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1.1 Brief Introduction

English, being the major subject in the secondary school, it requires special techniques of teaching and the teacher, teaching English automatically, is confronted with various problems in teaching. The result of English at S.S.C. exam is the topic of everyday discussions in the school and among the parents. All are worried about English. Teacher of English is also compelled to think of his teaching process and eager to know what are the reasons of drawback. Slowly it hankers after him and becomes his heart felt-need to examine, review and renew his teaching process.

Grammar is the anatomy of language. It provides a frame to the language in which it is to be fitted. A language does not exist without grammar. Grammar shapes the language. A teacher of English, therefore, has to do with grammar. Grammar is the unavoidable teaching part of his job and he intensely feels the problem in his teaching.

Transformation, narration, compositions, translation are the various aspects of grammar at S.S.C. level. Each passage of the question paper is followed by grammar items of four marks. Therefore, grammar at S.S.C. level is inevitable part of teaching.

Being the first public examination out side the school premises, the turning point and the end of the secondary school learning, S.S.C. exam needs to be taken into account by every teacher. Section ‘C’ in the paper of English is
solely devoted to grammar. It is a pure grammar items section, so grammar of X class is relatively of much importance.

The schools are supposed to be renowned or retarded on the basis of results of S.S.C. exams. So the teacher, teaching English subject is assigned great responsibility and his is the lion's share in the result. Mathematics and English are the two giants in the way of progress for the S.S.C. students. They have to face them as both are compulsory. Willingly or unwillingly, they have to face them. And here lies the origin of the problem because they have to study English as a compulsory third language.

To teach such difficult subject to unwilling students is just like giving a bitter medicine to a patient. They somehow try to glut it, though slight quantity is there.

Here urge of research is created and one tends to probe into it by undertaking research to find out where the shoe pinches exactly.
1.2 Importance of Study

English language has become part and parcel of our everyday life. We haven’t got rid of this language even after the British have left India. Their language still lingers here and dominates our life in every sphere. One feels prestigious in society who knows English.

Reasons as to why students commit such grammatical mistakes are unknown. Lowering percentage of passing students at the Maharashtra State Board of secondary and Higher Secondary Education is only due to English is an established fact. If a sound foundation of linguistic skill in English is laid in secondary school, it would definitely enable the pupils to develop additional and advanced linguistic skills so that they may be able to cope up with socio-economic and cultural life of nation. It is a great asset in the learner’s life to be educational and meaningful. For this the research is undertaken for future plan of action to conduct scientific investigations so that the mistakes in English language (L.L.) are removed and sound foundation is laid for further development. In spite of English being their compulsory language from V class, they lag behind in X class. The process of lagging behind shuts all the doors of higher education for them. Grammar is ‘Mathematics of language’. It is heart of the language. The heart throbs of English are only because of its grammar. The students don’t feel its palpitations properly and can not undertake any remedial measures for it. Grammar is inseparable in case of any language. Moreover, the paper of English at the S.S.C. level includes various types of grammar items. Grammatical mistakes being most important are given stress in the research for the same cause. Scientific research in this matter will definitely reveal their major mistakes, causes of them and correct remedial measures to remove them.
Standard X is a career making stage in the educational development of the learner who also has acquired by now a natural grasp of the linguistic dexterity. The S.S.C. exam is a decision making examination, the turning point in the learner’s career that leads him to the path of higher education. The syllabus itself says that English plays an important role in scientific and technological studies in the country. Moreover, it means the functional (communicative), literary (aesthetic) and cultural (integrative) requisites of the learner. English also primarily serves as a ‘library language’. It opens the vast field of knowledge of technology and science for the students to go for higher studies. It is also more or less an ‘Associate Official Language’ of the country. It is also an ‘International Link Language’ which enables us to be in constant touch with the wider world. It is as Pandit Nehru said “window to the foreign world!” At every stage in the process of learning, a learner has to study it either as a compulsory language or as a medium of learning. Being unable to avoid grammatical mistakes, the learner can not cope up with the subject as grammar is the backbone of the language and the result is high percentage of failures. Research undertaken will help students develop natural interest in the language and that will be beneficial for them while taking up higher education as their mistakes will be corrected bestowing confidence in them. It will develop their practical command over the language. It is ‘skill subject’ rather than ‘content subject’. The goal is to use the language in real situations and it will be attained if the students learn English without making grammatical mistakes. The education Comm. (64-66) coined the phrase ‘Library Language’ in the context of discussion pertaining to the teaching of English in India. This term implies that Indian student has to use English mainly for reading purpose.
1.3 Usefulness

