Abstract
This article discusses a specific aspect of English language teaching as a foreign language in Greece. This subject is further aided by Semiotics and Translation through the synergy of semiotic systems incorporating the views of Charles S. Peirce. More specifically, after a brief survey of what existed in the past, concerning the teaching of English as a foreign language in Greek primary schools, readers will be introduced to the English language teaching curriculum for sixth grade primary school students which mentions non-verbal forms of communication, as well as to the role of course book illustrations. Both approaches focus upon the intersemiotic value of illustrations in connection with the texts that accompany them. This study proves that the sixth grade English course book includes a broad variety of visual systems which constitute the symbols and icons of the book according to Charles S. Peirce’s categorization.

Key words
foreign language teaching, intersemiotic translation, book illustrations, primary schools

1 Prologue
Primary school teachers need to understand how children make sense of the world and how they learn; therefore they need skills of analyzing learning tasks and of using language to teach new ideas to groups of children in class. Teaching languages to children needs all the skills of the good primary teacher in managing children and keeping them on task, plus a profound knowledge of the language, of language teaching, and of language learning (Cameron 2001: xii). Before proceeding with our study it would be interesting to see how and when the English language was introduced into the Greek primary school system.

English as a foreign language was taught in Greek junior and senior high schools long before it was introduced to primary schools across the country. Changes in Europe, especially changes brought about by the expansion of the European Union, had made it necessary for English to be taught in primary schools too. In 1987 English was first introduced, experimentally, in approximately 120 Greek primary schools. Today the teaching of English in Greek primary schools starts from the third grade and finishes in the last year of senior high school. By the