ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This doctoral research for me has been a journey full of learning experiences. It began with the meaningful discussions on the research proposal with the Research Development Committee (RDC) and it concluded with the final formatting of the research report. I must admit that the insights I have developed in ELT and life as well have been invaluable. There have been countless direct and indirect contributions during this crucial phase of my life. I am not sure whether my attempts made in words to acknowledge the rich contributions would be adequate. However I shall try my best to convey my heartfelt feelings.

I owe my sincere gratitude to my guide and Guru, Dr. Rajendrasinh Jadeja Sir, who has been a constant source of inspiration and motivation to me. His insightful suggestions and comments have, I think, given a commendable shape to my thesis.

I shall always remain indebted to Dr Piyush Joshi Sir for his fatherly warmth, encouragement and constant support.

The doctoral research has been a discovery not only in terms of new knowledge but also in terms of relationship. This was the period during which I discovered an elder brother in the form of my friendship with Sunil Shah. I shall remain grateful forever to reverent Shalini Mummy and Viraj for making me feel at home away from home. I shall also express my
love to my energetic little friend Shalin for refreshing me by creating positive disturbances during the final stages of my thesis writing.

A special mention must be made to Dr Sulabha Natraj, Dr Mahendra Chotalia and Dr Atanu Bhattacharya for sharing their experiences and insights to my research domain. A special thanks to Dee Broughton, American fellow at the institute, for her frank and friendly guidance and suggestions in terms of academic writing. I also thank my ex-colleague and friend Kiran Chauhan for his comments and suggestions throughout the study.

I am blessed enough to be with H M Patel Institute of English Training & Research. The academic support of my colleagues, administrative staff and dear students has been of great importance. I express my sincere thanks to Ms. Parinda Dalwadi, the librarian at the institute for rendering her untiring services with a smiling face.

Finally, I shall remain grateful to my parents, brother and friends. Nikhilbhai, Nitaben, Jalamsinh and Chetnaben need a special mention for their moral support in all walks of my life. Adhiraj and Chini have made this strenuous period of my life a period of jubilation.

Surendra