ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

By The Grace of Allah, The Most Merciful and with all His guidance the writer completes this thesis.

On this occasion the writer would like to express her sincerest gratitude to those who have assisted her in the completion of this thesis.

She is indeed indebted and would like to express her great appreciation to her first consultant, Mr. Amrin Saragih, M.A., Ph.D. and her second consultant, Prof. Bahren Umar Siregar, Ph.D. who both have spared their time and given lots of guidance, comments, suggestions, and endless support from reading the draft to the completion of the thesis.

Special gratitude is expressed to The Head of English Applied Linguistic (EAL) Graduate Program, Prof. Dr. Jawasi Naibaho and the secretary, Dra. Meisuri, M.A. who have given their encouragements in conducting the research and completing the thesis.

Her great thanks are also conveyed to her beloved lectures, among others are: Prof. D. P. Tampubolon, Ph. D., Prof. Dr. M. Butar Butar, Prof. M. Silitonga, Ph.D. who have given lots of practical and very useful knowledge that can hopefully be applied in her field of work.

Many thanks are particularly put into words to her beloved lectures and viewers, Prof. Tina Mariany Arifin, M.A., Ph.D., Dr. Lince Sihombing, M.Pd., and Dr. Berlin Sibarani, M.Pd., who have given lots of important critical comments, suggestions and
recommendations in improving her thesis in seminar of proposal, seminar of result and at her final exam.

Her thanks are uttered to the staff of the Graduate program UNIMED who have assisted her in the preparation of files, invitation, and the seminars and to the librarian who has permitted her to use the books related to her thesis.

Her appreciation is expressed to the Headmaster of SMUN 3 Medan, Drs. Burhanuddin Lubis, who has given her the opportunity to join the Graduate Program and to participate in the Nationals 2003, and her admiration is also uttered to Dra. Ernawati, Mr. Yan Manullang, S.E. and all of her colleagues at SMUN 3 who have given her spirits of the completion of her study.

She would like to thank Ms. Ria Nuri Dharmawan, SH., The Executive Director of Association For Critical Thinking (ACT) as well as The Convenor of National Debating Championship 2003 and Ms. Dayu Nirma Amurwanti, the secretary of the Nationals 2003, who have invited the writer to the Nationals and permitted her in collecting the source of data of the debates.

Her gratitude is also to all her friends who have given their supports; her special gratitude to her cousin, Dra. Rahmah, M.Hum. who has given her inspiration and supports and for the loans of lots of books concerning to Systemic Functional Linguistics.

Last but not least she would like to express her gratitude to her mother, Hj. Fatmah Nasution, and her mother in law, Ms. Raai’nah who have given their precious supports and spirit during her study.

Finally the most precious appreciation is expressed to her family, her beloved husband, Mr. Kamaruddin, who has given her the opportunity of study, lots of moral and
material supports during the completion of her study and to her children, Wildan
Humairah, Dina Khairunnisah, Syifa Syafitri and M. Farhan Syauqi for their
understanding.

Medan, October 2, 2003

SITI ZULFAH