

PROFICIENCY IN THE USE OF PLURALS

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education
In partial Fulfilment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted By
Bal Ram Ghimire**

**Faculty of Education
Tansen Multiple Campus
Tansen, Palpa, Nepal
2013**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is original; no part of it was earlier submitted by the candidature of research degree for any university.

Date: - 2070/03/06

Bal Ram Ghimire

DEDICATION

Dedicated

To my ideal parents and teachers

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First of all, I would like to express my sincere and hearty gratitude to my teacher and thesis supervisor **Mrs. Shanti Sharma**, Lecturer, Department of English Education, Tansen Multiple Campus, Palpa for her invaluable guidance, suggestions, co-operation, encouragement and inspiration to complete this study in this form.

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ABSTRACT

The research work entitled **Proficiency in the Use of Plurals** aims at finding out the proficiency level of the students in the use of Plurals and compare their proficiency in terms of items, school and area. The sample population of the study consisted of 120 students from grade eight of Palpa district. For that, six different schools (3 public and 3 private, 3 urban and 3 remote) were selected purposively. Twenty students (10 boys and 10 girls) from each school were selected on the basis of simple random sampling procedure. A set of test-items was prepared on the basis of grade eight English Text-Book and Grammar Books. The collected data were marked and tabulated very systematically. Then, analysis and interpretation were done on the basis of the tabulated data in accordance with the set objectives. The overall proficiency of the students in the use of plurals was found satisfactory. The students in private schools were found better than the students in public schools. Similarly the students of remote area were less proficient than that of the urban area.

The present study has contained into four chapters: Introduction, Methodology, Analysis and Interpretation, and Findings and Recommendations. The first chapter encompasses of general background, introduction to plurals, review of related literature, objectives and significance of the study. Similarly, the second chapter deals with the methodology adopted to carry out this research. It contains the source of data (both primary and secondary), population of the study and sample population, sampling procedure, tools for data collection, pilot test, process of data collection and limitations of the study. Likewise, the third chapter deals with analysis and interpretation of data. This chapter consists of four parts: analysis of the overall proficiency in the use of plurals, item wise analysis of the overall proficiency, comparison of the overall proficiency of different sexes and area both within and between the public and private schools and schoolwise comparison of the total proficiency. The fourth chapter presents the findings and recommendations with the analysis and interpretation of data carried out in chapter three. The final part of the thesis includes references and appendices.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
Declaration	i
Recommendation for Acceptance	ii
Recommendation for Evaluation	iii
Evaluation and Approval	iv
Dedication	v
Acknowledgements	vi
Abstract	vii
Contents	
List of Tables	
List of Abbreviations and Symbols	

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 General Background	1
1.1.1 Teaching Grammar	3
1.1.2 Problems of Teaching Grammar	5
1.1.3 Introduction to Plurals	6
1.1.4 Role of plurals in ELT	19
1.2 Review of Related Literature	19
1.3 Objectives of the Study	22
1.4 Significance of the Study	22

CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY

2.1 Sources of Data	23
2.1.1 Primary Sources of Data	23
2.1.2 Secondary Sources of Data	23
2.2 Population of the Study and Sample Population	23
2.3 Sampling Procedure	23

2.4 Tools for Data Collection	24
2.5 Pilot Test	24
2.6 Process of Data Collection	24
2.7 Limitations of the Study	25

CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

3.1 Analysis of the Overall Proficiency in the use of plurals	26
3.2 Item wise Analysis of the Overall Proficiency	27
3.3 Comparison of the Overall Proficiency of Different Sexes both within and between the Public and Private School	34
3.4 School wise Comparison of the Total Proficiency	35
3.5 Area wise Comparison of the Total Proficiency	36

CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Findings	37
4.2 Recommendations	39

References

Appendices

LIST OF TABLES

S.N	Title	Page No
Table 1	Total Proficiency of the Students in in the use of plurals	26
Table 2	Comparison of Different Variables in use of plurals	27
Table 3	Overall Proficiency in Item No. 1	27
Table 4	Comparison of Different Variables in Item No. 1	28
Table 5	Overall Proficiency in Item No. 2	28
Table 6	Comparison of Different Variable in Item No. 2	29
Table 7	Overall Proficiency in Item No. 3	29
Table 8	Comparison of Different Variables in Item No. 3	30
Table 9	Overall Proficiency in Item No. 4	30
Table 10	Comparison of Different Variables in Item No. 4	31
Table 11	Overall Proficiency in Item No. 5	31
Table 12	Comparison of Different Variables in Item No. 5	32
Table 13	Overall Proficiency in Item No. 6	32
Table 14	Comparison of Different Variables in Item No. 6	33
Table 15	Comparison of Different Sexes both Within and between the Public and Private Schools	34
Table 16	Comparision of different sexes between remote and urban schools	35
Table 17	Comparison of Proficiency among the schools	35
Table 18	Comparison of proficiency between remote and urban school	36

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

BEBS	:	Bethal English Boarding School, Tansen
B.Ed.	:	Bachelor of Education
BNHSS	:	Bhairab Nawadip Higher Secondary School, Chhahara
DBSS	:	Dev Bani Secondary School, Tansen
e.g.	:	for example (exempli gratia)
etc.	:	and so on (et cetera)
et al.	:	and others (et alii)
FM	:	Full Marks
MVSS	:	Mount Valley Secondary School, Sarai
No	:	Number
PCL	:	Proficiency Certificate Level
Prof	:	Professor
PCA	:	Prasanti Children's Academy, Tansen
SN.	:	Serial Number
%	:	Percentage
THSS	:	Tribhuvan Higher Secondary School, Argali