PREFACE:

Today English occupies an important position in the world of language and literature. English teaching practices are experimented world-over and different methods and approaches of teaching English are modified and transformed to suit the demands of the changing global scenario of recent times. More importantly, in the age of globalization and modernization English teaching perspectives have also changed. Today, more importance is given on the functional aspect of the language, especially, on the communicative competence. So, in this rapidly changing environment, language teaching, especially, English language teaching becomes more and more challenging, demanding and experimental. The researcher in this study felt an urgent need to look into the effectiveness of the current method of teaching English in Secondary schools at this crucial juncture of shifting environment.

The first part of the thesis mainly concentrated on the teaching perspectives, its classroom practices- use of different methods and approaches, their relevancies in modern-day context and the second part deals with the effectiveness of the current method, namely, the Functional Communicative approach in comparison with two previous methods that were used in the Secondary schools in this state.

In framing the thesis, the researcher frequently consulted the valuable works of the eminent authors on the subject. She is deeply indebted to all of them, especially those whose names have been included in the Bibliography section and whose ideas she has incorporated to enrich her work.

It is almost impossible to mention here the names of all those who helped in this project through their encouragement and support. Special
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