'Main characteristic of good research is its usefulness which makes the research work valuable and reliable for further advancement on the same line in the research study.'* During the long span of thirty two years of service as 'a secondary school teacher teaching English (third language) to X class' the researcher always came across the various types of grammatical mistakes of the students. Lowering percentage of students passing at S.S.C. exam and H.S.C. exam in only due to English is the often occurring phenomenon experienced by the researcher. English being the prime foreign language learnt, sound foundation of linguistic skills in English is to be laid in secondary school to enable the pupils to develop additional an advanced linguistic skills so that they can cope up with socio-economic and cultural life of nation. The concerning research is empirical in nature as it has dealt with day to day real life situations.

It is a great asset in the learner's life to be educational and meaningful. Future generation of students, going to be responsible citizens of the country must be well educated and peep through this window i.e. English to the world outside to broaden their intellectual limits. For this, the research concerning English is undertaken to conduct scientific investigation in

Teaching English at S.S.C. level, the first step to enter into the great world of higher education, is to point out the mistakes in English language. This research is useful to innumerable English teachers to eliminate the grammatical mistakes committed by their students. Knowledge, being the prominent feature of developed personality the research is useful for the teachers to help the students gain knowledge of unique quality published in English only. In spite of English being their compulsory language from V class, they lag behind in X class. Lenient rules of promotion somehow make them touch the boundaries of X class but they can not cross it. The process of lagging behind counts much for all the parents, teachers, students, school authorities and the Government also as it shuts all the doors of higher education for them. Grammar is Mathematics of language. Grammar goes unconsciously with the language when it is uttered scientifically. Unscientific and incorrect form of language only creates urgency of grammar teaching and knowing about grammatical mistakes. The students themselves don’t feel its severity properly and can not undertake any remedial measures for it. They become only passive observer of their mistakes and get utterly perplexed & stunned feeling a sense of inferiority.

Grammatical mistakes being most important are given stress in the research for the same cause. Scientific research in this matter will definitely reveal
their major mistakes and causes of them so that correct remedial measures can be taken up.

It is X standard only when a learner becomes more conscious and responsible about studies as he / she has to appear for the important public examination outside school premises conducted by the Maharashtra State board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education. It is the decision making examination, the turning point in the learner's career that leads him/her on to the path of higher education. Moreover, English fulfils the functional (communicative), literary (aesthetic) and cultural (integrative) requisites of the learner.

The objectives are attained to large extent by this research work. They are-

- To point out various types of grammatical mistakes of English committed by S.S.C. students.
- To identify grammatical mistakes committed by students in Diagnostic tests and routine tests etc.
- To classify the grammatical mistakes of the students.
- To find out the linguistic reasons for various grammatical mistakes.
- To plan the remedial measures for removing the mistakes.

The researcher has sincerely worked to fulfil the objectives to make the work useful for the English teachers teaching English in X class.
1.4 Need of Research

It is an established fact that 'need' has always led man to do some activity, some concrete work to find the solution or satisfy the present need. Educational research is relatively a new field of research. It is only the period of last fifty years that has awakened the researchers to apply research methods in the field of education. Great Britain and the United States of America can very safely be termed as pioneer counties in educational research. Now almost all the countries of the world are engaged in some sort of educational research.

An individual or a group of persons or institutions can be said to have a problem which can be technically described as a research problem. Let us illustrate the sentence in connection with the present research. An individual can be a student, a teacher an educationist who can have a problem. A group of persons means 'Teachers teaching English to X class are having problem now to eliminate grammatical mistakes of the students in X class. Institutions must be 'various secondary schools' where students having Marathi as their first language and English is tertiary. Institutions are called to be 'good' or 'bad', 'flourishing' or 'retarding' as per their results of S.S.C. exam. So institutions are also involved in the problem.

'The unsolved problems of education are so numerous and so varied that it is necessary to simplify a survey of them by using some rather arbitrary classification.' F.L. Whitney. They can be classified as per the level like 'problems of primary education', Problems of secondary education' another
way is to study them as per their nature i.e. very crucial, urgent, desirable, unavoidable, optional etc.

