LISTENING PROFICIENCY OF GRADE EIGHT STUDENTS

A Thesis submitted to the Department of English Language Education

University Campus, Kirtipur

In partial fulfillment of Master's Degree in Education

(Specialization in English Language Education)

By

Ramesh Shrestha

Faculty of Education

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

Kathmandu, Nepal

2007

LISTENING PROFICIENCY OF GRADE EIGHT STUDENTS

Thesis submitted to the Department of English Language Education

University Campus, Kirtipur

In partial fulfillment of Master's Degree in Education

(Specialization in English Language Education)

By

Ramesh Shrestha

Faculty of Education

Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur

Kathmandu, Nepal

2007

T.U. Reg. No. 9-1-21-0105-96

Date of approval of the thesis

Campus Roll No. 504

Proposal: 2063/12/30

Exam Roll. No. 280254

Date of Submission: 2064/9/9

RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that Mr. Ramesh Shrestha has prepared the thesis entitled		
"Listening Proficiency of Grade Eight Students" under my guidance and supervision.		
It gives me great pleasure to recommend this thesis for acceptance.		

Date.....

Mrs. Tapasi Bhattacharya (Guide)

(Reader)

Department of English Language Education

Faculty of Education

T.U. Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal

RECOMMENDATION FOR EVALUATION

This thesis has been recommended for evaluation by the following Research Guidance Committee.

	Dr.Chandreshwar Mishra		Signature	
	Reader and Head			
	Department of English language Educa	tion	Chairperson	
	University Campus, Kirtipur			
	Kathmandu			
	Mrs. Tapasi Bhattacharya (Guide)			
of En	Reader glish Language Education Men	mber		Department
	University Campus, Kirtipur			
	Kathmandu			
	Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma			
	Lecturer			
	Department of English Language Educ	ation	Member	
	University Campus, Kirtipur			
	Kathmandu			
	Date			

EVALUATION AND APPROVAL

The thesis has been evaluated and approved by the following Thesis Evaluation Committee.

Dr.Chandreshwar Mishra	Signature
Reader and Head	
Department of English language Education	Chairperson
University Campus, Kirtipur	
Kathmandu	
Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi	
Prof., Department of English Language Education	
Chairman, English and Other Foreign	
Languages Education Subject Committee	
University Campus, Kirtipur	Member
Kathmandu	
Mrs. Tapasi Bhattacharya (Guide)	
Reader	
Department of English Language Education	Member
University Campus, Kirtipur	
Kathmandu	
Date	

Dedication

This thesis is dedicated to my beloved parents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my thesis supervisor Mrs. Tapasi Bhattacharya who in spite of being very busy, provided me with valuable guidance, suggestions and all kinds of help needed during the preparation of this thesis.

Similarly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Chandreshwor Mishra, Head department of English Language Education, for his regular inspiration and valuable suggestions during my study.

I am very much grateful to Prof. Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi, Chairman of English and Other Foreign Languages Education Subject Committee for his constructive suggestions and encouragement for carrying out this study successfully.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Prof. Dr. Shishir Kumar Stapit the retired professor of the Department of English Education and also Prof. Dr. Shanti Basnyat for their invaluable suggestions and enlightening lectures during my academic years.

I am equally grateful to Prof. Dr. Govinda Raj Bhattarai, Dr.Anjana Bhattarai and Mr. Bal Krishna Sharma for their academic suggestions.

My thanks are also to all the respected teachers of the Department of English Language Education for guiding me formally and informally through out the research work. My thanks also go to the headmasters, subject teachers and students of concerned schools for their active participation in the administration of the test and providing the important information which I obtained during my field study.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr. Shankar Shrestha for his technical support and Mr. Bikesh Shrestha for his help in Mathematical calculations.

Ramesh Shrestha

ABSTRACTS

This research study has been prepared to find out the listening proficiency and problems of eight graders studying in different schools of Thimi.

80 students of grade eight studying in different schools were the sample population for the study. The listening tests were administered to the students on various dates, to find out their proficiency and problems. In order to find out the problems two types of questionnaire for the teachers and students were used.

It has been found that due to lack of physical facilities, teaching materials, students' poor English background and not asking listening test in the terminal as well as in the final examination were the obstacles in obtaining the higher proficiency.

This thesis comprises four chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction of the topic in which general background of the study, review of the related literature, objectives of the study and significance of the study.

