

**NEGATION AND QUESTION FORMATION IN
TAMANG AND ENGLISH LANGUAGES:
A COMPARATIVE STUDY**

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

**Submitted by
Gopal Tamang**

**Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Janata Multiple Campus
Itahari, Sunsari**

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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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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Gopal Tamang** has prepared this thesis entitled **Negation and Question Formation in Tamang and English Languages: A comparative Study** under my guidance and supervision.

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DEDICATION

Dedicated

To

My wife Isu who gave me a new life

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ABSTRACT

This research entitled '**Negation and Question Formation in Tamang and English Languages**' is an attempt to identify the processes of negation and question formation in Tamang, to compare and contrast them with those of English and suggest some pedagogical implications based on the findings. In order to accomplish the objectives of the study, both primary and secondary sources of data have been used. The sample population of the study consists of fifty Tamang native speakers selected through purposive sampling procedure to elicit the required data. Data for English language has been taken from secondary sources. A set of questionnaire was used to elicit the data from educated informants and the same questionnaire was used as an interview schedule for illiterate informants. The collected data has been analysed, interpreted and presented descriptively as well as with the help of tables. The major findings in a nutshell show that the negative auxiliaries '*are / are-ba*' and negative prefix '*a-*' are the main negative markers in Tamang. 'Yes/No question' in Tamang is formed with the same SOV word order as the declarative sentence but with rising intonation. Unlike in English, no '*subject-aux. inversion*', '*do-insertion*' and '*question word fronting*' rules apply in Tamang question formation.

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter one introduces the study in terms of general background, quick glimpse of ELT in Nepal, brief introduction of Tamang people and language, review of the related literature, objectives and significance of the study. Chapter two deals with methodology applied to carry out the research work that encompasses sources of data, sampling procedure, tools and process of data collection and the limitations of the study. Chapter three is the analysis and interpretation of the data. Chapter four presents the findings and recommendations.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

Abbreviations	Full Forms
Adj.	Adjective
Adv.	Adverb
Affr.	Affirmative
ALL	Allative Marker
Aux.	Auxiliary
B.S.	Bikram Sambat
CVC	Consonant Vowel Consonant
CA	Contrastive Analysis
CBS	Central Bureau of Statistics
COM.	Comitative Marker
DAT.	Dative Marker
Decl.	Declarative sentence
ELT	English Language Teaching
EMP.	Emphatic Mood
ERG.	Ergative Marker
FL	Foreign Language
GEN.	Genitive Marker
GER.	Gerund
i.e.	That is to say
IMP.	Imperative Marker
INF.	Infinitive Marker
Inf-q	Information Question
INS.	Instrument Marker

LOC.	Locative Marker
M.	Modal
N	Noun
Neg.	Negative
Neg. Y/N-q	Negative Yes/No Question
NML.	Nominalised
NOM.	Nominative Marker
NESP	National Education System Plan
Npt.	Non-Past Marker
PERF.	Perfect Marker
Pl.	Plural Marker
PROG.	Progressive Marker
PPt.	Past Participle
Pt.	Past Marker
Sg.	Singular Marker
SOV	Subject Object Verb
T.U.	Tribhuvan University
UNO	United Nation Organization
VDC	Village Development Committee
Y/N-q	Yes/ No Question
ŋ	as the final consonant sound of ‘king’ / <i>kiŋ</i> /
θ	as the initial consonant sound of ‘thing’ / <i>θiŋ</i> /
ə	as the initial vowel sound of ‘about’ / <i>əbaut</i> /
a	as the medial vowel sound of ‘car’ / <i>kar</i> /
ja	as the medial vowel sound of ‘cat’ / <i>k æt</i> /

<i>c</i>	as the initial consonant sound of ‘chair’ /tʃeə(r)/
<i>t</i>	the voiceless dental stop ‘ <i>t̪</i> ’ as in Nepali ‘तराजु’
<i>d</i>	the voiced dental stop ‘ <i>d̪</i> ’ as in Nepali ‘दराज’
<i>T</i>	the voiceless alveolar stop as the initial consonant sound of ‘tap’ /tæp/
<i>D</i>	the voiced alveolar stop as the initial consonant sound of ‘dog’ /dæg/
(... ^h)	aspirated
(... ^w)	labialized
(... ^r)	rhoticized
(... ^j)	palatalized