PROFICIENCY OF BASIC LEVEL STUDENTS IN LETTER WRITING

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education

In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English

Submitted by

Humraj Bashyal

Tribhuvan University

Faculty of Education

Tansen Multiple Campus

Tansen, Palpa, Nepal

PROFICIENCY OF BASIC LEVEL STUDENTSIN LETTER WRITING

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education

In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English

Submitted by

Humraj Bashyal

Faculty of Education

Tribhuvan University

Tansen Multiple Campus

Tansen, Palpa, Nepal

2017

T.U. Regd. No.: 9-2-427-70-2007 Date of Approval of the

Second Year Examination Thesis Proposals: Nov. 16, 2016

Roll No.:3080020 Date of Submission: March 17, 2017

Approval: April 4, 2017

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr Humraj Bashyal** has prepared the thesis entitled **'Proficiency of Basic Level Students in Letter Writing'** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

Date: April 4, 2017

•••••

Mr. Santa Bir Baral (Supervisor)

Lecturer and Head

Department of English Education

Tansen Multiple Campus, Palpa

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been recommended for evaluation from the following

'Research Guidance Committee':

	Signature
Mr. Santa Bir Baral(Supervisor)	
Lecture and Head	
Department of English Education	Chairperson
Tansen Multiple Campus, Palpa	
Mr. Chndrakant Neupane	·
Lecturer	
Department of English Education	Member
Tansen Multiple Campus, Palpa	
Mr. Bina Koirala	
Lecturer	
Department of English Education	
Tansen, Multiple Campus, Tansen, Palpa	Member

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

	Signature
Mr. Santa Bir Baral (Supervisor)	
Lecture and Head	
Department of English Education	Chairperson
Tansen Multiple Campus, Palpa	
Mr. Bhimlal Bhandari	
Reader	
Department of English Education	
Butwal Multiple Campus	Expert
Mr. Chandra Kant Neupane	
Lecturer	Member
Department of English Education	1.10111001
Tansen Multiple Campus, Tansen, Palpa	

Date: April 4, 2017

DEDICATION

Dedicated to

My respected teachers, parents and family

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I owe my debt to all my teachers. Without whose constructive suggestions and regular support this research would not have come to this form.

First of all, I would like to extend my deep sense of profound gratitude to **Mr. Santa BirBaral** Lecturer and Head, Department of English Education,

Tansen, supervision and Chairperson of Research Guidance Committee, for his scholarly guidance, encouragement, continuous assistance, enlightening ideas and invaluable suggestions. I can never forget him for his friendly behavior and parental love towards the students. I feel very much proud to have worked under his guidance and supervision.

I 'd like to express my gratitude to **Mr Radheshyam Gyawali** campus chief and **Mr Puskar Raj Regmi,** Assistant Campus Chief, Tansen Multiple Campus, Tansen, Palpa.

I am deeply indebted toReader **Mr. BhimLal Bhandari** Butwal Multiple Campus for providing me with invaluable ideas and suggestions. I lack words to express my gratefulness to him.

Similarly, I am equally indebted to my honorable teachers Mr. Chandrakant Neupane, Mrs. Bina Koirala, , Mr. Gopal Prasad Bashyal, Mr.Krishna Malla for their kind supports and inspiration for my academic prosperity.

Obviously, most of the ideas I have got here are from the works of different authors listed in the reference. So, my sincere gratitude also goes to all of them. I feel pleasure to express my sincere gratitude to campus librarians for providing me books and reference materials helpful for the completion of this research work.

I do not know how I should acknowledge those from whom I got the valuable data as the main base for my research work. I must thank a lot to the principals, teachers and especially the students of grade eight of Palpa district in Tansen Municipality who have supported me while carrying out the research. I can't

forget my colleagues who directly or indirectly helped me during the preparation of this thesis. So, I would like to say thank you very much for your unforgettable contributions in my life.

My special thanks go to my wife **Mrs. Sabina Neupane** for cooperation, valuable support and inspiration.

Date: March	17,	2017
--------------------	-----	------

Humraj Bashyal

ABSTRACT

The present research study entitled "Proficiency of Basic Level Students in Letter Writing" attempts to find out the actual letter writing proficiency of the basic level students of Palpa district in Tansen municipality. To carry out the research, the researcher selected sixty students from (three institutional and three community) schools of Palpa district by using purposive random sampling procedure. A set of test items consisting of formal and informal letter writing were the tools for the data collection. The data were analyzed and interpreted in accordance with the set of objectives. The students of institutional schools were seen more proficient than the students of community schools. Among the students of all selected schools, the students of NHSS were found to be the most proficient and the students of PPSS were found to be the least proficient. Comparatively girl's performance was better than boys in overall in letter writing. Similarly, the students were more proficient in informal letter writing than formal writing.

