# EFFECTIVENESS OF PRE-QUESTIONS IN TEACHING READING TEXTS: A CASE OF GRADE VIII STUDENTS

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of Language

Education Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam
in Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English

**Submitted By** 

Deu Prakash Rai

**Faculty of Education** 

Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus

Ilam, Nepal

2012

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2012

T.U. Regd. No. 9-2-1-699-2004

Second year examination

Roll No. 10002/2066

Date of Approval of the Thesis

Proposal: 2068/06/01

Date of Submission: 2069/05/18

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v

### **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 a research degree to any university.

Date: Jestha 14, 2069 Deu Prakash Rai

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

First of all I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my respected Guru, my thesis guide **Mr. Kamal Kumar Poudel**, lecturer, Department of Language Education Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam for guiding me with regular inspiration, supervision, encouragement and insightful suggestions throughout the study. I think without his kind co-operation, constructive suggestions, it would not have been possible for this thesis up to its completion.

Prasad Chapagai, Head of the Department of Language Education, Mahendra Multiple Campus, Ilam for his support. I express my sincere gratitude to Mr. Ram Chandra Parajuli, Reader and former Head of the Department of Language Education, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam, for his encouraging ideas during this study. I am equally grateful to Mr. Punya Prasad Bhattrai, teacher, Department of Language Education Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam for his support.

I would extend my sincere gratitude to **Dr. Jay Raj Awasthi**, Professor,
Department of English Education, and former Chairperson of English and
Other Foreign Language Education Subject Committee, Tribhuvan University,
Kritipur for inspiration and orientation to this undertaking I am also grateful to **Mr. Arun Nepal**, lecturer in English Education, member of Department of
Language Education, Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam and **Mr. Ambika Prasad Adhikari**, teacher, Department of Language Education,
Mahendra Ratna Multiple Campus, Ilam for their assistance, encouragement
and kind co-operation.

I am also thankful to **Mr. Benup Khanal**, principal of B.B. memorial English Secondary School, Sakhejung-7, Ilam for his administrative support. I am also thankful to the students of class 8 of B.B. Memorial English Secondary School, for their participation in my experimental classes. Likewise my special thanks are due to my parents **Mr. Mani Raj Rai** and **Mrs. Prem Kumari Rai** for

their support. I am indebted to my friends Mr. Kamal Poudel, Mr. Kajiman Ekten, Mr. Punya Prasad Rimal and Mrs. Shova Subedi for their kind cooperation. I am equally indebted to Mrs. Sabina Rai, Mr. Thir Bahadur Rai, Mr. Tekendra Basnet, Mr. Gayatri Basnet, Mr. Buddha Kumar Rai, Mr. Baburam Rai and Mr. Jiwan Bantawa for their support. My credits are also due to Mr. Krishna Limbu for computer typing.

At last I am grateful to all those who helped me directly and indirectly during this study.

**Jestha**, 2069

Deu Prakash Rai

#### **ABSTRACT**

Texts: A Case of Grade Eight Students was an attempt to find out the effectiveness of pre questions in teaching reading texts in grade eight and to provide pedagogical suggestions in teaching reading texts. To fulfill these objectives, I used both primary and secondary sources of data. I conducted an orientation class for two days (i.e., two periods) and collected the required data from B.B. memorial English Secondary School Class Eight as the primary source of data. I selected 30 students by administering a proficiency pre test. After that the students were ranked from the first position to the 30<sup>th</sup> position on the basis of the result of the proficiency pre test. Then the students with odd-numbered positions were grouped under Treatment Group and those with even-numbered positions were grouped under Controlled Group. Thus, the two groups, each comprising 15 students, were formed attempting best to maintain homogeneity in proficiency.

I taught each group 20 periods and every period I gave a class test to both groups Comprehension was assumed to be reflected on the four 'components of comprehension', namely, objective question answers, short answers, description writing and summary writing-all text-based. The pre and post questions were designed with this assumption in mind. I used the pre-questions for Treatment Group but I did not use them for Controlled Group. I collected all answer papers and scored them out. As the secondary sources I used different books and journals which were already collected and prepared by other writers, resources, organizations. They mainly include books in the field of ELT by nationally and internationally recognized authors, Lower Secondary English Curriculum, English Language Teaching training manual etc. The collected raw data were minutely analyzed using the simple statistical tools sketches, percentage, mean etc. I found that the use of pre-questions was effective in teaching reading texts for comprehension.

This study consists of four chapters: introduction, methodology, analysis and interpretation and findings and recommendations. The first chapter (introduction) deals with the general background, review of the related literature, objectives of the study and significance of the study. The second chapter introduces methodology, which consists of sources of data, population of the study, sampling procedure, tools of data collection, process of data collection, and limitations of the study. The third chapter (analysis and interpretation) includes the raw data and its analysis using tables, charts, diagrams etc. The fourth chapter deals with findings and recommendations of the study.

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## **List of Symbols and Abbreviations**

Dr. Doctor

Prof. Professor

M.Ed. Master in Education

ELT. English Language Teaching

TU Tribhuvan University

etc. etcetera

i.e. that is

No Number

Mr Mister

CUP Cambridge University Press

OUP Oxford University Press

% Percentage

P. Page

eg. For example

B.S. Bikram Sambat (Bikram Era)

S.N. Serial Number

& Ampersand (and)

→ Has a gradual flow towards