LANGUAGE USED IN CONDOLENCES

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English language Education,
University Campus, Kirtipur, in Partial Fulfilment for the
Master's Degree in Education
(Specialization in English Education)

By Laxman Prasad Pandey

Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
2008

T.U. Registration No.:9-1-50-312-96 Date of Approval of the

Campus Roll No.:10 Thesis Proposal: 2064/01/24

2nd Year exam No.: 280275/063 Date of Submission: 2064/11/10

LANGUAGE USED IN CONDOLENCES

A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Language Education,
University Campus, Kirtipur, in Partial Fulfilment for the
Master's Degree in Education
(Specialization in English Education)

By Laxman Prasad Pandey

Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University
Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal
2008

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that Laxman Prasad Pandey has prepared the thesis entitled "Language Used in Condolences" under my guidance and supervision.

I recommend the thesis for acceptance.

Date:	

Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma

Lecturer

Department of English Education
Faculty of 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	
Reader and Head	Chairperson
Department of English Education	
University Campus	
T.U. Kirtipur	
Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma (Guide)	
Lecturer	Member
Department of English Education	
University Campus	
T.U. Kirtipur	
Mrs. Saraswati Dawadi	
Lecturer	Member
Department of English Education	
University Campus	
T.U. Kirtipur	
Date:	

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

This thesis has been evaluated and approved by the following Thesis Evaluation Committee: Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra Reader and Head Chairperson Department of English Education **University Campus** T.U. Kirtipur Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi Professor & Chairperson Member English and Other Foreign Languages **Education Subject Committee** Department of English Education **University Campus** T.U. Kirtipur Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma (Guide) Lecturer Member Department of English Education **University Campus** T.U. Kirtipur

Date:....

DEDICATION

This work is whole heartedly dedicated to my parents without whose encouragement and support, I would never have completed this thesis.

Laxman Prasad Pandey

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my thesis supervisor Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma, Lecturer of the Department of English Education, who provided all kinds of essential ideas and techniques for carrying out this research successfully. His continuous guidance, invaluable suggestions are ever memorable. His vigorous efforts made me present this research work in this form.

I would like to extend my respectful homage to **Dr. Shishir Kumar Sthapit**, the retired Professor of the Department of English Language Education, for his weighty suggestions and ever-lasting inspiration during my study.

My considerable debt goes to **Dr. Shanti Basnyat,** Professor of English Language Education, for her valuable suggestions.

I am extremely grateful to **Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi,** Professor of the Department of English Language Education and Chairperson of English and Other Foreign Languages Subject Committee, for his valuable suggestions and encouragement during my study in the department.

I am indebted to **Prof. Dr. Tirth Raj Khaniya** for his valuable suggestions and encouragement during my study.

I am very much grateful to **Dr. Chandreshwar Mishra**, Head and Reader of the Department, for his valuable suggestions.

I am equally thankful to Mrs. Tapasi Bhattacharya, Dr. Anjana Bhattarai, Dr. Bal Mukunda Bhandari, Mrs. Madhu Neupane, Mrs. Saraswati Dawadi, Mr. Durga Pokhrel, Mr. Prem Bahadur Phyak and other faculty members of the Department for their kind support and guidance throughout my study.

I am thankful to the members of central library, CRC and department library for helping me during my study.

I am grateful to my brother **Jagannath Pandey** for pushing me to complete the work in time.

I love to say thanks a lot to my spouse **Reena** for her encouragement and moral support.

Last, but not the least, I would like to thank **Mr. Gokarna Prasad Aryal** of Oasis Computer Institute for his excellent computer work.

Feb 07, 2008

Laxman Prasad Pandey

ABSTRACT

This research attempts to study linguistic as well as special features of language used in the notices of condolence in the newspapers from Nepal and India. Notices of condolence have been analyzed in terms of linguistic and non-linguistic features in the present study. It aims to analyse the type of language in terms of different criteria such as sentence type, aspect, voice and length; to analyse the non linguistic features; and to analyse special features of language.

Altogether 70 NOCs taken from the newspapers from Nepal and India namely *The Kathmandu Post, The Himalayan Times, The Times of India* and *Hindustan Times* were the major sources of data. Non-random judgmental sampling was used to collect the data. The researcher used only secondary sources of data. Observation was the major tool of data collection.

The researcher found that the use of simple sentences, non past tense, simple aspect and active voice were mostly used. He found 63.8 words as an average number of words and 2.7 sentences as an average number of sentences. Moreover, he found that use of some pictures (hands offering flower, enclosed within flower etc.), various size, variety in the place of date used were common. Furthermore, the researcher also found both direct and indirect ways of addressing, variety in the use of title, both prosaic and poetic form and some collocation (eternal peace, bereaved family etc.) of words in the notice of condolence.

The thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter one is introduction and consists of general background, literature review, objective of the study, significance of the study and definition of the terms used in the thesis.

Chapter two deals with the methodology applied to conduct a research. The chapter consists of sources of data, sampling procedure, tools of data collection and limitations of the study.

Chapter three consists of the analysis and interpretation of the data. The data collected through the observation table (checklist) were analyzed and interpreted in this chapter. This chapter also includes some statistical tools like percent, average, etc.

Chapter four deals with findings and recommendations. References and appendices have been included in the final section of the thesis.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Content	Page no.
Recommendation for Acceptance	i
Recommendation for Evaluation	ii
Evaluation and Approval	iii
Dedication	iv
Acknowledgements	V
Abstract	vii
Contents	ix
List of Tables	XV
List of Abbreviations	XV
CHAPTER-ONE: INTRODUCTION	1-23
1.1 General Background	1
1.1.1 Mass Media	2
1.1.2 Role of mass media	6
1.1.3 Mass Media as a Register	8
1.1.4 History of Mass Media	10
1.1.5 Condolence	14
1.2 Literature Review	18
1.3 Objectives of the Study	20
1.4 Significance of the Study	21
1.5 Definition of Specific Terms	21

CHAPTER- TWO: METHODOLOGY	24-26
2.1 Sources of Data	24
2.2 Population of the Study	24
2.3 Sampling Procedure	25
2.4 Tools for Data Collection	25
2.5 Process of Data Collection	25
2.6 Limitation of the Study	26
CHAPTER-THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	27-76
3.1 Analysis of the Language of Notice of Condolence in Term of	
Different Aspects of Language	27
3.1.1 Sentence Type in the Notice of Condolence	27
3.1.1 1 Sentence Type in NOCs in the Newspapers of Nepal	28
3.1.1 2 Sentence Types in NOCs in the Newspapers from India	32
3.1.2 Tense in NOCs	36
3.1.2 1 Tense in NOCs in the Newspapers of Nepal	37
3.1.2 2 Tense in NOCs in the Newspapers From India	39
3.1.3 Aspect Used in the NOCs	42
3.1.3 1 Aspect in NOC in the Newspapers of Nepal	42
3.1.3 2 Aspect in NOC in the Newspapers From India	45
3.1.4 Voice in the NOCs	48
3.1.4 1 Voice in the NOCs in the Newspapers of Nepal	49
3.1.4 2 Voice in the NOCs in the Newspapers From India	51
3.1.5 Length of the Notice of Condolence	54
3.1.5 1 Length of the NOCs in the Newspapers of Nepal	54
3.1.5 2 Length of NOCs in the Newspapers From India	55
3.1.6 Length of NOCs (in terms of number of sentences)	56

3.1.6 1 Length of NOCs (in terms of number of sentences) in the	
Newspapers of Nepal.	57
3.1.6 2 Length of NOCs (in terms of number of sentences) in the	
Newspapers of India	57
3.2 Non-linguistic Features in the NOCs	58
3.2.1 Use of Picture in the NOCs	58
3.2.2 Place of Date Used in the NOCs	59
3.2.3 Space Occupied by the Notice of Condolence (size of NOCs)	60
3.3 Special Features and Collocation of Language Used in NOCs (style of	
using condolence)	61
3.3.1 Way of Addressing the Departed Soul in NOCs (style)	61
3.3.1 1 Way of Addressing in the Newspapers of Nepal	62
3.3.1 2 Way of Addressing in the Newspapers From India	65
3.3.2 Titles in the Notice of Condolence	68
3.3.3 Genre Used in the Notice of Condolence	69
3.3.3.1 Genre Used in NOCs in the Newspapers of Nepal	70
3.3.3.1 Genre Used in NOCs in the Newspapers from India	72
3.3.4 Collocation of Words in the Notice of Condolence	74
3.3.5 The Rhetorical Sentences Found in the NOCs From India	75
CHAPTER- FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	77-81
4.1 Findings	77
4.2 Recommendations	80
References	82-85

LIST OF TABLES

Content	Page No.
Table No. 1: Sentence types in overall NOC	28
Table No.2: Sentence types in the NOCs in <i>The Kathmandu Post</i>	28
Table No. 3: Sentence types in NOCs in The Himalayan	30
Table No. 4: Comparison of NOCs in term of sentence types between	1
TKP and TH	31
Table No. 5: Sentence types in NOCs in Hindustan Times	32
Table No. 6: Sentence types in NOCs in The Times of India	34
Table No. 7: Comparison of NOCs in term of sentence types between	n TOI
and HT	35
Table No. 8: Comparison of NOCs in term of sentence types between	1 the
newspapers from Nepal and India	36
Table No. 9: Tense in overall NOC	36
Table No. 10: Tense in NOCs in The Kathmandu Post	37
Table No. 11: Tense in NOCs in <i>The Himalayan</i>	38
Table No. 12: Comparison of NOCs in term of tense between TKP at	nd
TH	39
Table No. 13: Tense in NOCs in <i>The Times of India</i>	39
Table No. 14: Tense of NOCs in <i>Hindustan Times</i>	40
Table No. 15: Comparison of NOCs in term of tense between TOI ar	nd HT 41
Table No. 16: Comparison of NOCs in term of tense in the newspape	ers
from Nepal and India	41
Table No. 17: Aspect in overall NOC	42
Table No. 18: Aspect in NOCs in The Kathmandu Post	43

