Role of Output in Second Language Acquisition

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

> **Submitted by** Ramesh Bahadur Singh

Faculty of Education University Campus Tribhuwan University Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal 2011

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Tribhuwan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
2011

T.U. Regd. No.: 9-2-60-155-2002 Date of approval of the Thesis

Exam Roll No.: 280679/066 Date of Submission of Thesis: 2068/03/15

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: 2068 -03-23 Ramesh Bahadur Singh

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr. Ramesh Bahadur Singh** has completed the research of his M.Ed. thesis entitled **Role of Output in Second Language Acquisition** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date: 2068/03/15

Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi (Guide)

Professor

Department of English Education

University Campus

T.U., Kirtipur

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

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

| Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra | |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Professor and Head | (Chairperson) |
| Department of English Education | |
| University Campus | |
| T.U., Kirtipur | |
| | |
| | |
| Mr. Prem Bdr. Phyak | |
| Lecturer | (Member) |
| Department of English Education | |
| University Campus | |
| T.U., Kirtipur | |
| | |
| | |
| Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi (Guide) | |
| Professor | (Member) |
| Department of English Education | |
| University Campus | |
| T.U., Kirtipur | |

Date: 2068 /03/16

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

| Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Professor and Head | (Chairperson) |
| Department of English Education | |
| University Campus | |
| T.U., Kirtipur | |
| Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi | |
| Professor | (Member) |
| Department of English Education | |
| Chairman | |
| English and Other Foreign Languages | |
| Education Subject Committee | |
| University Campus | |
| T.U., Kirtipur | |
| Dr. Tara Datta Bhatta | |
| Reader | (Member) |
| Department of English Education | |
| T.U., Kirtipur | |

Date: 2068/03/21

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At this moment, I would like to extend my deep sense of profound gratitude to **Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi,** Professor of the Department of English Education, and the Chairperson of the English and Other Foreign Languages, Education Subject Committee, University Campus, T.U., Kirtipur, for making constant supervision and guiding me with regular inspiration, encouragement and insightful suggestions throughout the study. I would like to acknowledge his invaluable instructions, suggestions, guidance and kind cooperation in conducting and completing this study.

Equally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to **Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra**, Professor and Head of the Department of English Education for his inspiration and valuable suggestions. My sincere acknowledgement goes to **Mr. Prem Bahadur Phyak** Teaching Assistant of the Department of English Education for providing me constructive suggestions to conduct the study. **Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**, Reader of the Department of English Education deserves special acknowledgements whose valuable suggestions, guidance, encouragement and cooperation were important both in my academic career and in completing this research work. My hearty gratitude goes to **Mrs. Hima Kumari Rawal**, Teaching Assistant of the Department for her contribution of continuous guidance, regular inspiration and enthusiastic encouragement both in my academic life and to complete this research work.

I am equally grateful to all the other Professors, Readers, Lecturers and the Teaching Assistants of the Department of English Education for their valuable instructions as well as for their inspirations, suggestions and regular support. My thanks go to all my friends who encouraged and assisted me during the study period. Specially, I acknowledge to all the informants who provided valuable information for conducting and completing the study.

2068-03-14

Ramesh Bahadur Singh

ABSTRACT

The thesis entitled 'Role of Output in Second Language Acquisition' was an attempt of the researcher to find out the role of output in learning English past tense. To achieve the objectives of the study, both the primary and secondary sources of data were used. A sample of 30 grade 9 students from a private school in Kathmandu district was taken as informants for the purpose of the study. Test items were regarded as the tool to collect primary data. The students were divided into two groups-controlled (Group A) and experimental (Group B) and they were taught English (past tense) for 20 days. The study found that Group B has achieved 11.74 marks more than that of the Group A in the post test. It showed that the output of Group B in English past tense was better than Group A. The progress of group B was due to the focus on language output (production) during the period of teaching which Group A did not get. Through this evidence, it is found that focus on output is a requirement for successful learning of a second language as the activities of producing the target language enables the target language learners to consciously recognize their linguistic problems and make them more aware of something they need to know about the target (second) language. It was derived from the study that the production of output promotes 'noticing' which helps learners to recognize the gap between what they want to produce and what they actually produced.

The thesis has been divided into four chapters. The first chapter deals with the general background, literature review, objectives and the significance of the study. The second chapter contains the methodology which is sub-chaptered as the sources of data, sampling procedure, tools for data collection, process of data collection and the limitations of the study. The third chapter includes the analysis and interpretation of the data obtained from the field. The fourth chapter contains the findings and recommendations of the study.

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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ALM : Audio-Lingual Method

Dr. : Doctor

eg. : For example

ELT : English Language Teaching

Etc. : Etcetera

FM. : Full Marks

GT : Grammar Translation

i.e. : That is

NNSs : Non-native Speakers

NO : Number

NSs. : Native Speakers

OM. : Obtained Marks

p. : Page

PM : Pass Marks

pp. : Pages

Prof. : Professor

SL : Source Language

SLA : Second Language Acquasition

TL : Target Language

TU : Tribhuwan University

Vol. : Volume

TV : Television