TEACHERS' PERCEPTION ON NEW DIRECTION: READING, WRITING, AND CRITICAL THINKING

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

> Submitted by Bhesh Bahadur Kandel

Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur
Kathmandu, Nepal
2011

TEACHERS' PERCEPTION ON NEW DIRECTION: READING, WRITING, AND CRITICAL THINKING

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

Submitted by Bhesh Bahadur Kandel

Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur
Kathmandu, Nepal

T.U. Reg. No.: 9-1-29-824-2001

Second Year Examination

Roll No.: 280348/066

Date of Approval of the Thesis

Proposal: 2067-12-13

Date of Submission:

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that Mr. Bhesh Bahadur Kandel has prepared this thesis entitled **Teachers' Perception on New Direction: Reading, Writing and Critical Thinking** under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date: 2068-4-17

Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel Lecturer

Department of English Education
Faculty of Education
T.U., Kirtipur

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

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

	Signature
Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra	
Professor and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur	
Dr. Tara Datta Bhatta	
Reader	Member
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur	
Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel (Guide)	
Lecturer	Member
Department of English Education	
Faculty of Education	
T.U., Kirtipur	

Date: 2068-4-22

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

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

	Signature
Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra	
Professor and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur	
Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi	
Professor	Member
Department of English Education	
Chairperson	
English and Other Foreign Languages,	
Education Subject Committee	
T.U., Kirtipur	
Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel (Guide)	
Lecturer	Member
Department of English Education	
T.U., Kirtipur	

Date: 2068-4-22

DEDICATION

Dedicated to

My mother and late father who devoted their entire life to make me what I am today

DECLARATION

I here by 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:2068-4-16

Bhesh Bahadur Kandel

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to express my sincere and heartly gratitude to my respected Gure and thesis supervisor **Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel,** Lecturer, Department of English Education, T.U., Kirtipur, for his invaluable suggestions, encouragement and cooperation to bring the thesis in this form from the very beginning.

I am thankful to my respected **Guru Dr. Chandreshwor Mishra**, Professor and Head, of the Department of English Education for providing me the suggestions and encouragement to complete this study.

Similarly, I am extremely grateful to my respected **Guru Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi**, Professor, Department of English Education for his encouragement and inspiration to develop this work.

I am equally thankful to Prof. Dr. Tirth Raj Khaniya, Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Prof. Dr. Anju giri, Mr. Vishnu Sing Rai, Dr. Bal Mukunda Bhandari, Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan, Mr. Prem Bahadur Phyak, Mrs. Madhu Neupane, Mrs. Saraswati Dawadi, Mrs. Hima Rawal, for providing me with academic support during the academic years. Mrs. Madhavi Khanal, the librarian, Department of English Education deserves alot thanks for providing me with necessary books and theses in courses of carrying out this research.

I would like to remember my inspiring and encouraging mother for providing me with very support to come to this position. My special thanks go to my lovely brothers Mr. Shalik Ram Kandel, Tika Ram Kandel, Jay Ram Kadel, Sita Ram Kandel and Ram Krishna Kandel and sisters Murali Devi Kandel, Bimala Devi Kadel and Kalpana Kadel for providing their inspiration and encouragement from my early childhood. I am thankful to my friends, Durga

Pandey, Shukra Kumar Shrestha, Saugat Phuyal, for their direct or indirect support in completing this research work.

I will not miss the opportunity to thank all the B.Ed. level English teachers of the selected colleges from Tanahun and Kathmandu district for providing me with their valuable information to complete this research work.

Bhesh Bahadur Kandel

ABSTRACT

This research work entitled "Teachers' Perception on New Direction: Reading, Writing and Critical Thinking" was an attempt to find out the natural understanding of B.Ed. level English teachers on 'New Direction: Reading, Writing and Critical Thinking'. The main aims of this research is to analyze the textbook on the basis of its difficulty level, vocabulary selection and language skills, need and interest of the students, teachability and their strengths and weaknesses as point out by the teachers. For the sake of this, I purposively selected 30 teachers having at least one year teaching experience at the bachelor level from different campuses of Tanahun and Kathmandu districts by using nonrandom judgemental sampling procedure. I have prepared two types of questions i.e. open ended and close ended to find out the teachers' views on the different aspects of the textbook. What I find through this research is that the majority of the teachers drop their positive responses and I feel the same too. Interdisciplinary activities having newly emerging issues included in the textbook drive the students towards the critical thinking process. The subject matter of the text book contains wide range of reading texts which provide much more information to the students and leave plentiful opportunities for them to develop critical thinking ability.