The second chapter includes the research methodology, dealing with source of data and population of the study, sampling procedure, research tools, the process of data collection, the limitation of the study and the definition of the specific terms.

The third chapter covers the analysis and interpretation of the collected data with different tables and figures.

Similarly the last chapter aims at presenting the findings and implications of the study and also some recommendation for the purpose of improving in the concerned field. Some suggestions made on the basis of the findings of the study have also been included in this chapter.

References and appendices are presented in the final part of this study.

CONTENTS	page no.
Recommendation of Acceptance	I
Recommendation for Evaluation	II
Evaluation and Approval	III
Dedication	IV
Acknowledgement	V
Abstract	VII
Abbreviations	IX
Contents	X -XII
List of Tables	XIII
List of Figures	XIV
CHAPTER I	1 - 21
1. INTRODUICTION	1
1.1 General Background	1
1.1.1 What is Listening?	3
1.1.2 Place of Listening in Present Curriculum	4
1.1.3 Use of taped material in the school curriculum	5
1.2 Specific Objectives of the Teaching Listening	5
1.2.1 Testing Listening skill	6
1.2.2 Techniques for Testing Listening Skill	6
1.2.3 Stages of Teaching Listening	8
1.2.4 Different Materials for Listening	11
1.2.4. a. Live Vs Recorded Materials	11
1.2.4. b. Authentic Vs Non-authentic Materials	13
1.2.5 Listening Perception and Listening Comprehension	15

1	.2.6 Extensive and Intensive Listening	16
	1.2.6. a Extensive Listening	16
	1.2.6. b Intensive Listening	16
1	.2.7 What Makes Listening Difficult?	17
1	.3 Literature Review	18
1	.4 Objectives of the Study	21
1	.5 Significance of the Study	21
СНА	PTER II	22 -26
2.	METHODOLOGY	22
2.1	Sources of Data	22
2	2.1.1 Primary Sources of Data	22
2	2.1.2 Secondary Sources of Data	22
2.2	Sampling Procedure	22
2.3	Tools for Data Collection	23
2.4	Process of Data Collection	24
2.5	Limitations of the Study	25
2.6	Definition of Specific Terms	26
СНА	PTER III	27 -39
3.	ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA	27
3.1	Holistic Comparison of Listening Proficiency between Private	
	And Public Schools' Students	28
3.2	Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students of all	
	the Four Schools	29

3.3 Multiple Bar Diagram of the Proficiency in Listening Con of the Students of Private and Public Schools	nprehension 30
3.4 Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students	of
Private and Public School Students	31
3.4.1 Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students of	of
Private Schools	31
3.4.2 Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students of	of
Public Schools	32
3.5 Bar Diagram of the Total Proficiency in Listening Compre	hension
of Private and Public School Students	33
3.6 Analysis and Interpretation of Difficulty Level of Four Set Questions	s of 34
 3.7 Analysis and Explanation of the Identified Problem from the Questionnaires 3.7.1 Analysis and Explanation of the Identified Problem from the Identif	35 the
Questionnaires of the Teachers' Response Summary	35
3.7.2 Analysis and Explanation of the Identified Problem from the Questionnaires of the Students' Response Summary	38
CHAPTER 1V	40 -43
4 FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	40
4.1 Findings	40
4.2 Recommendations	42
REFERENCES	44 - 45
APPENDICES	46 -62

Table no. 1	o. 1 Holistic Comparison of Listening Proficiency between the	
	Students of Private and Public Schools	28
Table no. 2	Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students of	
	Private Schools	31
Table no. 3	Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students of	
	Public Schools	32
Table no.4	Analysis and Interpretation of Difficulty Level of Four Sets of	
	Questions.	34

Figure no. 1 Proficiency in Listening Comprehension of the Students of All the Four	
Schools	29
Figure no. 2 Multiple Bar Diagram of the Profi	ciency in Listening Comprehension
of Private and Public Schools' Stu	idents 30
Figure no. 3 Bar Diagram of the Total Proficiency in Listening Comprehension	
of Private and Public School Stude	ents 33

ABBREVIATIONS

 \overline{X} = Mean

% = Percentage

 Σ = Sum of (sigma)

S LC = School Leaving Certificate

Eg = Example

CDC = Curriculum Development Centre

BS = Bikram Sambat

TL = Target language

HS1 = Higher Secondary level

PC1 = proficiency Certificate Level

F = Frequency of Occurrence

N = Number of Scorer

S.D. = Standard Deviation

VS = Versus