

**CONTENT VALIDITY OF TEST PAPERS:
A CASE OF SLA**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by
Raj Kumar Nembang**

**Faculty of Education
Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus
Ilam, Nepal
2013**

**CONTENT VALIDITY OF TEST PAPERS:
A CASE OF SLA**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by
Raj Kumar Nembang
Faculty of Education
Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus
Ilam, Nepal
2013**

**T.U. Reg. No: 20946-95
Second Year Examination
Roll No: 10017/067**

**Date of Approval of the
Thesis Proposal: 13th Feb. 2013
Date of Submission: 19th May, 2013**

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr. Raj Kumar Nembang** has prepared this thesis entitled **Content Validity of Test Papers: A Case of SLA** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date: 19th May, 2013

Mr. Yuba Raj Sharma (Guide)
Assistant Lecturer
Department of English Education
M.R.M. Campus, Ilam

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been recommended for evaluation from the following **Research Guidance Committee**.

Signature

Mr. Kamal Kumar Poudel

Lecturer and Head
Department of English Education
M.R.M. Campus, Ilam

.....
Chairperson

Mr. Yuba Raj Sharma (Guide)

Assistant Lecturer
Department of English Education
M.R.M. Campus, Ilam

.....
Member

Mr. Ambika Prasad Adhikari

Assistant Lecturer
Department of English Education
M.R.M. Campus, Ilam

.....
Member

Date: 19th May, 2013

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

This thesis has been evaluated and approved by the following **Thesis Evaluation and Approval Committee.**

Signature

Mr. Kamal Kumar Poudel

Lecturer and Head
Department of English Education
M.R.M. Campus, Ilam

Chairperson

Dr. Chandreswor Mishra

Professor and Chairperson
English and Other Foreign Languages
Education, Subject Committee
Department of English Education
T.U. Kirtipur

External

Mr. Yuba Raj Sharma (Guide)

Assistant Lecturer
Department of English Education
M.R.M. Campus, Ilam

Member

Date: 20th May, 2013

DECLARATION

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

Date: 19th May, 2013

Raj Kumar Nembang

DEDICATION

Dedicated

to

My parents

Mr. Jaya Bahadur Nembang

and

Mrs. Jaya Mati Nembang

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to my thesis guide **Mr. Yuba Raj Sharma**, Assistant Lecturer, Department of English Education, M.R.M. Campus Ilam for his proper guidance, constant encouragement, rigorous co-operation, assistance and constructive suggestions in the preparation of this thesis.

Secondly, I am extremely grateful to **Mr. Kamal Kumar Poudel**, Lecturer and Head, the Department of English Education for his genuine and invaluable suggestions and instructions.

Similarly, it is my pleasure to acknowledge a debt of gratitude to my gurus **Mr. Arun Nepal, Mr. Ambika Adhikari, Mr. Punya Bhattarai, Mr. Krishna Khatri** and all other faculties of Department of English Education, M.R.M. Campus Ilam for their kind support and encouragement during my study.

I am thankful to my colleagues **Mr. Dev Raj Adhikari, Mr. Ratna Man Giri, Mr. Madhav Baral, Mrs. Gyanu Baral, Mr. Surya Bikram Rai** and **Mr. Sailendra Angdembe** for their intensive help in my study.

Last but not least, my special thanks goes to **Mrs. Puspanjali Nembang**, my wife for her kind support as well as **Mr. Krishna Limbu** for his good computer typing and all my well-wishers who helped me directly and indirectly to accomplish this task.

Date: 19th May, 2013

Raj Kumar Nembang

ABSTRACT

This research entitled '**Content Validity of Test Papers: A Case of SLA**' was carried out to measure the content validity of question papers of Second Language Acquisition at M.Ed. first year. For this purpose, the researcher used question papers of SLA administered in T.U. in the annual examination from 2066 to 2068 B.S. at M.Ed. first year as the secondary sources of data. He analyzed the question papers in terms of content coverage. The major finding of the study was that the SLA test papers during the period of three years had low content validity in terms of content coverage.

