ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A journey is easier when you travel together. During the course of my investigation, I have been accompanied and helped by many people. I feel happy that I have now the opportunity to express my gratitude for all of them.

My sincere thanks go to Dr. D.S. Mishra, Professor and Head, Department of English, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, for providing the necessary Departmental facilities to carry out this research.

The world abounds in brilliant people and quite a few of whom helped me to complete this endeavor, and make my dream come true. I would like to thank all of them and specifically Dr. Javed Khan, my friend, mentor and guide, who taught me the basics of English Language Teaching and stayed with me right till the end. If he had not encouraged me all the way, I would not have accomplished the task undertaken. No words can adequately express my heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Javed Khan for his scholarly guidance, constructive comments and friendly support to ensure that this work reaches its logical end. I have known him since 1994 when I joined my M.A. His mission of encouraging nothing less than high-quality work has made a deep impact on me. I gained a lot in our one-to-one interaction over the years.
I wholeheartedly thank Dr. D.J. Patel, Retired Principal, BACA, GAU, Anand, for his keen interest and guidance that encouraged me to pursue this research. I am indebted to everyone in Anand Agricultural University, Anand especially the higher authorities for permitting me to pursue this degree under faculty improvement scheme.

Colleagues like Mrs. Manisha Sikdar, Dr. V. V. Ushabala, Ms. Puffy Dave, Mr. Chandrakant Modi, Mr. Ghanshyam Savani, and friends like Mr. Hitesh Raviya and Mr. Jitendra Gohil, are really wonderful friends who helped whenever needed, and gave their honest observations on this study. They deserve special thanks, for I owe a lot to them.

I would like to place a record my sincere thanks to the students of various colleges, who responded to my questionnaire and gratitude to the principals and lecturers in English in these colleges for the enthusiasm they showed when I visited various institutions for data collection.

I do remember the meticulous work put in by my friend Manish Parekh day in and day out to give proper look to my study. Without his contribution, this work would not have attained such a professional appearance.

The support and blessings of my parents has always made my work easy. The unshakable belief they had in me helped me turn my dream
into a reality. I dedicate this research to my loving parents for their unstinted support in everything I have done so far.

I remember my wife Rita not for her immense patience, unrelenting support and love she had always showered but just for being with me all these years through pleasure and pain. I shall always need her support in doing everything, whether it be personal or academic in nature. Harsh and Keya, our children, are the reason of our existence, and although very young, gave me all the time I needed to complete this research.

I bow down before the Almighty - ‘The Divine Mover’ in Aristotle’s words, for nothing moves or happens without His wish, and thank Him for everything.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who lent direct and indirect support to help me complete my thesis in time.

24 October 2005
Anand

(Dhirsh H Patel)