

**THE PROFICIENCY IN THE USE OF COMPOUND
PREPOSITIONS BY GRADE NINE STUDENTS**

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

**Submitted by
Sharmila Kaini**

**Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur
Kathmandu, Nepal**

2010

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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Mr. Sharmila Kaini** has prepared this thesis entitled “**The Proficiency in the Use of Compound Prepositions by Grade Nine Students**” under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend this thesis for acceptance.

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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 the research degree to any university.

Date: 2067 /08/ 09

.....

Sharmila Kaini

DEDICATION

Dedicated

to

my parents and family members

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First, I would like to extend my profound gratitude to **Prof. Dr Chandreshwar Mishra**, Head, Department of English Education for his guidance to complete this thesis. This work cannot be completed without his support. I found him co-operative, friendly and encouraging.

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Date: 2067 /08/ 09

Sharmila Kaini

ABSTRACT

This present study entitled "The Proficiency in the Use of Compound Prepositions by Grade Nine Students" is about the use of compound prepositions. It is a highly difficult and confusing grammatical item for the English as second language learners. Many students are likely to commit mistakes in the use of compound prepositions. The main objective of this study was to find out the proficiency of grade nine students in the use of compound prepositions in general. Along with this objective, the comparison has been made between urban vs rural government aided Vs. private schools, boys Vs girls. In order to determine the proficiency of grade nine students, a set of test items was devised and administered to test the students of selected schools. The test items consisted of six questions and administered in four schools of Kathmandu district. Out of the four schools, two were public and two schools. Twenty students from each school were selected for the purpose. Hence, the population for the study was eighty students. After the data collection, they were analyzed, interpreted. Based on the results of the findings, recommendations have been presented at the end. The students from the urban area were more proficient than the students of the rural area.

The study consists of four different chapters. The first chapters deals with introduction to the study, general background of the study, a short description of grammar and preposition, description of compound prepositions and of the significance and the objectives of the study. The second chapter deals with the methodology adopted while carrying out the study. It describes how the test items were prepared, what sorts of tools were used, how they were administered and the limitations of the

study. The third chapter presents the analysis and interpretation of the data collected from the various schools. The data obtained have been analyzed and interpreted with the help of statistical measures. The average marks and comparison of the marks between different variables have been included in this chapter. Lastly, the fourth chapter states the findings of the study. On the basis of analysis and interpretation, the existing problems have been identified and stated in the form of major findings of the research followed by recommendations and pedagogical implications.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

e.g.	–	Exempli gratia (for example)
etc.	–	etcetera
FoE	–	Faculty of education
OALD	–	Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary
OUP	–	Oxford University Press
Prof.	–	Professor
Viz.	–	Namely
Vs.	–	Versus
UNO	–	United Nations Organization