The thesis is divided into four chapters. The first chapter deals with the general background, importance of ELT, teaching of the English language, teaching as a profession, review of the related literature, objectives and significance of the study. The second chapter consists of the methodology which consists of the sources of data, sampling procedure, tools for data collection, process of data collection and limitations of the study. The third chapter comprises the analysis and interpretation of the textbook 'New Direction: Reading, Writing, and Critical Thinking' in terms of its academic aspects. This is the main chapter of thesis writing. Here, the data/responses taken from the teachers are presented in an analytical way. The fourth chapter contains the findings and recommendations made upon the analysis and interpretation of the data. Finally, references and appendices are presented after the last chapter closed.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

			Page
Decle	aration		i
Reco	mmende	ation for Acceptance	ii
Reco	mmende	ation for Evaluation	iii
Evali	uation a	and Approval	iv
Dedi	cation		v
Ackn	owledge	ements	vi
Abstr	ract		vii
Table	e of Con	ntents	X
List o	of Table	S	xi
List o	of Symbo	ols and Abbreviations	xii
CHA	PTER	ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-16
1.1	Gener	ral Background	1
	1.1.1	Importance of ELT	2
	1.1.2	Teaching English Language	3
	1.1.3	Teaching as a Profession	4
	1.1.4	Types of Textbooks	;6
		1.1.4.1 Traditional Textbook	6
		1.1.4.2 Communicative Textbook	7
	1.1.5	Textbook: New Direction: Reading, Writing, and Critical	7
		Thinking	
	1.1.6	Defining Perception	11
1.2	Revie	w of the Related Literature	12
1.3	Objectives of the Study		15
1.4	Significance of the Study		15

CHA	PTER TWO: METHODOLOGY	17-19
2.1	Sources of Data	17
	2.1.1 Primary Sources of Data	17
	2.1.2 Secondary Sources of Data	17
2.2	Population of the Study	
2.3	Sampling Procedure	18
2.4	Tools for Data Collection	
2.5	Process of Data Collection	18
2.6	Limitations of the Study	19
СНА	PTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	20-36
3.1	Analysis of the Teachers' Perception on the Qualities of the Text	book 21
	3.1.1 Academic Aspects of the Textbook	22
	3.1.1.1 Difficulty Level	22
	3.1.1.2 Vocabulary Selection and Language Skills	24
	3.1.1.3 Need and Interest of the Students3.1.1.4 Teachability	26 28
3.2	General Opinions Expressed by the Teachers Regarding the Open-	
	ended Questions of the Textbook	29
СНА	PTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	37-39
4.1	Findings	37
4.2	Recommendations	39
REF	ERENCES	41-43
APP	ENDICES	

LIST OF TABLES

		Page
Table No. 1:	Teachers' Perception on Difficulty Level	23
Table No. 2:	Teachers' Perception on Vocabulary Selection and	
	Language Skills	24
Table No. 3:	Teachers' Perception on Need and Interest of the	
	Students	26
Table No. 4:	Teacher's Perception on Teachability	28

LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

% - Percent

1st - First

B.Ed - Bachelor in Education

Dr. - Doctor

e.g. - For example (Lation: exampli gratia)

ELT - English Language Teaching

EFL - English as a Foreign Language

ESL - English as a Second Language

et al. - And other people (Lation: etalli alia)

M.Ed. - Master's of Education

NELTA - Nepal English Language Teachers' Association

NESP - Nepal Education System Plan

No. - Number

OUP - Oxford University Press

P. - Page

PCL - Proficiency Certificate Level

Prof. - Professor

Prog. - Progressive

S.N. - Serial number

T.U. - Tribhuvan University

U.K - United Kingdom

UNESCO - United Nation Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization

USA - United States of America

Viz - That is to say

Vol. - Volume

www - Word wide wave