PREFACE

Secondary education constitutes the backbone of the educational system. The quality of the instructional programme of a subject depends upon the changes that it undergoes in course of time to meet new needs and challenges and such changes can be brought about through research. Language learning is such an activity which requires to be refined again and again. As the investigator is closely associated with the English language teaching she often had a discussion on ELT with Dr. Adam Ghodiwala, U.K. and as an outcome of such discussions the title of the study was framed.

The present study is but a humble endeavour to explore the vast field "A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH IN THE HIGH ACHIEVING AND LOW ACHIEVING SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF GUJARAT".

Through this study an attempt has been made to examine the teaching programme of English extensively and intensively in both the groups of schools so that its components can be studied thoroughly and necessary suggestions could be offered to bring about changes in teaching programme to those low achieving group of schools. This study being very comprehensive, has naturally offered many avenues for fruitful study.
A comparative study inevitably involves the help of informants from the field of inquiry. The investigator was fortunate in getting sound co-operation from teachers as well as from principals of secondary schools in Gujarat.

At this juncture the investigator takes an opportunity to express her sense of gratitude to Dr. A. D. Patel who helped her in the initial stage of this research work. The investigator has been grateful to her guide respected Professor J. K. Dave, Head, Department of Education, and Dean, Faculty of Education, Sardar Patel University, for his valuable guidance at every stage of the study. The investigator also extends her heartiest thanks to the Director, H. M. Patel Institute of English Training and Research for providing all the facilities to conduct the pre-try-out work. The investigator also expresses her deep sense of personal gratitude to Dr. Rajendrasinh Jadeja and Dr. Piyus Joshi for providing constant inspiration and help during this study. The investigator also extends her thanks to the judges who helped during the procedure of giving final shape to the tool for the data collection.

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It is hoped that the suggestions of this study will prove useful to the betterment of teaching of English in the state of Gujarat in General.

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