Research has proved to be an essential and powerful tool in leading man towards progress.

Every other day new ways of doing things enter into our lives. They are fruits of our research efforts. Research shows us the way in our difficulties as the present research has shown the way to the English teachers how to eliminate grammatical mistakes of students of X class and adopt teaching method accordingly. Research thus opens new avenues and provides better alternatives.

'The gifts of research are exceeding evident in the form of cures for diseases considered earlier as incurable.' *

In the present researcher, the researcher has tried to solve the ever hankering problem of English teachers i.e. grammatical mistakes committed by students in English. Students have ever been suffering of the disease of committing grammatical mistakes and English teacher have also been suffering of disease of not finding proper medicine to this disease of their student. In this way, both students and teachers are the main victims while administrations and parents are not those much keen sufferers of the disease.

* Sidhu Kulbir Singh 'Methodology of Research Education, Sterling Publishers private limited P.Z.
Unless and until the need to find proper care to the disease of committing grammatical mistakes is found, the disease will be spreading like epidemic and will become chronic i.e. incurable. All the educationists, teachers, parents have therefore utterly felt the need of research in this field. English being international language has provided vast scope for research automatically.

Research is therefore reliable and valid process to find out in the scientific manner the exact nature of problem, to search out the causes of the problem to search out the causes of the problem and to put forth ways and means to rectify the weak areas so that effective learning can take place. In the present investigation the learner is facing foreign language and the dry and arid part of grammar of the language and the need for scientific research so that remedial programme is planned for linguistic achievement the research is the correct way to know the weaker areas by diagnostic testing and this scientific and time tested reliable method of research is sine quo non for rectifying the dread area of grammar of a foreign language. The class room adjustment by English teacher for correcting these mistakes is only a time passing unreliable, unscientific method which can't bear good fruit hence the need of standardised research design and methodology.
1.5 Area

Specific ‘area’ is necessarily to be chosen as to carry the research on proper lines, not to let it go astray, to collect the facts to draw conclusions and make the research fruitful. Undecided research area is bound to make all the efforts of the researcher fruitless and vain. Area provides proper limitations to the work of the researcher to work in. So research becomes scientific and proper in nature and form.

The concerning research is undertaken regarding only in the students of X class offering English as third language at S.S.C. examination. All the students of other standards are excluded. The research is related to only English subject and all its implications, necessary skills expected from a student of X class offering it as a third language. The grammatical mistakes are also within the limits of the syllabus for Eng. (Third Lang) as prescribed by the S.S.C. Board prescribed in their syllabi.

For it the various schools in Akola as well as from surrounding areas like Akot & Gaigaon were chosen they were chosen as sample representing.

- A school from rural area (private)
- A school at Taluka Place (Akot)
- Schools in Akola
  - Private for only girls
  - Private for only boys
  - Govt. Boys schools.
1.6 Selection of Research Problem

The term ‘problem’ is derived from the Greek work ‘proballein’ which means anything thrown forward, a question proposed for solution. A situation for which we have no ready and successful response by instinct or by previously acquired habit’ is how R. C. Woodworth has defined research problem. Necessity is the mother of any research problem.

X class students offering English as third language commit innumerable grammatical mistake is the burning problem for the researcher as it is daily experienced and felt by the other fellow English teachers. With a view to solve it to some extent the researcher has selected it for research. Doing some service to society and desire to get some intellectual joys by doing some creative work are the two motives there behind the selection of the problem. Moreover personal values of the researcher have also played important role in selection of the topic. Selection of the problem defines the goal of the researcher while formulating the problem gives shape to it.

There are various variables in the field of education like pupils, teachers, parents, communities, curricula, text book etc. The researcher can select the problem related to any of these variables and the strong live variable is student. The surroundings of the teacher like classroom, school, laboratory computer room etc. always inspire him/her to select the problem related to them. Record of previous research also helps the teacher to select the
problem. Discussion with the fellow teachers, researcher’s questioning attitude, researcher’s consultation, all are the sources for the researcher to select the problem.

The research problem has to be novel, interesting and important, amenable and there should be sufficient scope for the researcher to collect data, seek co-operation of others, and seek guidance of experts, proper finance and time as well as capacity. The capacity of the researcher should match with level of research, experience, creativity, courage and confidence of the research.