Table No. 19: Aspect in NOCs in <i>The Himalayan</i>	43
Table No. 20: Comparison of NOCs in term of aspect between TKP and	
TH	44
Table No. 21: Aspect in the NOCs of <i>The Times of India</i>	45
Table No. 22: Aspect in the NOCs of Hindustan Times	46
Table No. 23: Comparison of NOCs in term of aspects between TOI and	
HT	47
Table No. 24: Comparison of NOCs in term of aspect in the newspapers	
from Nepal and India.	48
Table No. 25: Voice in overall NOC	48
Table No. 26: Voice in NOCs in The Kathmandu Post	49
Table No. 27: Voice in NOCs in The Himalayan	50
Table No. 28: Comparison of NOCs in term of voice between TKP and	
TH	51
Table No. 29: Voice in NOCs in The Times of India	51
Table No. 30: Voice in NOCs in Hindustan Times	52
Table No. 31: Comparison of NOCs in term of voice between TOI and HT	53
Table No. 32: Comparison of NOCs in term of voice in the newspaper	
from Nepal and India	53
Table No. 33: Overall number of words in NOC	54
Table No.34: Length of NOCs in TKP and TH	55
Table No. 35: Length of NOCc in TOI and HT	55
Table No. 36: Comparison of NOCs in term of number of words between	
newspaper from Nepal and India	56
Table No. 37: Number of sentences in overall NOC	56
Table No. 38: Number of sentences in NOCs in TKP and TH	57
Table No. 39: Number of sentences in the NOCs in TOI and TH	57

Table No. 40: Comparison of NOCs in term of number of sentences	
between newspapers from Nepal and India	58
Table No. 41: Pictures used in overall NOC	58
Table No. 42: Pictures used in the NOCs in the newspaper from Nepa	l and
India	59
Table No. 43: Placed of date used in overall NOC	59
Table No. 44: Placed of date used in the newspapers from Nepal and l	ndia 60
Table No. 45: Size of overall NOC	60
Table No. 46: Size of NOCs in the newspapers from Nepal and India	61
Table No. 47: Way of addressing in overall NOC	62
Table No. 48: Way of addressing in NOCs in <i>The Kathmandu Post</i>	62
Table No. 49: Way of addressing in NOCs in <i>The Himalayan</i>	63
Table No. 50: Comparison of NOCs in term of form of address between	en
TH &TKP	64
Table No. 51: Ways of addressing in NOCs in <i>The Times of India</i>	65
Table No. 52: Way of addressing in NOCs in <i>Hindustan Times</i>	66
Table No. 53: Comparison of NOCs in term of way of addressing	
between TOI and HT	67
Table No. 54: Comparison of NOCs in term of way of addressing in the	ne
newspaper from Nepal and India	67
Table No. 55: Style of using title in overall NOC	68
Table No. 56: Style of using title in NOCs from Nepal and India	68
Table No. 57: Genre used in overall NOC	69
Table No. 58: Genre used in NOCs in The Kathmandu Post	70
Table No. 59: Genre used in NOCs in <i>The Himalayan Times</i>	71
Table No. 60: Comparison of NOCs in term of genre used between Tl	KΡ
and TH	71

Table No. 61: Genre used in NOCs in <i>Times of India</i>	72
Table No. 62: Genre used in NOCs in The Hindustan Times	72
Table No. 63: Comparison of NOCs in term of genre used between HT	
and TOI	
Table No. 64: Comparison of NOCs in the term of genre used in the	
newspapers from Nepal and India	74
Table No. 65: Collocation of words in NOCs in the newspapers from	
Nepal and India	75

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

AD Anno Domini

April April

Avg. Average

B.S. Bikram Sambat

Com+com Complex compound Sentences

e.g. For example

etc. etcetera

F Frequency

Feb February

HT Hindustan times

i.e. That is

Jan January

No. Number

NOC Notice of Condolence

Oct October

per Percent

Sub+pred Subject+ Predicate structure

THT The Himalayan Times

TOI The Times of India

TKP The Kathmandu Post

Viz. Namely

% Percent