STUDENTS' PERCEPTION AND PRACTICE OF ELT CLASSROOM INTERACTION

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education In Partial Fulfilment for the Masters of Education in English

> Submitted by Mahesh Nepal

Faculty of Education

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur,

Kathmandu, Nepal

2015

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION AND PRACTICE OF ELT CLASSROOM INTERACTION

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education In Partial Fulfilment for the Masters of Education in English

Submitted by

Mahesh Nepal

Faculty of Education Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur Kathmandu, Nepal 2015

T.U. Reg. No. : 9-3-28-75-2010

Second Year Examination

Roll No. 280676/069

Date of Approval of the Thesis Proposal: 12-09-2014 Thesis Submission: 22-06-2015

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr**. **Mahesh Nepal** has prepared this thesis entitled **Students' Perception and Practice of ELT Classroom Interaction** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date: 22-06-2015

Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor) Teaching Assistant Department of English Education T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

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

	Signature
Dr. Anjana Bhattarai	
Reader and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu	
Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)	
Teaching Assistant	Member
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu	
Mr. Ashok Sapkota	
Teaching Assistant	Member

T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu

Department of English Education

Date:

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

This research has been evaluated and approved by the following **Thesis Evaluation and Approval Committee:**

	Signature
Dr. Anjana Bhattarai	
Reader and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu	
Dr. Anju Giri	
Professor and Chairperson	Member
English and Other Foreign Languages	
Education Subject Committee	
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu	
Mr. Resham Acharya (Supervisor)	
Teaching Assistant	Member
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur, Kathmandu	

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 to any university.

Date: 22-06-2015

Mahesh Nepal

DEDICATION

Dedicated

to

My Grand Parents Bhabakrishna Nepal and Bed Kumari Nepal

and

My Parents Puskar Raj Nepal and Ambika Nepal who devoted their entire life to make me what I am today.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to express my sincere and hearty gratitude to my respected Guru and thesis supervisor **Mr. Resham Acharya**, Teaching Assistant, Department of English Education, T.U., Kirtipur, for his invaluable suggestions, scholarly guidance and co-operation in the writing of this research. Without his regular encouragement and constructive feedback, this work would never see the light of completion.

I am also grateful to **Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**, Reader and Head of the Department of English Education for her kind co-operation and academic guidance.

I am equally thankful to **Mr. Ashok Sapkota**, third member of my guidance committee for his constructive suggestions.

Similarly, **Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Prof.Dr. Chandreshwor Mishra, Prof. Dr. Anju Giri, Prof. Dr. Tara Datta Bhatta, Prof. Dr. Bishnu Singh Rai, Prof. Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan, Mr. Raj Narayan Yadav,**, **Mrs. Madhu Neupane, Mrs. Saraswati Dawadi, Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel**, **Mrs. Hima Rawal, Mr. Khem Raj Joshi**, and **Mr. Guru Prasad Poudel** are specially thanked for providing me with academic support during the academic years.

Mrs. Madhavi Khanal, the librarian, Department of English Education deserves a lot of thanks for providing me with necessary books and thesis in course of carrying out this research.

I cannot stay without expressing sincere gratitude to the respondent students from the selected government aided schools for providing me primary data. I would like to thank all of them from the core of my heart.

I am extremely grateful to all my family members and well wishers for their academic encouragement. Nonetheless, I would like to offer my gratitude to my Better Half **Mrs. Ambika Poudel** for her encouragement and inspiration to

carry out this research. My sister **Ms. Sharmila Nepal** also deserves my special thanks.

Similarly, I owe a debt to my friends **Mr. Ashok Khatiwada, Dr. Madhav Sapkota, Mr. Prayag Raj Joshi, Mr. Shreekrishna Tamang, Mr. Komal Pokharel, Mr. Prakash Timsina, Mr. Tej Bahadur Acharya, Mr. Yogendra Adhikari, Mr. Abishek Parajuli** and **others** for their regular support and assistance. Last, but not the least, I express my special thanks to **Mr. Sanjog Guragain** for his meritorious computer work.

Mahesh Nepal

ABSTRACT

This thesis entitled Students' Perception and Practice of ELT Classroom Interaction was carried out to find out some of the basic features of classroom interaction. The main objective of the study was to find out the existing situation of classroom interaction at secondary level English classes and the students' perception regarding this. The research study was mainly based on the primary sources of data which was collected from five different government aided secondary schools of Morang district. The schools were selected by using purposive sampling procedure. From purposive non- random sampling procedure was adapted to select the students and teachers for the research. To find out the practice of the classroom interaction the classroom checklist was made. The data was collected with the help of classroom observation checklist and questionnaire. The systematically collected data have been analyzed and interpreted descriptively and analytically. After analyzing the data, it was found that the most of the interactions between teachers and students were based on course content, authoritative formulaic and rote learning but not creative. As the result the students' perception regarding the interaction was not good enough. This study found that the teaching materials were not used for interactive activities and there was a gap between teachers' theoretical knowledge and classroom practices. English language teachers considered listening and speaking as essential skills but much attention was given in reading and writing in the classroom, so students are found not much interested in interactive activities.

This thesis consists of five chapters: The first chapter is introductory in nature. It introduces the research in general. The objectives, limitations, significance of the study etc have been mentioned. In second chapter some research works have also been critically reviewed. The classroom interaction, its aspects, level and some interactive activities have been further described in the following headings. The third chapter deals with the methodology adopted during the study. Sampling procedure was purposive and random. The researcher used classroom observation checklist and questionnaire for teacher and students as a tool for data collection. Similarly, the forth chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of data collected in the classroom observation checklist and questionnaire. The findings of the research are also mentioned. The last chapter deals with conclusion of the study according to the analysis and interpretation; and some pedagogical suggestions made on the basis of the findings. In the final part of the thesis references and appendices have been included systematically.