The concerning research problem has been selected as it is very familiar; its theoretical, empirical and practical aspects are desired from the researcher’s personal experience and from a thorough review of the literature. It is applicable means the solutions of the problem are not only facts but if applied they will bring the necessary improvement in the students. While selecting the problem through familiarizing with a given field, is conductive to original thinking that inculcates confidence and courage in the researcher to pursue the study inspite of the difficulties and social hazards.

‘Research is a mere systematic acting directed towards discovery and the development of an organized body of knowledge.’ *

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* John W. Best Research in Education prentice Hall, New Delhi 77-78
Scientific thinking on the part of a researcher is called undertaking research and the ultimate gain is knowledge.

In short selection of research problem means judging its merits. A researcher must ask oneself if the problem is really important, if it is investing for the researcher and the other concerning to that field in which the problem has arisen. If it is original and creative, it requires extension of inquiry beyond the present limits of verified knowledge.

While selecting the problem, the researcher should expect something new to be learnt and results are practical. In short, the problem selected must be feasible with respect to financial and administrative backing, time and data required in these solutions.

What is something new learnt is stated by the researcher in the chapter findings and conclusions of the research.

The selection of research problem concerning learning a foreign language which has international reputation and that too the arid aspect of grammar is a matter of great importance. The real necessity of the problem paving way for educational progress of important S.S.C. students. The decreasing results of S.S.C. students, the len prospects in national assignments, no potentially in world affairs, share in the modern science and technology like I.T., Computer etc. Therefore the researcher is proud to select a problem of real necessity and to serve the students community in their much needed difficulty. Every precaution is taken to select, to frame and to plan the problem accurately.
1.7 Objectives of research

The present research is having the following objectives.

- To study various types of mistakes committed by S.S.C. students.

- To identify grammatical mistakes committed by the students in tests and routine tests etc.

- To classify the grammatical mistakes committed by the students.

- To find out the linguistic reasons for various grammatical mistakes.

- To plan the remedial measures for removing the mistakes.

The research is undertaken to discover answer to questions through the application of scientific procedure. In the concerning research the scientific procedure is adopted is surveying. The research has formulated, defined the problem, sought some tentative solution (hypotheses) to the problem, to verify them the researcher collected relevant data through questionnaire, opinionnaire, interview schedule and diagnostic test for the students. For difing the problem the researcher took help of the well furnished libraries, formulated the problem, and had some tentative solutions to fulfil the above objective. To come to conclusions, to draw some facts. Those are proved ones.
The main objective of research is to find out the truth which is hidden and not yet discovered. There are following objectives behind any research.

- To gain familiarity with a phenomenon or to achieve new insights into it. (Exploratory)

- To portray accurately the characteristics of a particular individual, situation or a group. (descriptive)

- To determine the frequency with which something occurs or with which it is associated with something else. (Diagnostic)

- To test a hypothesis of a causal relationship between variables (hypothesis testing)

The present research has the fourth objective from the above mainly. It has investigated the problem of students committing various types of mistakes in English by testing a casud relationship between variables. The diagnostic test is administered with changing another variable i.e. a student from rural area a student studying in the school of urbn area, students studying at distinct level school, students at Taluka level school. Co-education, specially for girls, specially for boys etc.

* Kothari C.R. Research Methodology, Vishwa Prakashan, New Delhi.
The syllabus of English (L.L) studied by the students of X class, while the teachers were of various types, graduates, undergraduates, highly qualified, post graduated, science teachers, commerce teachers etc. some have observed English method, some have not. How they deal with the text book and syllabus which is constant. Their methods are also different. So it is clear that present research has hypothesis testing type objective.

The objectives of the research are broadly classified into two categories

- Academic
- Utilitarian

The present research is academic though it has immense utility to S.S.C. students in learning a foreign language correctly through its grammar.

Therefore briefly it can be stated that the study is meant to observe the learning process of English language by student and note the difficult areas specially in grammar by diagnostic test, to identify the weaker areas of the grammar prescribed by the Board, to search out the probable causes of those mistakes, to fix up the weightage to the errors, to categorize the mistakes in broader items, to plan a remedial and correctional programme so that effective and correct learning takes place. For this pilot study, planning of diagnostic test, observation and study, evaluating the daily assignments are necessary. The research study is done as per general and specific objectives which serve as guiding light houses disallowing the researcher to get side troubled from the main stream of research.
1.8 Formulating Problem

After selecting the problem the researcher has to formulate and state the problem in precise terms. There are two different ways of stating the problem.

