A study of Conrad's Marlovian Fiction necessitates an exploration into the novelistic technique in general because of Marlow's chief function, above any of his other major functions, as a technical device. So in order to highlight the significance of Marlow as a technical device, an attempt is made to offer a brief account of the evolution of the novelistic technique in the introductory chapter. This exploration ranges from the preoccupations of the early realists to the far-reaching experiments of the moderns.

The second chapter is devoted to "Point of view", a major aspect of the novelistic technique that sheds light on Marlow's contribution to fictional writing.

The third chapter deals, exclusively, with Conrad's Marlovian works - *Youth*, *Heart of Darkness*, *Lord Jim* and *Chance* - studied in terms not only of Marlow's technical importance but also of his formal and thematic significance.

I have great pleasure in expressing my profound sense of gratitude to my Research Supervisor, Dr.C. Subba Rao, Professor of English, for his insightful and invaluable guidance. I am deeply thankful to Dr.C.R.Visweswara Rao, Reader in English, for his helpful comment. I am grateful to Dr.A. Ramakrishna Rao, Professor and Head of the Department
of English, and my other teachers for their readiness to help me with their valuable suggestions whenever I approached them.