

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY ON LISTENING  
PROFICIENCY IN TOEFL AND IELTS BASED TESTS**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education  
in Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

**Submitted by**

**Dhani Ram Sharma**

**Faculty of Education**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Surkhet Campus (Education)**

**Birendranagar, Surkhet**

**2011**

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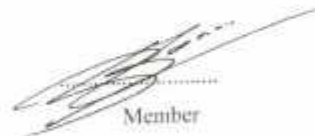
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# **DEDICATION**

**Dedicated to**

my parents and teachers who make me what I am today

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all I would like to express my profound gratitude to my research guide **Mr. Vasu Dev Karki** teaching assistant and member of English Education Subject Committee, Surkhet Campus (Education) for his proper guidance, supervision and invaluable suggestions.

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I owe a real debt to the Bachelor second year students of different campuses of Surkhet, Banke and Bardiya districts who enthusiastically participated in the test. I

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Dhani Ram Sharma

## **ABSTRACT**

The present work entitled **A Comparative Study on Listening Proficiency in TOEFL and IELTS Based Tests** is an effort to find out the listening proficiency of Bachelor level second year students. The researcher collected data from Bachelor level second year students studying English as major subject in different campuses of Surkhet, Banke and Bardiya districts. The total sample population of the study consists of 120 students selected by using stratified random sampling procedure. The main tool the researcher made use of TOEFL and IELTS based listening test items taken from the book of Cambridge Preparation for the TOEFL Test and A book for IELTS: Academic Module and CDs/Cassettes. The collected data from the students were determined using simple statistical tools such as mean and percentage. The findings of the study show that the average listening proficiency of the Bachelor second year students was 30.22 percent, with 9 converted score 9 on the TOELF based listening test and 29.80 percent, with 3 band score on IELTS based listening test. The selected students excelled on TOEFL test only by 0.42 percent and the study also shows that the students of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences were more proficient than the students of the Faculty of Education on both TOEFL and IELTS test and female students were more proficient than male students on both TOEFL and IELTS tests. The students of Surkhet district were most proficient on TOEFL and the students of Banke were most proficient on IELTS test.

The study consists of four chapters. Chapter one deals with general background of the study, review of related literature, objectives of the study and significance of the study. Chapter two deals with methodology which entails sources of data, sampling population and procedure, tools of data collection, process of data collection and limitations of study. Chapter three entails analysis and interpretation of the data. The data were analyzed on the basis of the variables that

were specified on the objectives, i.e. faculty wise, district wise and gender wise. Chapter four consists of the major findings and recommendations of the study.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>Declaration</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Recommendation for Acceptance</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Recommendation for Evaluation</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Evaluation and Approval</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Dedication</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Acknowledgement</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>Abstract</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>Table of contents</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>List of tables</b>	<b>xii</b>
<b>List of Abbreviations</b>	<b>xiii</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-40</b>
1.1. General Background	1
1.1.1. Language and Dialect	5
1.1.2. Dialect	7
1.1.3. British VS American English	11
1.1.4. Listening skill in General	19
1.1.5. Testing Listening Skill	22
1.1.6. Testing Listening Comprehension	26
1.1.7. Testing Listening Proficiency	28
1.1.8. Testing Listening Proficiency in TOEFL	30
1.1.9. Testing Listening Proficiency in IELTS	32
1.2. Review of Related Literature	37
1.3. Objectives of the study	39
1.4. Significance of the study	40
<b>CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>41-45</b>
2.1. Source of Data	41
2.1.1. Primary source of Data	41

2.1.2. Secondary source of Data	41
2.2. Population of the Study	41
2.3. Sampling Procedure	42
2.4. Tools for Data Collection	44
2.5. Process of Data Collection	44
2.6. Limitations of the study	45
<b>CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS, INTERPRETATIONS OF DATA</b>	<b>46-59</b>
3.1. Listening proficiency of the students as whole	49
3.1.1. Listening proficiency of the Bachelor Second year students on the TOEFL based test as whole	49
3.1.2 Listening proficiency of the Bachelor Second year students on the IELTS based test as whole	49
3.2. Faculty-wise comparison of listening proficiency on the TOEFL and IELTS based-test	50
3.2.1. Faculty-wise comparison of listening proficiency of the students on the TOEFL and IELTS based-test	51
3.3. Sex-wise comparison of listening on TOEFL and IELTS based tests	52
3.3.1. Sex-wise comparison of listening proficiency of the students on the TOEFL and IELTS based tests	54
3.4. District-Wise comparison of listening proficiency of the students on TOEFL and IELTS Based tests as whole	55
3.4.1. District-wise comparison of listening proficiency on the TOEFL and IELTS-based tests	56
3.4.1.1. Surkhet VS Banke	56
3.4.1.2. Banke VS Bardiya	57
3.4.1.3. Bardiya VS Surkhet	57
3.5. Comparison of listening proficiency of the students on the basis of TOEFL and IELTS based- tests as whole	58
3.5.1. Comparison of listening proficiency of the TOEFL and IELTS	

**CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** 60-64

4.1. Findings 60

4.2. Recommendations 63

**REFERENCE**

**APPENDICES**

Appendix –I : TOEFL Listening Script

Appendix –II : IELTS Listening Script

Appendix –III : TOEFL Listening Test (Questionnaire)

Appendix –IV : IELTS Listening Test (Questionnaire)

Appendix –V : TOEFL Model Answer Sheet

Appendix –VI : IELTS Answer Sheet

Appendix –VII : List of the Students with their respective faculties

Appendix –VIII : List of the selected Campuses



## **LIST OF TABLES**

Table No. : 1	Listening proficiency of the Bachelor Second year students on the TOEFL based test as whole	49
Table No. : 2	Listening proficiency of the Bachelor Second year students on the IELTS based test as whole	49
Table No. : 3	Faculty-wise comparison of listening proficiency on the TOEFL and IELTS based-test	50
Table No. : 4	Sex-wise comparison of listening on TOEFL and IELTS based tests	52
Table No. : 5	District-Wise comparison of listening proficiency of the Students on TOEFL and IELTS Based tests as whole	55
Table No. : 6	Comparison of listening proficiency of the students on the basis of TOEFL and IELTS based- tests as whole	58

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AmE	: American English
BBC	: British Broadcasting Corporation
BrE	: British English
CBT	: Computer Based Test
CD	: Compact Disk
CR	: Correct Responses
CS	: Converted Score
CUP	: Cambridge University Press
Ed	: Edition
ETS	: Educational Testing System
EPTB	: English proficiency Test Battery
F	: Female
FCE	: First Certificate in English
FM	: Full Marks
IDP	: International Development Programme
IELTS	: International English Language Testing system
IBT	: Internet Based Test
LP	: Listening proficiency
LTD	: Limited
M	: Male
No	: Number
P	: Page
PBT	: Paper Based Test
PE	: Proficiency Exam
PVT	: Private
RP	: Received Pronunciation
SPEAK	: Speaking Proficiency in English

SN : Serial Number  
TOEFL : Test of English as Foreign Language  
TSE : Test of Spoken English  
TEW : Test of English Writing  
TU : Tribhuvan University  
UN : United Nations  
US : United States  
UCLES : University of Cambridge Local Examinations syndicate  
VS : Versus