- Posing question / questions
- Making declarative statement / statements.

Any way of stating the problem can be chosen by the researcher. Questioning makes the problem mere expressive and emphasising though stating it in a clear, meaningful word is not disqualification of formulating the problem. It is important step in the research process.

The guides, some expertise in the related field, discussion with one's own colleagues are precious help in formulating the research problem.

It helps the researcher to understand the problem in details and rephrase the same in meaningful terms from an analytical point of view. The intensity of feeling the problem is the best help for formulating the problem. If it is properly formulated, research work will no longer be drudgery but a love's labour.

In fact, formulation of a research problem is more important than its solution because the solution can be meaningful only in connection with the problem. Problem is the potential part of the solution. Problem formulation is having solid base of facts and solution is tenable remedy, it is only outcome.
R1 Merton has given three principal components of a research problem. *

1.8.1 Originating the problem

Fundamental objectives of the present research have originated the research problem.

1.8.2 The rationale of problem

It states what will happen to other parts of knowledge if the question raised is answered. It may have importance both for systematic knowledge and practical uses. As in the present research the question is 'what are the causes of committing grammatical mistakes of students of class X in English (Third Language)? Its answers, and the research prosecution will gain systematic knowledge and practical usage of the remedies suggested. It will be an addition to the existing knowledge.

1.8.3 Specifying the problem

The problematic situation under observation is not strategic in itself. The insight of the research makes it strategic. Specific questions and their solutions make the research process systematic and valuable. In the concerning research, the research has series of specific questions in mind for formulating the problem. What is the cause of committing mistakes? What is their nature specifically? What are the remedies? How they can be applied for eradication of mistakes? Etc.

They are to be answered in the research for the benefit of the society as a whole. The relevant research problem can be formulated in the following conditions.

- First hand observation of the researcher.
- Study of relevant literature on the subject.
- Field observation
- Discussion
- Feeling manageability of the problem by the researcher.

C.R. Kothari states the following steps of problem formulating.

- Stating the problem
- Understanding the problem
- Surveying the problem
- Developing the problem
- Rephrasing the problem

Hence the problem concerning the learning this world famed foreign language in its grammar of vital importance is formulated in precise manner to be explicit and self explanatory in its nature without any ambiguity for any linguistic perplexity. Survey of educational research in India by M.B. Buch was again and again referred to for guidance before earmarking the boundaries of the research problem.

* Kothari C.R. research methodology P 39.
1.9 Significance of Research

In short, research is a course of critical investigations. It is endless quest for knowledge or unending search for truth. In short research is a hopeful pursuit of a well defined problem to a successful conclusion. It is a careful search for solution to the problem that plagues and puzzles the mankind. Research is the motivation felt action for achieving the solution. The researcher in the concerning research felt the actual problem of grammatical mistakes of students of X class and causing a set-back in their career. The S.S.C exam is the terminating point for a student who ends his or her school education, enters into more wider world of higher education to take degree, to become someone, to earn and seek one’s entity, to be a responsible citizen of India, attaining puberty leaving behind childhood, some what in a state of perplexity.

Who is at the fault? Students or teachers or actual implementation of good teaching methods?

‘Students commit various types of grammatical mistakes’ is the simple hypothesis the researcher is having at hand.

W.S. Manoe while explaining the significance of research says ‘It is a method of studying problems whose solutions are to be desired partly or wholly from of facts. The facts dealt within research may be statements or opinions (opinionnaire) those contained in records and reports, (Result of
diagnostic and periodical tests) answers of questionnaires, experimental
data (expertise in the field of teaching English and so forth.)

All research takes us beyond the boundaries of present knowledge. The research creates new ground for the further continued investigations and improves existing knowledge and they are the proper functions of research progress and research go hand in hand in every field of knowledge. Research adds to the existing knowledge in an orderly way. The concerning research has also stated collectively the facts regarding English, teaching in the chapter named “Study of Related Literature”. The knowledge gained through research is objective and capable of ‘third party’ verification. It can be verified by any one to test the conclusion.

The goal of all research is progress and good life, by undertaking the particular research the researcher has rigorously tried to know the hidden vows of the students and teachers about English language. Why can students not grasp and why could teachers not lead them too ahead on the way of success in English is the pinching problem the researcher has dealt.