TABLE OF CONTENT

Page 1	No.
--------	-----

Deci	laration	i
Reco	ommendation for Acceptance	ii
Reco	ommendation for Evaluation	iii
Eval	luation and Approval	iv
Ded	ication	v
Ackr	nowledgements	vi
Abst	ract	viii
Tabl	le of Contents	x
List	of Tables	xiv
List	of Symbols and Abbreviations	xv
CHA	APTER- ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-5
1.1	General Background	1
1.2	Statement of the Problem	3
1.3	Objectives of the Study	4
1.4	Research Questions	4
1.5	Significance of the Study	4
1.6	Delimitations of the Study	5
1.7	Operational Definition of the Key Terms	5
CHA	APTER- TWO: REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	
	AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK	7-25
2.1	Review of the Theoretical Literature	7
	2.1.1 The English Language Teaching In Nepal	7
	2.1.2 Government Aided School's Situation of Morang District	9
	2.1.3 Classroom Environment	9
	2.1.4 Classroom Interaction	10

	2.1.5	Aspects of Classroom Interaction	11
	2.1.6	Levels of Interaction	14
	2.1.7	Interactive Activities in the Classroom	15
	2.1.8	Relationship between Language Classroom Interactions and	
		Achievement	17
	2.1.9	Students' Perception	19
2.2	Review of	of Empirical Literature	20
2.3	Implicati	ons of the Review for the Study	23
2.4	Conceptu	al Framework	25
СН	APTER- '	FHREE: METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF	
		THE STUDY	26-29
3.1	Design	of the Study	26
3.2	Populat	ion, Sample and Sampling Strategies	28
3.3	Study A	rea/ Field	28
3.4	Data Co	llection Tools and Techniques	28
3.5	Data Co	llection Procedures	28
3.6	Data Ana	lysis and Interpretation Procedures	29
СН	APTER –	FOUR: ANALYSIS OF DATA AND INTERPRETATION	
		OF THE RESULT	30-52
4.1	Analysi	s of Data and Interpretation of the Result	30
	4.1.1 Ana	alysis of the Questionnaire Responded by the Students	30
	4.1.	1.1 Preference of English in the Class	31
	4.1.	1.2 Consideration of Feelings by the Teachers	32
	4.1.	1.3 Mutual Help among the Friends	33
	4.1.	1.4 Opportunities to Speak in the Class	34
	4.1.	1.5 Problem Solving Strategies	35
	4.1.	1.6 Teachers' Behavior towards Students	36

	4.1.1.7 Role and Feelings of Students in the Classroom	
	Interaction	37
	4.1.1.8 Creativity of the Students	38
	4.1.1.9 Students Knowledge about the Goal of the Interaction	39
	4.1.1.10 Perception on Interactive Methodologies and Activities	40
	4.1.1.11 Teachers Attention towards Students questions	42
	4.1.1.12 Factors that encourage the Students to Speak	43
	4.1.1.13 Asking Strategies and Students Attitudes	44
	4.1.2 Analysis of Classroom Observation	44
	4.1.2.1 Participation in Interaction at the Beginning of the Class	45
	4.1.2.2 Use of Teaching Materials in CI	46
	4.1.2.3 Fluency and Accuracy in Speaking	47
	4.1.2.4 Analysis of Group Work and Pair Work	47
	4.1.2.5 Interaction in Evaluation Session of the Class	48
	4.1.2.6 Teacher Feedback to the students' Responses	49
4.2	Summary of Findings	50
	4.2.1 Findings Based on Questionnaire	50
	4.2.2 Findings Based on Classroom Observation Checklist	51
CHA	APTER -FIVE: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS 53-56	
5.1	Conclusions	53
5.2	Recommendations	54
	5.2.1 Policy Level	54
	5.2.2 Practice Level	55
	5.2.3 Further Research Related Level	56
REF	ERENCES	
APP	ENDICES	

LIST OF TABLES

Tables	Titles	Page No.
Table No 1	Preference of English in the Class	31
Table No 2	Consideration of Feelings	32
Table No 3	Students' Mutual Help	33
Table No 4	Opportunities to Interact	34
Table No 5	Problem Solving Strategies	35
Table No 6	Teachers' Behavior	36
Table No 7	Easiness to express Feelings	37
Table No 8	Interest on Giving Logic	38
Table No 9	Knowledge about the Goal of the Class	40
Table No 10	Interactive Procedures	41
Table No 11	Teachers Attentions towards Students question	ns 42
Table No 12	Students' Encouragement	43
Table No 13	Asking Strategies	44

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

%	:	Percentage
&	:	And
B.S.	:	Before Christ
CUP	:	Cambridge University Press
Dr.	:	Doctor
ELT	:	English Language Teaching
ESL	:	English as a Second Language
etc.	:	Etcetera
G.T.	:	Grammar Translation
Mr.	:	Mister
Mrs.	:	Mistress
NELTA	:	Nepal English Language Teachers' Association
NELTA NNS	:	Nepal English Language Teachers' Association Non Native speaker
NNS	:	Non Native speaker
NNS No.	:	Non Native speaker Number
NNS No. OUP	:	Non Native speaker Number Oxford University Press
NNS No. OUP p.	:	Non Native speaker Number Oxford University Press Page
NNS No. OUP p. Prof.	:	Non Native speaker Number Oxford University Press Page Professor
NNS No. OUP p. Prof. T.U.	:	Non Native speaker Number Oxford University Press Page Professor Tribhuvan University
NNS No. OUP p. Prof. T.U. i.e.	:	Non Native speaker Number Oxford University Press Page Professor Tribhuvan University That is