CONTENTS

How to use this book	v
Contents cross-referenced	xii
List of figures and tables	xiv
Acknowledgements	xv

A INTRODUCTION

The	basics of researching English Language	1
A1	The first stages: getting started and settling on a topic	2
A1.1	Why research English Language?	2
A1.2	Choosing a topic to research	2
A2	Reading around your topic	5
A2.1	Housekeeping	5
A2.2	Identifying what to read	6
A2.3	What are you reading for?	8
A2.4	Reading critically	9
A3	What do you want to know?	10
A3.1	Questions of data and theory	10
A3.2	Making your questions explicit	11
A4	Ways of finding out what you want to know	14
A4.1	Ways of observing	15
A4.2	Ways of classifying	17
A4.3	Ways of measuring and counting	18
A5	Possibilities and pitfalls	20
A5.1	Establishing where you stand: researching people	20
A5.2	Making things work for you	22
A5.3	Fitting into the bigger picture	23
A6	Doing the research: collecting data	25
A6.1	Collecting and processing written data	25
A6.2	Collecting and processing spoken data	26
A6.3	Collecting and processing elicited data	28
	Combined methods	32
A6.5	Housekeeping	33
A7	Clarifying what you have found out	33
A7.1	Types of data and approaches to analysis	34

A9	Beyond the dissertation	43
A8.5	Presentation	43
A8.4	Style	42
A8.3	The dissertation as a text type	41
A8.2	Timing and planning	41
A8.1	The dissertation as a record of the research	40
A8	Writing and reporting	40
A7.6	Stages of analysis	40
A7.5	Identifying quantities	38
A7.4	Identifying patterns	37
A7.3	Analysing spoken data: first steps	37
A7.2	From 'closed' questionnaires to collections of written texts	35

B DEVELOPMENT

The	how and why of researching English Language	47
B 1	The how and why of getting started and choosing a research topic	48
B 2	The how and why of the literature review: joining a 'community of practice'	51
B 3	The how and why of clarifying research questions	55
B3.1	Research studies without explicit questions	55
B3.2	Refining your questions	56
B3.3	Appropriate questions for empirical research	57
B4	The how and why of choosing research methods	60
B 4.1	Methods and methodology	60
	Choice of method in (English) language research	62
	Interviews in language research: how and why?	62
	Selecting textual data in language research: how and why?	64
B4.5	Controlling variables in experiments: how and why?	66
B 5	The how and why of sorting out the details	68
B5.1	What can go wrong with research?	68
B5.2	Relationships with people	69
B5.3	Contexts: times, places and circumstances	71
B5.4	Concepts	71
B6	The how and why of data collection	73
B6.1	What kind of data?	73
B6.2	Where will the data come from?	73
B6.3	How much data?	76
B6.4	Which data to include?	78

B7	The how and why of data analysis	81
B7.1	Data analysis example 1: sounds	82
B7.2	Data analysis example 2: words	84
B7.3	Data analysis example 3: clauses	85
B7.4	Data analysis example 4: discourse	87
B7.5	Data analysis examples: summary	88
B8	The how and why of writing up your project	89
B8.1	Writing: the how and why of style	89
B8.2	Writing: the how and why of managing the writing process	91
B9	The how and why of taking it further	94

C EXPLORATION

Issues and debates in researching English Language 9		
Cl	Language research topics	98
C1.1	Projecting towards the future: the benefits of students' research skills	
	to employers	98
C1.2	Identifying what interests you	100
C2	The literature review	102
Ç2.1	Organising and structuring a literature review	102
C2.2	Reading for different purposes	106
C2.3	Reading critically	107
C3	Research questions	108
C3.1	Predicting what your study will involve	108
C3.2	Predicting the outcomes of your study	109
C3.3	The role of the hypothesis	110
C3.4	Summary: kinds of question	112
C4	Research methods	115
C4.1	Finding your way around different methodologies	115
C4.2	Experimental studies in second language acquisition: advocates and	
	critics	116
C4.3	Recognising and naming Xs and Ys	118
C4.4	Theory and methodology	120
C5	Details	122
C6	Data collection	128
C6.1	Written texts as data: example 1a	128
C6.2	Written texts as data: example 1b	129
C6.3	Spoken interaction as data: example 2a	130
C6.4	Spoken interaction as data: example 2b	131
C6.5	Elicited data: example 3: diaries and journals	132
C6.6	Elicited data: example 4: focus group interviews	133

C6.7	Elicited data: example 5: experimental data	134
C6.8	Research about data collection methods	135
C6.9	Housekeeping	137
C7	Data analysis and interpretation	138
C7.1	Transcription as a stage in data analysis	139
C7.2	Identifying patterns in data	144
C8	Writing up your project	149
C8.1	Making use of abstracts	149
C8.2	Relating abstracts to whole texts	151
C8.3	Components of the text	152
C9	Looking back, looking ahead	155

D EXTENSION

Rea	Readings in researching English Language	
DI	The origins of some research projects in English Language	158
D1.1	John McH. Sinclair and corpus linguistics (John McH. Sinclair)	159
D1.2	Fischer and sign languages (Susan D. Fischer)	160
D1.3	Carter and creativity (Ronald Carter)	162
D2 D2.1	Reviewing previous English Language literature for research A survey review of Conversation Analysis and its relevance to Applied Linguistics (Emanuel Schegloff, Irene Koshik, Sally Jacoby and	164
	David Olsher)	165
D2.2	A review of literature as preparation for the presentation of a new study:	
	talk about remembering in oral narratives (Neal Norrick)	168
D2.3	Critical reading and language pedagogy (Ruqaiya Hasan)	170
D3	Questions in English Language research	173
D3.1	S. W. Smith, H. P. Noda, S. Andrews and A. H. Jucker	173
D3.2	Christopher Brumfit	175
D4	Methods in English Language research	178
D4.1	Kyra Karmiloff and Annette Karmiloff-Smith	178
D4.2	D. Barton and M. Hamilton	182
D4.3	Alister Cumming	183
D5	Problems in English Language research	185
D5.1	Jennifer Coates	186
D5.2	Vasiliki Papaioannou, Nora Basurto Santos and Amanda Howard	188
D6	Collecting English Language data	190
D6.1	B. Petrić and B. Czárl	191
D6.2	E. Semino and M. Short	193
D6.3	Janet Maybin	196

D7	Analysing English Language data	200
D7.1	Jennifer Coates and Joanna Thornborrow	200
D7.2	C. E. Gildersleeve-Neumann, E. S. Kester, B. L. Davis and E. D. Peña	203
D7.3	Ruby Macksoud	205
D8	Writing about English Language research	209
D8.1	Mary Lea and Brian Street	209
D8.2	Romy Clark and Roz Ivanič	213
D9	Moving on from doing English Language research	217
D9.1	P. Smagorinsky, L. Wright, S. M. Augustine, C. O'Donnell-Allen and	
	B. Konopak	218
D9.2	Ben Rampton	221
D9.3	A. Curzan and R. Queen	224
Glo	ssary of terms	227
Further reading References		231
		235
Inde	ex	245