Through this research the students will exactly know what they can’t solve when they are to solve grammatical items containing in the Diagnostic Test. Parents will get some solace by vomiting their vows about deterioration of their words in understanding English and getting through English subject at S.S.C. examination.
Through questionnaires the researcher has given opportunities to the English teachers for self examination, to sit and ponder over the problem. Which is the Major one in their professional career. They have been provided platform in the thesis through questionnaire to say their sorrowful memories about English.

Through Opinionnaires, the administrative authorities in the educational field have stated their clear cut opinions that will be an asset for all. Parents, leaders, educationists could directly relay their thinking in interview schedule. It is all that has made this research a very significant one. Student, parents, teachers, educationists, educational administrators (like head master and assistant head master) all have expressed themselves in this research work and that’s why it is significant.

Therefore the significance and utility of the investigation is crystal clear since it pertains to a foreign language of world reputation and that too relating to vital aspect of grammar which is base pillar to learning and comprehension of it. The falling result of S.S.C. examination and rising necessity of this language which according to Pandit Nehru is window to the world, are basic motive of the study. The scientific study of the problem and its reliable and valid solution are sketched out as per need. Since S.S.C. exam is the first important public exam in the career of the learner it is also significant bearing consequences or the all round development of student’s personality.
1.10 Hypothesis

Educational research has assumed certain initial facts. These are the part of primary hypothesis of research and part and parcel of educational eg. Aspect like school, college, students, teachers, syllabus which are called the unavoidable part of education. They include the following assumptions-

- School and education are necessary.
- A normal man is educable.
- Every individual differs from each other

In respect of way of life and education, possible explanation of the factual action as related to a consequence is called hypothesis. It is a tentative suggestion and remains partly or wholly unverified. The word ‘hypothesis’ is derived from the Greek, hypo (under) and Hthenas (to place) and suggests that when the hypothesis is placed under the evidence as a foundation they tend to support one another. The proposed explanation either be refused or confirmed. Webster defines hypothesis ‘as a tentative theory of supposition provisionally adopted to explain certain facts and to guide in the investigation of others.’ * Assumptions or suppositions are the words that carry same meaning.

Naturally following hypothesis are finalised –

- It is difficult and unnatural to learn English as Third language without its grammar.
- English language as international language is of vital importance in modern science era.
- English language as third language is integral part of S.S.C. syllabus
- The percentage of failure is increasing due to English language.
- English grammar is difficult for student and needs special attention.
- The remedial measures when planned and prosecuted sincerely will enhance learning of English.

Formerly, the hypothesis is so made that deduction can be made from it. John Mill states about genuine hypothesis that “It should be of such nature as to be either proved or disproved by comparison with observed facts.” Secondly, the hypothesis should provide the answer to the problem which generated the inquiry. Thirdly, it should provide facts which would reveal certain propositions to be true whose truths are not known at that particular time. Fourthly, it must help to eliminate irrelevant facts and be very simple. The simplest hypothesis, accounting for the facts, should be chosen.

A hypothesis having an orderly system or arrangement ‘simplicity of system’ or generality, is more readily accepted.

The hypothesis is originated from some problem someone must start looking for facts connected with this problem. These facts are organized, verified and it forms research process. Good working suggestions and good tentative principles of explanation form the procedure of hypothesis. It should be conceivable and not absurd. Otherwise it would lead to perplexed
thinking on the part of the researcher. It must be capable of being brought into the accepted body of knowledge and certain deductions can be made from it. It is very important for the researcher to know that a hypothesis should not contradict any of the known and proven laws.

The most important thing in the method of hypothesis is the process of moulding the hypothesis. It means eliminating irrelevant ideas and reconstruction of the remaining into clear and definite hypothesis. In brief, this process is using vague and indefinite ideas into the clear and precise principles of explanation, formulating facts relevant to the problem.

In short, hypothesis is an application of the old saying 'use your head to save your heels'. It means using intellect one must form the most relevant and possible hypothesis to save efforts of running here and there without any gain.

The present research has the following clauses as hypothesis.

- It is taken into account that English being a foreign language, students commit mistakes in oral as well as in written aspects of it. They are unable to understand and write it with first hand knowledge they get.

- Grammar being the important aspect of the language, a rather difficult part in learning any language is not easily grasped and used by them. They commit mistakes of various types which are to be eliminated.

