

IFTE Melbourne July 2003
The eighth Conference of the
International Federation for the Teaching of English:
Transforming Literacies
Changing English
Elsewheres of Potential

IFTE comprises the national English teaching associations of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, UK and USA, with Barbados and as associate members Barbados and Bahamas – essentially the international club of teaching associations for native speakers of English – which holds a joint conference every four years. However, in the Conference 'strands' there was some recognition of the realities of English as the global language raised by the presence of the south African delegates at the previous conference at Warwick in 1999 (hosted by NATE): 'English, the killer language'. That is, in an increasingly plurilingual world, while monolingual native speakers of English no longer own the language, the global hegemony of English places local languages and cultures at risk.

Who do we think we are?
Strathclyde, 1-3 April 2004
Language and Literacy Education
in the four countries of the UK

A special NATE international conference to consider developments in the teaching of English and literacy in the light of the Melbourne IFTE Conference:

- What can we learn from colleagues' experiences within the UK and around the world?
- How is the subject English differently constituted in relation to its national governmental functions and diverse linguistic and cultural resources?
- How do we understand identity in terms of nation and language community as well as 'race', gender, social class and sexuality?
- What does it mean to be a teacher of English and literacy in relation to these questions of identity, our own and our students'?
- How are the key terms in our professional vocabulary interpreted in different national contexts?
- Do our literatures cross our borders, and if not why not?
- How should the teaching of English and literacy respond to an increasingly plural society?
- Who do we want to be? Who would we like our students to be? Who do they want to be?

NATE Annual Conference 2004
Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, Derby, 16-18 January

'Workshops for all – first stage to post-16' –with keynote speakers, including Ron Carter on 'The Creativity of Everyday English' (see the QCA 'Discussion papers', *New perspectives on Spoken English in the classroom*, 2003)

New publication
Sarah Aynsley, *Starters for A Level Language*

Units and 'starter' activities on: lexis/semantics; phonology; grammar/syntax; graphology/typography – 'tried and tested in the classroom' (July 2003).