ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am extremely grateful and immensely indebted to my Supervisor Professor Dr. S. V. Shastri, now retired Professor and Head, Department of English, Shivaji University, Kolhapur for his disciplined and painstaking guidance. He encouraged me to initiate me into the field of Corpus linguistics and guided this study with great patience. Throughout my work, he has always been kind and exceedingly sympathetic as a guide. Even before that I had had the benefit of the guidance of Dr. Yasmeen Lukmani for my M.Phil work.

I take this opportunity to express my sense of gratitude to Dr. C.J. Jahagirdar, Professor and Head, Department of English, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, Dr. Jayprakash Shinde and all my teachers in the Department who always encouraged me in pursuit of my work by extending departmental facilities and showing keen interest in my study.

It is my bounden duty to place on record my deep sense of gratitude to Hon. Keshavraoji Rane, Chairman of Shikshan Prasarak Mandal, Kankavli College, Kankavli, Secretary, Vijaykumar Valanju, Trustee, Dr. V. N. Tayshote, Mr. Suresh Kasat, Mr. Bhai Khot and Babasaheb Nadkarni the members of the S.P. Mandal who goaded me to avail myself of the UGC Teacher Fellowship. I extend my gratitude to the former Principal of my college, Principal S.L. Parab and Sou. Sharayu S. Parab who have been a constant source of inspiration to me since my career. I am thankful to Prin. R.M. Mane under whom I work and my colleagues and friends for their encouragement and assistance. I am also thankful to the Authorities of the University Grants Commission for awarding me Teacher Fellowship for the Ph.D. degree course without whose assistance I could not have completed this
study. I am also thankful to my boon friend Mr. Sambhaji Desai who had been kind enough to help me in the nick of time.

I deeply acknowledge the assistance and help extended to me by the Librarians, Dr. Arun Tikekar, University of Bombay, Dr. J. B. Jadhav, Shivaji University, Mr. L. S. Ramaiah, CIEFL, Hyderabad, and Mr. S. A. Mali of my college for their never-failing assistance in securing books, journals and reference material to pursue my work. I am thankful to my well wishers Prof. Ashok Karande, Prof. Chougule, Akolkar, Chikodi, Mushrif, Mr. Gurav and the superintendent of my college Mr. Anil Hhadgut and the non-teaching staff for their timely help and encouragement. Thanks are also due to Mr. Gawade and the non-teaching staff of the Department of English, Shivaji University, Kolhapur who had been kind enough to help me in many ways to mention.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge the unfailing support and encourage of my family, parents, relatives, children and my wife Mrs. Vijaya who all bore with me with admirable patience and understanding that enabled me to complete this study. I am sincerely indebted to my uncle Shri. Pandurang Gawade who has been a constant source of inspiration in my career.

I am deeply indebted to all the native speakers who were kind enough to respond to the Elicitation experiment and making several useful comments. I am sincerely indebted to my Supervisor, Professor S. V. Shastri for administering the Elicitation experiment to the native Speakers when he had been visiting in Europe.

KOLHAPUR

September, 1994.