This thesis comprises five main chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction which consists of overview, general background, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study and delimitations of the study. The second chapter deals with overview, review of related literature which consists of review of related theoretical and empirical literature, implication of the review for the study, and theoretical and conceptual framework. The third chapter deals with overview, methods and procedures of the study, field or areas of the study, sampling procedure, data / information collection tools and procedures and data analysis and interpretation procedures. Similarly, the fourth chapter consists of overview, analysis of interpretation and results. The fifth chapter deals with conclusions and recommendations on the policy related, practice related and further research related. The final section of the study includes the references and appendices.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page No.
Declaration	i
Recommendation for Acceptance	ii
Recommendation for Evaluation	iii
Evaluation and Approval	iv
Dedication	v
Acknowledgements	vi
Abstract	viii
List of Abbreviations	ix
Table of Contents	xi
List of Tables and Figures	XV
CHAPTER - ONE: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Overview	1
1.2 General Background	1
1.2.1 Writing Skill	2
1.2.2 Importance of Writing Skill	4
1.3 Statement of the Problem	5
1.4 Objectives of the Study	6
1.5 Significance of the Study	6
1.6 Delimitations of the Study	7

CHAPTER	- TWO	: REVIEW	OF	RELATED	LITERATURE	AND
CONCEPTI	JAL FR	AMEWORK				

2.1 Over view	8
2.2 Review of Theoretical Literature	8
2.2.1 Components of Writing	8
2.2.2 Characteristics of Good Writing	13
2.2.3 Stages in Development of Writing Skill	15
2.2.4 Procedures of Good Writing	17
2.3 Review of Empirical Literature	18
2.4 Implication of Review for the Study	21
2.5 Conceptual Framework	23
2.6 Letter Writing	23
2.9.1 Types of Letter Writing	25
2.9.2 The Seven Cs of Letter Writing	27
2.9.3 Planning a Letter	29
2.9.4 Parts of Letter Writing	29
2.9.5 A model of Formal letter	31
2.9.6 A model of Informal letter	32
CHAPTER - THREE: METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF	THE
STUDY	
3.1 Over view	34
3.2 Design and Method of the Study	34
3.3 Areas of the Study	34
3.4 Sampling Procedures	34
3.5 Data Collection Tools	35
3.6 Data Collection Procedures	35

3.7 Data Analysis and Interpretation Procedures	36
CHAPTER - FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS	
4.1 Over view	37
4.2 Analysis on data and Interpretation of the Results	37
4.2.1 Holistic Analysis	37
4.2.2 Gender-wise Analysis	42
4.2.3 School-wise Analysis	44
4.2.4 Item-wise Analysis	48
4.2.5 Analysis on the Basis of Ethnicity	49
4.3 Summary of Findings	51
CHAPTER – FIVE: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
5.1 Over view	54
5.2 Conclusions	54
5.3 Recommendations	55
5.4.1 Policy Related	55
5.4.2 Practice Related	56
5.4.3 Further Research Relate	57

REFERENCES

APPENDICES

Appendix- I Questionnaire

Appendix- II Allotment of Marks

Appendix- III Name of the Selected Schools

Appendix- IV List of the Students' Marking

Appendix- V Some Samples of Answer Sheets

LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

Table	e No.	Titles
1	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Format/Layout
2	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Contents
3	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Coherence/Organization
4	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Correctness of Language
5	:	Overall Performance of the Sampled Students
6	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Institutional Schools
7	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Community Schools
8	:	Overall Performance of Boys and Girls
9	:	Proficiency of the Selected Schools in Letter Writing
10	:	Proficiency of Students in Institutional and Community Schools
11	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Informal Letter Writing
12	:	Proficiency of Boys and Girls in Formal Letter writing
13	:	Analysis on the Basis of Ethnicity

Figure No. 1 : Conceptual Framework

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CUP : Cambridge University Press

D.L.E. : District Level Examination

e.g. : exempli gratia (for example)

ELT : English Language Teaching

et al. : etalii (and other People)

etc. : et cetera (and so on)

ETTE. : English Teaching through English

F.M. : Full Marks

H.S.S. : Higher Secondary School

hrs. : hours

i.e. : idest (that is)

L.S.S. : Lower Secondary School

Ltd. : Limited

Mr. : Mister

Mrs. : Mistress

No. : Number

O.M. : Obtained Marks

OUP : Oxford University Press

PP. : Pages

PETs. : Primary English Teachers

Ph.D. : Doctor of Philosophy

Pvt. : Private

Regd. : Registration

S.L.C. : School Leaving Certificate

S.N. : Serial Number

S.S. : Secondary School

Stds. : Students

Sub. : Subject

T.U. : Tribhuvan University

NHSS : New Horizon Secondary School

BBSS : Bethel Boarding Secondary School

PPSS : Padma Public Secondary School

JMSS : Janata Model Secondary School

DSSS : Devbani Sanskrit and Sadharan Secondary School

VASS : Vrindavan Academy Secondary School

S.N. : Serial Number