 08/22 Giving your Students Language Practice through Extensive Reading. IATEFL monthly webinar.  
<https://www.iatefl.org/resources/giving-your-students-language-practice-through-extensive-reading>

### Articles Published in Association Newsletters

#### Web-based Development

**Passport Online**, <http://www.oup-passportonline.jp/activities.html>

40 pages of interactive activities to go with the first edition of OUP's *Passport* text. This was Oxford's first website for student use. All activities created and coded in Javascript by T. Robb

**Moodle (Course Management System)**

**Member of the development team, 2003 - present.**

**Contributions:** (Tom did the initial programming for each of the following. Other members of the team have improved and extended the functionality)

- Quiz item analysis and report system
- Hot Potatoes Moodle Integration
- Quiz import system (Aiken format, GIFT format)
- Quiz Ordering question type
- Reader (Extensive Reading Quiz Module)

#### Websites (Currently managed)

**MReader.org.**

Designed and developed website for testing students on their outside extensive reading. Over 100,000 registered students in 45 countries. An Extensive Reading Foundation activity.

**Extensive Reading Foundation** - Central website of the Foundation. <https://erfoundation.org>

**PeerEval.Mobi**

iOS app and HTML5 browser-based software that permits classes of students to evaluate each other's presentations in real time.

**WorldCALL**

Maintainer of proposal submission website for 2008, 2013 & 2018 conferences.

#### Mailing List Management

**TESLJB-L** -- This is a forum for the discussion of issues related specifically to employment such as position announcements, geographically-specific inquiries and discussions of working conditions, requirements for employment, settling-in information, etc., discussion of professional standards in the workplace and matters concerning qualifications and professional advancement. T. Robb created this list in 1995 and managed it until 2001 when he turned the day-to-day management over to Karen Stanley. Approximately 1500 people actively receive the messages daily.

**TESLJOB@groups.yahoo.com** -- The successor to TESLJB-L. November 2006-present.

**TESLHELP** -- This is the place that subscribers to the TESL-L group of lists turn when they are having technical trouble with their subscriptions. T. Robb created this helpline in 1995. It handled over 1500 requests per help per year since its inception, until December of 2001 when advances in technology such as a web-based helpsite rendered it redundant.

**The Student List Project** -- This is a series of mailing lists for students to practice exchanging information in English with other English learners. There are approximately 1000 active participants on these mailing lists at any one time. See <http://sl-lists.net/> for further information. [Now closed]

#### Online Teaching Experience

Instructor, USIA Introductory Course on the Internet for ELT, April & November 1998, March and November 1999.

Organizer, TESOL CALL Interest Section, Electronic Village Online, Jan-March, 2001 with Susan Gaer and Christina Bauer-Ramazani, co-organizers.

Instructor, "Part 1 - The Basics of On-line Teaching" for the U.S. Department of State under the auspices of TESOL, March 2002. (A 4-week course using WebCT)

Instructor, "Part 2 - The Basics of On-line Teaching" for the U.S. Department of State under the auspices of TESOL, June-July 2002. (A 6-week course using WebCT).

Instructor, "Part 1 - The Basics of On-line Teaching" for TESOL, April 2003. (A 4-week course using Blackboard).

Instructor, "Part 2 - The Basics of On-line Teaching" for TESOL, July-August 2003. (A 6-week course using Blackboard).

Instructor, "Part 1 - The Basics of On-line Teaching" for the U.S. Department of State under the auspices of TESOL, August 2003. (A 4-week course using Moodle).

Instructor, "Part 2 - The Basics of On-line Teaching" for the U.S. Department of State under the auspices of TESOL, December 2003-February 2004. (A 10-week course using Moodle).

### **Consultancies and Leadership**

Consultant to the British Council (Kyoto) on staff training in Word Perfect and Lotus 1-2-3 1992-1993

Chair, Computer Management Committee, Faculty of Foreign Languages, Kyoto Sangyo University, 1992-2001

Manager, Computer Laboratories, Kyoto Sangyo University, Faculty of Foreign Languages (90 units with internet access). 1992-2001

Advisor to TESOL Central Office on Computer Acquisition 1993-94

Co-Editor, TESL-EJ (Teaching English as a Second Language Electronic Journal) 1993-Present (in charge of formatting and distribution, including WWW service).

Member, TESL-L supervisory staff, 1993-present

Organizing Member, CELIA computer language software archives 1994

Founder and Manager, TESLJB-L (TESL-L branch list for jobs and employment) 1993-2001

Founder and Manager, TESLHELP (TESL-L Helpline) 1994-2001

Founder and Co-Manager, SL Student List Project 1994-2008

Member of Organizing Committees for Internet PCI Workshops at TESOL '94 and TESOL '95.

Consultant to the Salzburg Seminar (Austria) on setting up an Internet course for EFL teachers sponsored by the USIA, September-October 1994

Course supervisor for Computer Literacy Course (with Internet Component) 1994 to 1997. (Enrollment: 2700 students)

Co-Chair, TESOL Task Force on Technology in TESOL, December 1994-Present

Instructor, CALL Course at the TESOL Institute, Venezuela, July-August 1995

Chair, Kyoto Sangyo University Interdepartmental Committee for the Teaching of Information Technology, April 1997-March 2000.

Webmaster, OUP Springboard Series, January 1998-2003

Webmaster, The Extensive Reading Pages, June 1999-present

Member, TESOL Virtual Professional Development Task Force, Dec. 1999-2005

Member, TOEIC Technical Panel, TOEIC Steering Committee of IIBC (The Institute for International Business Communication, Japan) April 2000-2009

Editor, Technology column, ETJ Journal (English Teachers in Japan), September 2000-2003

Consultant, Oxford University Press, ELT Division on website implementation. Feb. 2002-2004. (Creator, programmer & webmaster for "Passport Online" <http://www.oup-passportonline.jp/activities>)

Consultant, Walt Disney Productions, Internet Group, February 2004-2006 (Disney Magic English curriculum consultant)

Chair, Interdepartmental Committee for General English Language Education (decisions affect 3000 students, 80 teachers), 2007-2013.

XReading.com, Technical Consultant, 2013-present

### **Programming and Systems Experience:**

Programming languages: Basic, Fortran, COBOL, SNOBOL, Pascal, dBase, HTML, Perl (CGI), Javascript, MySQL, PHP, Flash.

Systems: MS-DOS, Windows, Macintosh, Linux