STUDY OF ERRORS IN THE USE OF IRREGULAR VERBS

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

Submitted by Hem Bahadur Ranabhat

Faculty of Education

Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

Kathmandu, Nepal

2013

STUDY OF ERRORS IN THE USE OF IRREGULAR VERBS

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

Submitted by Hem Bahadur Ranabhat

Faculty of Education
Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur
Kathmandu, Nepal
2013

STUDY OF ERRORS IN THE USE OF IRREGULAR VERBS

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

Submitted by Hem Bahadur Ranabhat Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal

T.U. Reg. No.: 9-1-48-709-2002 Date of Approval of the

Second Year Examination Thesis Proposal: 18th Sept. 2012

Roll No.: 480211/2065 Date of Submission: 3rd March, 2013

DECLARATION

]	Hem Bahadur Ranabhat	
Date: 3 rd February, 2013		
of it was earlier submitted for the candidature of research to any university.		
I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge that thi	s thesis is original; no part	

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr. Hem Bahadur Ranabhat** has prepared this thesis entitled "**Study of Errors in the Use of Irregular Verbs"** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date: 3rd March, 2013

Mr. Hima Lal Acharya

Teaching Assistant
(Supervisor)

Department of English Education
Faculty of Education
Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara, Nepal

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

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

	Signature
Mr. Bishnu Hari Timilsina	••••••
Lecturer and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education,	
Prithvi Narayan Campus,	
Pokhara	
Mr. Amirman Shrestha	•••••
Associate Professor	Member
Department of English Education,	
Prithvi Narayan Campus,	
Pokhara	
Mr. Hima Lal Acharya (Supervisor)	••••
Teaching Assistant	Member
Department of English Education,	
Prithvi Narayan Campus,	
Pokhara	

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

	Signature
Mr. Bishnu Hari Timilsina	••••••
Lecturer and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education,	
Prithvi Narayan Campus,	
Pokhara	
Dr	••••••
Reader	Expert
Mr. Hima Lal Acharya (Supervisor)	••••••
Teaching Assistant	Member
Department of English Education,	
Prithvi Narayan Campus,	
Pokhara.	
Date:	

DEDICATION

With Hearty Dedication

To

My late mother and father who inspired me to build my career better.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who gave encouragement, guidance and support to complete this thesis. Unfortunately, due to space restrictions, I will limit my acknowledgements to the key individuals, Organizations and Institutes who helped me to bring this thesis in this final form.

At first, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude to my thesis supervisor Mr. Hima Lal Acharya, Teaching Assistant, the Department of English Education, Prithvi Narayan Campus, Pokhara for his invaluable supervision, continual guidance, enlightening ideas, valuable and comprehensive suggestions, inspiration, help and co-operation which are indispensable to prepare this thesis in this form.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to **Mr. Bishnu Hari Timilsina**, the Head of the Department of English Education, Prithwi Narayan Campus, Pokhara for giving me valuable suggestions and encouragement.

I am grateful to **Mr. Amirman Sherstha**, Former Head of the Department, **Mr. Tirtha Raj Aryal** and **Dr. Yam Bahadur Kshetry**, Associate Professors and **Lecturer Mr. Nawaraj Neupane** and all the teachers as well as staff providing me an opportunity to conduct the study and help for the completion of this thesis work.

I would like to express my acknowledgements to **Dr. Tara Datta Bhatta**, Associate Professor, Department of English Education, University Campus, Kritipur for providing valuable and comprehensive suggestions, encouragement and co-operation to initiate this work and complete it.

I am grateful to all my friends who helped and inspired me during this thesis work. I am thankful to my sister-in-law **Mrs. Pingla Ranabhat** for her positive

encouragement from the beginning of this thesis. Similarly, I am thankful to my mother and brothers who provided me such chance and positive guidance through out the study. Likewise, I would like to thank **Mr. Puspa Raj Paudel** of Quick Computer Service and Photocopy House, Pokhara -1, Bagar for excellent setting of this thesis.

Date: 3 rd March, 2013	
	Hem Bahadur Ranabhat

ABSTRACT

The research entitled "Study of Errors in the Use of Irregular Verbs" is an attempt to find out the errors committed by eleven grade students of government aided schools and to identify and compare the errors of both genders. In order to carry out this study, I collected data from the eleven graders of Kaski district. The sample population consisted of 80 students where 40 students from each school were selected making equal representation of male and female by simple random sampling method. Five types of testing items were designed to test and find out the students' performance and lost of marks in the use of irregular verbs in English. For the analysis and interpretation of data, the answer sheets were checked/ examined and scores were given. The scores obtained and lost by the students were counted, tabulated and interpreted employing the quantitative and descriptive methods. Quantitative method included the simple statistical method of percentage whereas the descriptive method included the simple interpretation and explanation of the data computed. The research findings in total showed that the students were found very weak in the use of irregular verbs. And again, in the comparison between boys and girls, the boys were found little bit weaker than the girls in the tested items. However, the male students of Laxmi Higher Secondary School and the female students of Laxmi Adarsha Higher Secondary School were found better.

