

**From: An interview. S. Krashen  
In Symposium of the Greats, 2019. D. Loertscher and B. Woolls (Eds.)  
Learning Commons Press (pp. 46-47).**

**I have joined a movement, led by mathematician Timothy Gowers, of scholars and writers who publish their work only in open-access journals, and not in the usual “prestige” journals.**

**Open access journals do not charge the author or the reader for publication. The rise of these journals is a reaction to the very high prices now charged for journal subscriptions, reprints of articles, and professional books. This is happening in several fields and in several countries.**

**For example, an article in the Guardian (UK) reported that “Harvard University says it can't afford journal publishers' prices ...” The subheading stated:**

**“University wants scientists to make their research open access and resign from publications that keep articles behind paywalls.”**

**[<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2012/apr/24/harvard-university-journal-publishers-prices>]**

**Albert P’Rayan, in a major newspaper in India, the Hindu, supported open-access in “Make Knowledge Free,”**

**[<https://www.thehindu.com/education/make-knowledge-free/article26348594.ece>].**

**Recently, the American Mathematical Society recently (October, 2019) posted a list of open-access journals in mathematics**

**[<https://www.ams.org/publications/journals/open-access/open-access>].**

**There are two problems with the open-access plan, but they can be solved and progress is being made on both fronts: First, university scholars need to publish in the usual prestige journals in order to be hired, earn a better salary, and be promoted. If those of us who are no longer concerned with the university ladder of success publish in open-access journals, it will gradually become the norm.**

**A second problem is the availability of articles already published in prestige journals. As noted above, reprints can be purchased from the journal publishers, but the price is very high (usually around \$40 per article) and the**

**publisher, not the author, gets the money. This problem will gradually disappear as more is published in open-access and as these papers are made available, both by the authors (mine are available at [sldrashen.com](http://sldrashen.com)) and through helpful organizations such as researchgate.**