Acknowledgement

Lawrence E. Hafner says, "Ink flows ... type writers click, computers whirt. Presses roll and roll and roll on and on. Homes, schools, libraries and shops are flooded with reading matter. People read these materials for different purposes and to satisfy different drives. On one hand, we see a Thomas Wolfe, who voraciously consumes book after book in the library stacks to satisfy an insatiable desire for knowledge. On the other hand, we see an "uncle Charlie". Who would not be seen in a library under any circumstances". This reflects the modern trend of the different sections of the society. Many curious readers quench their ever increasing thirst by conversing with the mighty minds of old, and yet pine for what is in the eternity. Reading lays bare immense opportunities of mastering immeasurable treasures of hidden knowledge. Those who are awakened and enlightened, those who form the intelligentsia of the nations, have realized the swelling and soaring importance of Reading. A great awakening has dawned. The Orange of multifarious knowledge has shed light and illuminated the darkened, gloomy lives of the multitudes. Every wake of life witnesses radical changes.

Reading has pre-occupied a unique, privileged place in the national development. When the frontiers of knowledge
are expanding their horizons, Reading Comprehension is not quiet on its front. No educated person can wink his eyes at the new era ushering in. Every individual keeps his eyes open, penetrates the ideas hidden in the reading matter and enjoys the summum Bonum of the matter. There is another sad spectacle visible in the society. People become more and more utilitarian. They never drink deep at the stream of knowledge. This apathy towards linguistic material deviates the man from his path of self-realization. If this atmosphere of dismay and despair is to be converted into optimistic picture, more agile, enthusiastic and resourceful teachers will have to make the headway. English is the language in which new knowledge is cropping up every day, but the phobia of the non-familiarity has stemmed into bitter feeling for this language. People have developed prejudice against English. If the teachers will inculcate and instil the right attitude the budding generation will reap the fruits thereof. Reading Comprehension is the area where researchers can contribute, up-date and enrich the pupils' power of Reading Comprehension.

If the teachers make their pupils read with a fair degree of comprehension, it will adore his crown with a feather. There are so many issues interwoven with the Reading Comprehension skills. Much work has been done at
Sardar Patel University in this area. Most of the areas of Reading have been encompassed in the research works, and yet much awaits to be done.

The investigator, having a keen desire to improve the level of comprehension of the material read, has endeavoured to carry on a research which would be a sort of experiment. It is an humble attempt to bolster up the achievement level through various strategies. In this endeavour, the investigator conveys his deep, thoughtful sense of gratitude towards his respectable guide Dr. J.M. Bhatt. His unstinted love, sympathetic treatment and transparent sincerity are worthy of appreciation. His fatherly affection has often bedewed the cheeks. Without his inspiration this work would not have been materialized. From the innermost recesses of his heart, the investigator thanks Dr. J.M. Bhatt. His deep sense of devotion and dedication. His never failing guidance has laid the corner stones of this edifice.

The investigator is pleased to extend his heart-felt thanks to Dr. K.S. Suthar, who has always guided him ungrudgingly in the research problem. Dr. K.S. Suthar has lent his helping hand in statistical analysis. This cooperation is unforgettable. The investigator has to thank Dr. G.V. Mahant, the Principal of Smt. B.C.J. College of
Education, Khambhat, who kindly gave a consent to pursue this research. All the facilities were furnished by him. The principal as well as the members of the staff of M.B. Patel College of Education, Vallabh Vidyanagar have contributed to the pursuit and they must be thanked. The investigator has to thank Shri Mahendrabhai J. Amin; his friend for help rendered in analysis. The head masters as well as the teachers of the Secondary Schools of Khambhat have never refused to co-operate. They are to be thanked.

Last but not the least, the investigator thanks his sons and his wife Smt. Divyaben Dholakia, who have toiled and moiled for the perfection. The investigator thanks all who have directly or indirectly helped him.

Khambhat B.J. Dholakia