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter one deals with the introduction. It includes the general background of the study, introduction and the importance of the English language, introduction to the grammar, error analysis, verb and its types, teaching/learning strategies of irregular verbs, review of the related literature, objective of the study and significance of the study. Similarly, chapter two presents the methodology applied in order to carry out this research study. It includes the sources of data, sample population and sampling procedure, research tools for data collection, statement of the allotment of marks, process of data collection, tabulation of the data and limitations of the study. Likewise, chapter three consists of the analysis and interpretation of the data. Chapter four incorporates the findings and recommendations of the research. The references and appendices follow this chapter.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

			Page No.
Decla	aration		i
Reco	mmend	ation for Acceptance	ii
Reco	mmend	ation for Evaluation	iii
Evalu	uation a	nd Approval	iv
Dedi	cation		V
Ackr	nowledg	ements	vi
Abst	ract		viii
Table	e of Cor	ntents	ix
List	of Table	es ·	xii
List	of Abbr	eviations and Symbols	xiv
CHA	PTER	ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-12
1.1	Gener	al Background	1
	1.1.1	English Language: Introduction and Importance	2
	1.1.2	Grammar: An Introduction	3
	1.1.3	Error Analysis	5
	1.1.4	Verbs	6
		1.1.4.1 Regular Verbs	6
		1.1.4.2 Irregular Verbs	7
		1.1.4.3 Teaching/ Learning Irregular Verbs	8
		1.1.4.4 Strategies of Teaching/Learning Irregular Verb	os 9
1.2	Revie	w of the Related Literature	10
1.3	Objec	tives of the Study	11
1.4	Signif	icance of the Study	12
CHA	PTER	TWO: METHODOLOGY	13-16
2.1	Sourc	es of Data	13
	2.1.1	Primary Sources of Data	13
	2.1.2	Secondary Sources of Data	13

2.2	Samp	le Population and Sampling Procedure	13
2.3	Resea	arch Tools for Data Collection	14
2.4	Stater	ment of the Allotment of Marks	14
2.5	Proce	ss of Data Collection	14
2.6	Tabul	ation of the Data	15
2.7	Limit	ation of the Study	15
CHA	APTEI	R THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	
			17-4- 0
3.1	Overa	all Proficiency in the Use of Irregular Verbs	17
3.2	Overa	all Analysis of Errors in the Use of Irregular Verbs	18
3.3	Gend	er-wise Proficiency of the Students in the Use of Irregular	
	Verb	S	18
	3.1.1	Proficiency of the Students in terms of Gender in the Use	
		of Irregular Verbs	19
3.4	Gend	er-wise Analysis of Errors in the Use of Irregular Verbs	20
3.5	Schoo	ol-wise Proficiency of the Students in the Use of Irregular	
	Verb	S	20
	3.5.1	Proficiency of the Students of Laxmi Higher Secondary	
		School (School 'A') in the Use of Irregular Verbs	21
	3.5.2	Study of Errors of the Students of School 'A' in the Use of	•
		Irregular Verbs	22
	3.5.3	Proficiency of the Students of Laxmi Aadarsha Higher	
		Secondary School (School 'B') in the Use of Irregular	
		Verbs	22
	3.5.4	Study of Errors of the Students of School 'B' in the Use	
		of Irregular Verbs	23
3.6	Schoo	ol-wise Proficiency of the Students in the Use of Irregular	
	Verbs	3	24
3.7	Schoo	ol-wise Comparison of Errors in the Use of Irregular Verbs	26

3.8	Item-wise Proficiency and Errors of the Students in the Use of			
	Irregu	ılar Verbs	27	
	3.8.1	The Analysis of Overall Proficiency and Errors of 'Past		
		and Past Participle Forms of Verb'	27	
	3.8.2	The Analysis of Overall Proficiency and Errors in 'Tick the	е	
		Best Answer'	30	
	3.8.3	The Analysis of Overall Proficiency and Errors in 'Correct		
		Form of Irregular Verbs'	33	
	3.8.4	The Analysis of Overall Proficiency and Errors in 'Fill in		
		the Blank'	36	
	3.8.5	The Analysis of Overall Proficiency and Errors of the		
		Students in Writing Short Description	38	
СНА	PTER	R FOUR: FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS		
	AND	PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATIONS	41-45	
4.1	Findir	ngs	41	
4.2	Recor	mmendations and Pedagogical Implications	44	
REF	EREN	ICES		
APP	ENDI	CES		

