ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Today, when I am on the verge of reaching an important milestone, I take this opportunity to gratefully remember all those who have made this possible.

At the very outset, I would like to express my gratitude to my sister Mrs. Alaknanda Parnerkar and brother-in-law, Dr Subhash Parnerkar who brought me here in the first place for my studies way back in 1985 and for giving me timely and able guidance during all the important stages of my life up to now.

I am highly indebted to Charutar Vidya Mandal, V V Nagar, and the Late Dr H K Patel, the then Principal of our college, for giving me permission to pursue research. Our Principal Dr D J Desai deserves special thanks for making it possible for me to go the Department as and when the need arose.

I am grateful to Dr. D S Mishra, Head of the Department of English, under whom I had the privilege of studying, for his constant encouragement.
Words would be insufficient to express my true feelings for Dr J H Khan, my teacher and my guide. Dr Khan has always taken a keen interest in my growth and has shown great confidence in my abilities, and has been extremely patient with me. He has also cultivated in me a self belief that is so important to be a successful teacher and a researcher. But for him this moment would have remained only a dream.

I am also thankful to my other teachers Dr R P Jadeja, Director, H M Patel Institute of English Training and Research, and Dr Piyush Joshi, who have always shown faith in me and extended wholehearted support and encouragement in various ways.

My sincere thanks to colleagues in the Department, especially Professor C C Patel, former Head, and Dr S M Desai, the Head now for being been extremely cooperative and encouraging during my research. I would also like to remember Dr R D Chaudhari, Lecturer, Department of Statistics for his efficient and excellent help in typing of the thesis and the analysis of the data.

I would say that this venture is a joint effort of teachers and students. So I express my deep sense of gratitude to all the teachers of English, especially Mr Ajay Mehta, Lecturer, P D Malwiya College of Commerce, Rajkot, and the student friends in the campus and other parts of Gujarat,
for taking time out to fill in the fairly lengthy questionnaires, which forms the basis of my study, and have directly or indirectly contributed to its successful completion.

To my wonderful spouse Ratna and son Aditya, I owe a special debt. They have been there whenever I needed them most during very trying times. I shall always value their love and care.

I thank the almighty for the successful completion of the study and pray to him to give me more opportunities of research.

Vallabh Vidyanagar  (Charudutt R Gurjar)
14 December 2006  Research Student