I express my deep sense of gratitude to my Guide, Dr (Mrs) B.K. Saini, Reader, Department of Education, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for her able and distinguished guidance in supervising my thesis. She did her part of the work with great care and affection. Her valuable suggestions saved me from many a pitfall.

Dr J.N. Joshi, Professor and Head of the Department of Education, Panjab University, encouraged and provided me all research facilities. I am grateful to him.

To Assistant Professor Paisal Wangphanich and Assistant Professor Cherdsak Kowasin, both of Srinakharinwirot University, Bangkok; to Dr Siddhi Butara-Indra, Assistant Professor, Department of Humanities, Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai; and to Mr and Mrs Udom Sritipaya, I am to say Thank You. They helped me in numerous ways.

I am also thankful to my wife, Somon Bunturngsook, who permitted me to absent myself from the felicity of her company.

Sawasdi Bunturngsook