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page	No.
Table No.1	Allotment of Marks	14
Table No. 2	Total Proficiency of the Students in the Use of Irregular	
	Verbs	17
Table No. 3	Total Analysis of Errors in the Use of Irregular Verbs	18
Table No. 4	Gender-wise Comparison in the use of Irregular Verbs	19
Table No. 5	Gender-wise Comparison of Errors in the Use of Irregular	
	Verbs	20
Table No. 6	Students' Proficiency of LHSS in the Use of Irregular Verbs	21
Table No. 7	Study of the Errors of the Students of School 'A'	22
Table No. 8	Students' Proficiency of School 'B' in the Use of Irregular	
	Verbs	22
Table No. 9	Study of Errors of the Students of School 'B'	24
Table No.10	Comparison between the Schools in the Use of	
	Irregular Verbs	25
Table No. 11	Comparison of Errors in terms of School	26
Table No.12	Overall Proficiency of the Students in Past and Past	
	Participle forms of the Verb	28
Table No. 13	Overall Analysis of Errors of the Students in Past and Past	
	Participle Forms of the Verb	28
Table No.14	The Analysis of Gender-wise Performance in Past and Past	
	Participle Forms of the Verb	29
Table No.15	Gender-wise Analysis of Errors in Past and Past	
	Participle Forms of the Verb	29
Table No.16	The Analysis of School-wise Performance in Past and Past	
	Participle Forms of the Verb	29
Table No.17	School-wise Analysis of Errors in Past and Past Participle	
	Forms of the Verb	30
Table No.18	Overall Proficiency of the Students in Tick the Best	
	Answer	31
Table No.19	The Overall Analysis of Errors in Tick the Best	
	Answer	31

Table No.20	Gender-wise Proficiency of the Students in Tick the Best	
	Answer	31
Table No. 21	Gender-wise Analysis of Errors in Tick the Best Answer	32
Table No. 22	School-wise Proficiency of the Students in Tick the Best	
	Answer	32
Table No.23	School-wise Analysis of Errors in Tick the Best Answer	33
Table No.24	Overall Proficiency of the Students in Correct Form of	
	Irregular Verbs	33
Table No.25	Total Analyses of Errors of the Students in Correct Form	
	of Irregular Verbs	34
Table No.26	Gender-wise Proficiency of the Students in Correct Form	
	of Irregular Verbs	34
Table No. 27	Gender-wise Analysis of Errors in Correct Form of	
	Irregular Verbs	34
Table No. 28	School-wise Proficiency of the Students in Correct Form	
	of Irregular Verbs	35
Table No.29	School-wise Analysis of Errors in Correct Form of	
	Irregular Verbs	35
Table No.30	Total Analysis of the Students in Fill in the Blank	36
Table No.31	Total Analysis of Errors of the Students in Fill in the Blank	36
Table No. 32	Gender-wise Proficiency of the Students in Fill in the Blank	37
Table No. 33	Gender-wise Analysis of Errors in Fill in the Blank	37
Table No.34	School-wise Proficiency of the Students in Fill in the Blank	37
Table No.35	School-wise Analysis of Errors in Fill in the Blank	38
Table No.36	Overall Proficiency of the Students in Writing Short	
	Description	38
Table No.37	Total Analysis of Errors of the Students in Writing Short	
	Description	39
Table No. 38	Gender-wise Proficiency of the Students in Writing Short	
	Description	39
Table No.39	Gender-wise Analysis of Errors of the Students in Writing	
	Short Description	40
Table No. 40	School-wise Proficiency of the Students in Writing Short	
	Description	40
Table No. 41	School-wise Analysis of Errors in Writing Short	
	Description	40

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

% : Percentage

Dr. : Doctor

e.g. : Exampli gratia/ for example

ELT: English Language Teaching

etc. : Etcetera

F.M.: Full Marks

i.e. : That is

LASS: Laxmi Aadarsha Higher Secondary School

LHSS: Laxmi Higher Secondary School

Mr. : Mister

NELTA Nepal English Language Teachers' Association

No. : Number

P.N.C.: Prithwi Narayan Campus

Pro. : Professor

S.N. : Serial Number

T.U. : Tribhuvan University