- It is assumed that definite remedial efforts of a teacher of English can remove these mistakes.
• Once the students get well acquainted with grammar and the mistakes they have been committing since V std. they can avoid them by taking interest in studies of English and the language will be improved automatically.

It is definite interpretation of a given set of facts which is out forth as a tentative suggestion of finding out various grammatical mistakes committed by students in English. This set of facts remains partly or wholly unverified. It is thus creates research process.

‘Students learning in X class and studying English (LL) for S.S.C. exam commit grammatical mistakes’ is the simplest way of forming hypothesis for the research. It is deductive. The answer is provided i.e. definite efforts of the trained teacher can eliminate them. Hypothesis here has provided facts i.e. students commit various types of grammatical mistakes and can not do better in English. It does not in any way contradict the known and proven law that students can not grasp the language English easily because it is a foreign language, grammar is difficult and important; teacher can help them better if they use all their potential properties of teacher. Teacher can act like a magic wand to have remarkable influence of his personality and teaching in the class. What is required is only right use of ideal qualities and devotion to the profession. Money making should not be the aim of teachers. By using head, the teacher and students can save their heels. They will find the right direction to move on, to make progress in English and write grammatically correct language.
1.11 Limitations

The researcher must carry out the research within the definite framework to make it reliable and worth. Limitation implies the impositions of them on the study. In short, it says about the scope of investigation. The limitation of research provides information concerning who, what, where and how many. It determines the boundaries of the project in hand.

Once the limitations of the study are decided, it helps to focus attention on pertinent objectives and helps to minimize the danger of exclusion or extra-inclusion of data.

- The research is limited only to English as third language i.e. English (LL) as prescribed by the Maharashtra Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Pune.

- The research is limited only to the text book of English (Third Lang) as prescribed by the Maharashtra Board of secondary and Higher secondary education. Pune.

- The research has only taken into account the tests, periodical tests and final examinations as conducted by the board.
The research is limited only to Marathi speaking students who have offered English as a compulsory third language for the board’s examination.

The research has thought only of grammatical items prescribed in the syllabus and given in the textbook of English (L L) it has nothing to do with prose or poetry or Rapid reading section of the text. Not the contents but the contextual based grammatical items are used for research.

The research is concerned to only Marathi speaking students who have offered Marathi as their first language.

The research has nothing to do with the literacy or orthographic skills of the students studying English (L L).

500 Secondary school students learning in X class within the age group of 14 to 16 years, offering Marathi medium is the type of population of the study.

Only English teachers, teaching English (L L) were given the questionnaire, related to text book, their daily teaching experiences and problem they face while teaching grammar.
Opinionnaires are served to the Heads of the institutions working presently or retired who have worked as Heads of the schools where English (LL) is taught to X class students.

Interview schedule was prepared and effectively executed by the researcher by interviewing such personalities who are related to English (LL) teaching. Such personalities were the parents, leaders, eminent English language teachers.

The selected samples of students of class X offering English (LL) for S.S.C. examination were of similar grade, ability and achievement in general. No disabled was included. No extra ordinary student was included.

Since every research study is not vast beyond any control and measure, so this investigation about English grammar is also delimited to handable size sample, tool, area, man power, but precaution is taken to see that everything is perfect representative of the whole. Since the study is about world language its findings and conclusions can be applicable to any problem by generalization.
After selecting, formulating the problem the researcher gives precise form to it by separating it from the complex of difficulties and needs. The researcher puts correct fencing of meaning around each word of the problem statement; separate it by careful distinctions from like questions found in related situations of need. It is undoubtedly a Herculean task.

To define a problem means to specify it in detail and with precision. Certain assumptions on which the problem is based are explicitly noted. Each and every word employed in the statement of the problem must be clear; thereby the chance of misinterpretation of any of the term is totally removed. The definition helps to establish the frame of reference with which the researcher approaches the problem. It helps the researcher to be on the track.

In the definition, the nature of study as why it is a simple study, a critical study, an analytical study, an experimental study or comparative study, has to be explained.