This study consists of four chapters. The first chapter deals with general background, review of the related literature, objectives and significance of the study. Similarly, the second chapter deals with methodology adopted during the period of research study which consists of the sources of data, process of data collection and limitations of the study. Likewise, the third chapter includes the analysis and interpretation of data. Finally, the fourth chapter deals with findings, recommendations and pedagogical implications of the study. In the final section of the study references and appendices are included.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Declaration	i
Recommendation for Acceptance	ii
Recommendation for Evaluation	iii
Evaluation and Approval	iv
Dedication	v
Acknowledgements	vi
Abstract	vii
Table of Contents	viii
List of Tables and Figures	xi
List of Symbols and Abbreviations	xii
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-22
1.1 General Background	1
1.1.1 English Language Teaching in Nepal	2
1.1.2 Major English at M.Ed. Level	3
1.1.2.1 Introduction	3
1.1.2.2 Course Structure	4
1.1.2.3 The Introduction of Second Language Acquisition	6
1.1.3 Teaching and Testing	7
1.1.4 Significance of Testing	8
1.1.5 Qualities of a Test	10
1.1.5.1 Validity	10
1.1.5.2 Reliability	11
1.1.5.3 Practicality	11
1.1.6 Validity	12

1.1.6.1 Face Validity	13
1.1.6.2 Criterion-related Validity	13
1.1.6.3 Construct Validity	15
1.1.6.4 Content Validity	16
1.1.7 Guidelines for Establishing Content Validity	17
1.2 Review of Related Literature	18
1.3 Objectives of the Study	21
1.4 Significance of the Study	21
CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY	23-24
2.1 Sources of Data	23
2.1.1 Primary Sources of Data	23
2.1.2 Secondary Sources of Data	23
2.2 Sampling Procedure	23
2.3 Tools for Data Collection	24
2.4 Process of Data Collection	24
2.5 Limitations of the Study	24
CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	25-39
3.1 Analysis and Interpretation of Content Coverage	25
3.1.1 Analysis of Content Coverage of SLA	26
3.1.1.1 Coverage of Contents in Unit One	29
3.1.1.2 Coverage of Contents in Unit Two	31
3.1.1.3 Coverage of Contents in Unit Three	33
3.1.1.4 Coverage of Contents in Unit Four	34
3.1.1.5 Coverage of Contents in Unit Five	36
3.1.2 Repeated Test Items	37

3.1.3 Examining Content validity of the Test Papers on the Whole In Terms of Content Coverage	38
CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	40-43
4.1 Findings	40
4.1.1 General Findings	40
4.1.2 Unit Specific Findings	40
4.2 Recommendations	42
REFERENCES	
APPENDICES	

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

TABLES:	Page
Table No. 1.1: Specialization of course in M.Ed.	4
Table No. 3.1: Coverage of question contents in terms of course contents	26
Table No. 3.2: Examining content validity of the test papers on the whole in terms of content coverage	38
FIGURES:	
Figure No. 3.1: Coverage of contents in unit-one	31
Figure No. 3.2: Coverage of contents in unit-two	32
Figure No. 3.3: Coverage of contents in unit-three	34
Figure No. 3.4: Coverage of contents in unit-four	35
Figure No. 3.5: Coverage of contents in unit-five	37
Figure No. 3.6: Coverage of contents on the whole	39

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

B.S.	: Bikram Sambat
B.Ed.	: Bachelor of Education
Ed.	: Education
ELT	: English Language Teaching
Eng.	: English
et al.	: And other people
etc.	: Etcetera
FOE	: Faculty of Education
i.e.	: That is
M.Ed.	: Master of Education
No.	: Number
O	: Objective Question
P.	: Page
PP.	: Pages
SL	: Subjective Long Question
SLA	: Second Language Acquisition
S.N.	: Serial Number
SS	: Subjective Short Question
T.U.	: Tribhuvan University
Viz.	: Namely
vs.	: Versus
%	: Percentage