# EXPRESSIONS FOR SEEKING INFORMATION AND CONFIRMATION IN ENGLISH AND NEPALI

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education,**

**in Partial Fulfilment of the Master's Degree in English Education**

**By**

**Kamal Prasad Adhikari**

**Faculty of Education**

**Tribhuvan University**

**Kirtipur, Kathmandu, Nepal**

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This is to certify that Mr. **Kamal Prasad Adhikari** has prepared this thesis entitled **Expressions for Seeking Information and Confirmation in English and Nepali,** under my guidance and supervision.

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**Dedicated to**
**my parents**

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January, 2009 Kamal Adhikari

# ABSTRACT

This study is to identify and compare the exponents of seeking information and confirmation used by the native English and Nepali speakers. The researcher, for the study, took the data from the sample population. There were altogether 80 informants in the sample population out of which 40 were Nepali and other 40 were English native speakers. The study was entirely based on the responses from the sample population (i.e. primary data) with the help of the questionnaire distributed to them. Then the exponents given by them were listed for the analysis and interpretation on the basis of which the researcher came up with the conclusion that while seeking information and confirmation. Nepali speakers used more honorific forms than English speakers in general. To be specific, Nepali speakers used more non-honorific forms than English speakers for seeking information from their friends and policemen (by their officers). Similarly, Nepali speakers used non-honorific forms more than English speakers for seeking confirmation from their office clerks, friends and sons. With other relationship, English speakers were found to be using more non-honorific forms than Nepali speakers.

The study is divided into four chapters. **Chapter one**, the introductory chapter, includes general background, review of the related literature objective of the study, and significance of the study. **Chapter two** deals with the methodology applied to carry out the research under which sources of data, sampling procedure, tools for data collection, process of data collection and limitations of the study were presented. **Chapter three** presents analysis and interpretation of the data. In this section both statistical as well as descriptive approach were used. **Chapter four** incorporates findings and recommendations of the research. The concluding part of the thesis is occupied by the references and appendices.

# CONTENTS


**Page No.**

**Declaration** **i**

**Recommendation for Acceptance** **ii**

**Recommendation for Evaluation** **iii**

**Evaluation and Approval** **iv**

**Dedication** **v**

**Acknowledgements** **vi**

**Abstract** **vii**

**Contents** **viii**

**List of Tables** **xi**

**List of Figures** **xiii**

**List of Abbreviations and Symbols** **xiv**

**CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION** **1-18**

1.1 General Background 1

1.1.1 Linguistic Situation of Nepal 2

1.1.2 English and Nepali Languages: A Brief Introduction 4

1.1.3 Language Functions 8

1.1.4 Introduction to Seeking Information and Confirmation 12

1.1.5 Seeking Information and Confirmation in Nepali 14

1.2 Review of Related Literature 16

1.3 Objectives 17

1.4 Significance of the Study 18

**CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY** **19-21**

2.1 Source of Data 19

2.1.1 Primary Source 19

2.1.2 Secondary Source 19

2.2 Sampling Procedure 20

2.3 Tools for Data Collection 20
2.4 Process of Data Collection 20
2.5 Limitations of the Study 21

**CHAPTER THREE: ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION 22-60**

3.1 Holistic Comparison 22
3.1.1 Forms of Seeking Information Found Between Father and Son 25
3.1.2 Forms of Seeking Information Found between Husband and Wife 27
3.1.3 Forms of Seeking Information Found Between Teacher and Student 30
3.1.4 Forms of Seeking Information Found Between Boss and Clerk 32
3.1.5 Forms of Seeking Information Found Between friends 35
3.1.6 Forms of Seeking Information Found Between Daughter and Parent 36
3.1.7 Forms of Seeking Information Found Between Policeman and Police Officer 38
3.2 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Native English and Nepali Speakers 41
3.2.1 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Father and Son 43
3.2.2 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Husband and Wife 46
3.2.3 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Boss and Clerk 48
3.2.4 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Teacher and Student 51
3.2.5 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Friends 54

3.2.6 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Parent and Child 55
3.2.7 Forms of Seeking Confirmation Found Between Policeman and Police officer 57

**CHAPTER FOUR: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 60-66**

4.1 Findings 60
4.1.1 Findings of Seeking Information 60
4.1.2 Findings of Seeking Confirmation 62
4.2 Recommendations 64

**References 67**

**Appendices 69**

# LIST OF TABLES


Table No. 1: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Father's to Their Sons

Table No. 2: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Sons to Their Fathers

Table No. 3: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Husbands to Their Wives

Table No.4: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Wives to Their Husbands

Table No. 5: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Teachers to Their Students

Table No. 6: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Students to Their Teachers

Table No. 7: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Clerks to Their Boss

Table No. 8: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Boss to Their Clerks

Table No. 9: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Friends

Table No. 10: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Parents to Their Daughters

Table No. 11: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Daughters to Their Mothers

Table No. 12: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Police Officers to the Policemen

Table No. 13: Forms of Seeking Information Used by Policemen to Their Officers

Table No. 14: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Fathers to Their Sons

Table No. 15: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Sons to Their Fathers

Table No. 16: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Husbands to Their Wives
Table No. 17: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Wives to Their Husbands
Table No. 18: Forms of seeking Confirmation Used by Boss to Their Clerks
Table No. 19: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Clerks to Their Boss
Table No. 20: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Teacher to Their Students
Table No. 21: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Students to Their Teachers
Table No. 22: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Friends to Their Friends
Table No. 23: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Parents to Their Sons
Table No. 24: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Children to Their Mothers
Table no. 25: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Policemen to Their Police Officers
Table No. 26: Forms of Seeking Confirmation Used by Police Officers to Their Juniors

# LIST OF FIGURES

Chart No. 1:  Exponents Used by English Speakers
Chart No. 2: Exponents Used by Nepali Speakers
Chart No. 3: Exponents Used by English Speakers
Chart No. 4: Exponents Used by Nepali Speakers

# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| % | - | Percentage |
| e.g. | - | For example (Latin-exempli gratia) |
| etc. | - | Etcetera (and other similar things) |
| F. | - | Frequency |
| HFSC | - | Honorific Forms of Seeking Confirmation |
| HFSI | - | Honorific Forms of Seeking Information |
| i.e. | - | That is (Latin:id est.) |
| NFSC | - | Non-honorific Forms of Seeking Confirmation |
| NFSI | - | Non-honorific Forms of Seeking Information |
| NLSs | - | Native Language Speakers |
| No. | - | Number |
| S.No. | - | Situation Number |
| TFSC | - | Temperate Forms of Seeking Confirmation |
| TFSI | - | Temperate Forms of Seeking Information |
| TU | - | Tribhuvan University |