The definition of the present research is ‘A critical study of the grammatical mistakes committed by X class students and some recommendations for their improvement.’
The word 'critical' denotes to be very precise, thinking prons and cons of each and every mistake, its nature, its cause, its remedy and the expected improvement. The researcher has tried to touch every aspect of grammar included in the syllabus of Eng. subject (Third Language) meant for X class. The wrong doings of students while solving the grammar items are a thing of day to day observation of the researcher. Nobody in the educational field will disagree with the fact that student learning English as third language often lag behind, show their poor capacity of grasping the language and can not attain even satisfactory level in grammar part of it. Grammar is spread overall in every question of the paper of English at S.S.C. examination. Nobody can deny these hypotheses. The researcher has tried to verify them with the tools like questionnaire, opinionnaire and interview schedule and the Diagnostic Test.

‘To recommend’ means ‘to tell someone that something is good and useful or ‘to advise a particular course of action.’*

The researcher has recommended certain remedies to be followed by teachers as they are to improve the mistakes of their students. All other interested persons, educationists, head masters can go through ‘the particular course of action suggested by the researcher.

It is the base of all the research work undertaken by the researcher and provides path to the researcher to lead on to make the research successful.

In the present research, the researcher has defined the research problem as-
'A critical study of the Grammatical Mistakes committed by the students of Std. X and Recommendation for their improvement.'

The definition’s underlined parts are of great importance to clear the definition.

It is a ‘critical’ study i.e. not ‘cursory’ but ‘deep’ and extremely important because of future situation will be affected by it.

It shows the purpose behind the research. The researcher herself being a teacher of secondary school, having experience also of teaching to B.Ed. students knows that the research problem is of acute importance.
‘Committing grammatical mistake’ is an ever spreading epidemic in the field of secondary education and it will be extremely threatening if it prevails in the future also. Somewhere, someone has to take efforts to curtail the problem and the solution is to be made useful for all the concerned.

Secondly ‘grammar’ is the gist of language. It can not be separated from the language. It is the backbone of English, whose support makes the language
stand erect. Its deteriorating standard really means 'lack of grammar study' at secondary school level. It is accepted fact that English is a tough subject for the X class students appearing for the first public exam S.S.C. outside the school premises. The students specially desire to have coaching not only of text but 'grammar contents' in the text. So grammatical mistakes matter much for the teacher and learner of English.

Recommendations suggestions i.e. remedies are suggested mistake wise as investigated by the researcher. It is elaborately deal in the chapter Findings, conclusions and suggestions'. The recommendations are certainly useful for the English teachers to find out the root cause of the mistakes and improve them for future. It will not give chance to anybody to say that the standard of English is day by day deteriorating instead of saying that it is improving satisfactorily.

In brief, let it be summated that this critical study (minutely observed investigation) is pertaining to English grammar [rules to be observed in framing sentences of English with regards to mistakes (breach of rules influencing the comprehension)] of S.S.C. students (learners of X standard) and framing recommendations (remedial measures for improvement). By this the concept of the problem is quite clear and precise.
1.13 Budget, Time Schedule

Before undertaking a research work, at the very beginning selection of the research problem, it is necessary for the researcher to be well aware of the physical and mental capacities required for the research.

Data collection in survey method is strainuous job and sufficient time has to be allotted for it. Otherwise, it will be a great obstacle (scarcity of time) that will shake the researcher's confidence and courage. Time is very precious and the researcher must be well plan the time table before undertaking the field work. Prolonged research ultimately loses its value and its results are no longer tenable. It makes the effects of the researcher fruitless and time consuming.

So also, the researcher must think how well equipped he / she can be while doing research. It requires sufficient amount of money. For travelling, purchasing related literature, printing, xeroxing all require sufficient fund of money to enable the researcher to carry the research smoothly. Lack of fund makes the researcher unable to carry the research on a proper track.
Time-table for the following activities was prepared.

- Consulting the guide.  
  1 month
- Suggesting and discussing the problem  
  1 month
- Library work  
  2 months
- Defining the problem  
  1 month
- Synopsis / Reshaping of it.  
  1 month
- Approval by the Univ.  
  2 months
- Supporting literature writing.  
  1 month
- Preparing tools.  
  2 months
- Administering tools.  
  2 months
- Collecting data  
  2 months
- Classifying  
  2 months
- Drawing Conclusions  
  2 months
- Writing Research Report  
  3 months
- Typing the report  
  1 month
- Making it presentable and submission  
  1 month

24 months

So far budget factor is concerned, it was calculated beforehand. It was within the reach of the researcher, so the work has been undertaken.

Though some researchers think the time schedule and budget superfluous for academic achievement but to complete the formality they were also discussed.