Book Review

Genre, Text, Grammar: Technologies for Teaching and Assessing Writing by Peter Knapp & Megan Watkins, Orient Blackswan Private Limited, Hyderabad, Rept., 2010, ISBN: 978 81 250 4021 7

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Genres have been defined as text types that arise due to social interaction, have stable linguistic features and aid communication. Genre and genre approaches have attained considerable attention in the last few years due to the insights that they provide for the understanding of discourse and language teaching and learning. Considered from the pedagogical point of view, a genre based approach aims to facilitate language learners in gaining a better understanding of the meanings and language of the texts of the target language hence promoting dynamic teaching and learning.

Genre, Text and Grammar: Technologies for Teaching and Assessing Writing by Peter Knapp and Megan Watkins offers a pedagogical perspective on Genre with a focus on the skill of writing- particularly the five crucial areas of describing, explaining, instructing, arguing and narrating.

The first chapter of the book briefs the reader on the Genre, Text and Grammar model of language which is "based on the view that language is processed and understood in the form of texts" (p. 13). It further questions "why a particular type of writing works better than another" (p. 17). This model facilitates the learning of language by providing the learners with codes in the form of some set characteristics for particular genres that can help in making writing more productive and less taxing. It is the