ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am deeply grateful to my thesis supervisor, Professor Ranu Vanikar, for her expert guidance, for stimulating my thinking, and for exploring, clarifying and shaping my ideas. I would like to express my sincere appreciation of her sustained interest, support and involvement at all levels, during the course of this research study.

I would like to thank Dr. A. Rana, former Reader, Department of Education Extension, Dr. T. Saraswathi, Head, Department of Child Development and Dr. A. Parikh, Reader, Department of Statistics, for their interest and guidance.

I am particularly indebted to Ms. B. Desai, Lecturer, Department of English for her assistance in collection of data; her detailed, systematic and sensitive observation of learner interaction provided invaluable research insights.

Assistance in carrying out this study was provided by a research fellowship from the University Grants Commission, and a grant-in-aid from the British Council Division of the British High Commission; I wish to express my gratitude for this support.
I would like to thank the librarians and staff of the Hansa Mehta Library, the M.S. University of Baroda, and the library of the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages (CIEFL), Hyderabad, for assistance in obtaining resource and reference materials for the study. I would also like to thank the teaching and administrative staff of the Faculty of Home Science for providing the necessary administrative support.

Special thanks are due to Mr. N. Mistry and Mr. T. Sankaran Nair for their co-operation and care in typing the manuscript.

I would like to express a very personal sense of gratitude to my entire family, for their constant encouragement and support throughout the duration of this study.

Finally, this thesis is dedicated to my students, from whom I have learnt as much as I have taught.