Contents

Acknowledgments — V Foreword — IX

Peter Skehan

SLA and Individual Differences: An Overview —— 1 Zhisheng (Edward) Wen & Richard L. Sparks

Part I: Age, Intelligence, Aptitude and Affect

- 2 The Age Factor and the Critical Period Hypothesis —— 19
 Adriana Biedroń
- 3 Intelligence 35 Adriana Biedroń
- 4 Foreign Language Aptitude —— 53
 Adriana Biedroń
- Language Aptitude, Psychological and Affective Factors 73
 Adriana Biedroń

Part II: Memory, Attention and Noticing

- 6 Phonological and Executive Working Memory —— 97 Zhisheng (Edward) Wen
- Consciousness, Attention and Noticing 125
 Zhisheng (Edward) Wen



Part III: Learning Strategies, Metacognition and Self-Regulation

- 8 Language Learning Strategies —— 147 Mark Feng Teng
- 9 Metacognition —— 175 Mark Feng Teng
- 10 Self-Regulation —— 201 Mark Feng Teng

Part IV: L2 Skills, Learning Difficulties, and Anxiety

- 11 L2 Reading and Writing Skills —— 225 Richard L. Sparks
- 12 L2 Learning Difficulties and Disabilities —— 257 Richard L. Sparks
- 13 L2 Anxiety: An Affective Factor or a Linguistic Variable? —— 287 Richard L. Sparks

Epilogue

14 Individual Differences in SLA-Looking Back and Looking Forward —— 321 Richard Sparks & Zhisheng (Edward) Wen

Author Profiles --- 335

Index ---- 337