PROFICIENCY IN MECHANICS OF WRITING

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education in Partial Fulfillment for the Master's Degree in Education

Submitted by Rana Prasad Bhatta

Faculty of Education Surkhet Campus (Education) Birendranagar, Surkhet 2009

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(Specialization in English Education)

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DECLARATION

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

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Rana Prasad Bhatta

DEDICATION

Dedicated

To my mother who has devoted her entire life to make me what I am today.

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ABSTRACT

The present research work entitled 'Proficiency in Mechanics of Writing' has been carried out to find out the writing proficiency in mechanics of writing of the students of three different districts as well as levels i.e. Lower Secondary, Secondary and Higher Secondary level. In order to compare the proficiency on the basis of various variables in mechanics writing, three districts, Kalikot, Surkhet and Banke were selected and three schools from each district as well as so students (equal girls and boys) from each schools were selected. Three sets of questions were prepared consisting of 40 percent questions on Punctuation, 30 percent on Capitalization and 30 percent on Spelling rule. The question was administered to 270 students and their response were collected and analyzed. It was found that the Banke students were the most proficient. Students of Surkhet were found nearly equal to the students of Banke but the students of Kalikot were found the least proficient. Likewise, the students showed better performance in capitalization than in punctuation and spelling rules. Most of the students were found so poor in punctuation.

The present work is divided into four chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction, which includes, general background, review of the literature, objectives of the study, significance of the study. Likewise, the second chapter deals with methodology, which includes sources of data, population of the study, sample population, sampling procedure, tools of data collection, process of data collection and limitation of the study. The third chapter is concerned with the analysis and interpretation of the data such as district-wise analysis item-wise analysis, gender-wise analysis, level-wise analysis school-wise analysis and overall analysis of the proficiency in terms of different variables. In order to make the analysis accurate, statistical tools of percentage has been used. Similarly, the fourth chapter presents about the finding of the research

study and finally some recommendations have been made on the basic of those finding. The references schools' list comprehensive chart of scoring, schoolwise scoring sheet of the students, questionnaire and samples of answer sheet are given in the appendix.

Rana Prasad Bhatta

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ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

A.M. - Average Mark

B. - Boys

Ed. - Education

e.g. - For example, exempligatia (in Latin)

et. al - and other people, et alii (in Latin)

etc - Etcetera

F.M. - Full Mark

G. - Girls

H.S. - Higher Secondary

H.S.L. - Higher Secondary Level

i.e. - That is

L.S.L. - Lower Secondary level

No. - Number

O.M. - Obtained Mark

P. - Page

S.L. - Secondary Level

S.L.C. - School Leaving Certificate

S.N. - Serial Number

T.U. - Tribhuvan University

viz - namely

vs - versus