

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Countless individuals have contributed directly and indirectly to the research and to the completion of this thesis. The writer is deeply indebted to each one and therefore he would like to express his heartfelt gratitude.

He first wishes to thank his Board of Adviser members who guided his study, particularly his first adviser Dr. Anita Yus, M.Pd. also the Secretary of the Basic Education Postgraduate School who stimulated his interest in Thematic approach and taught him everything she knows about thematic learning. From the initial stage of the proposal throughout the entire process, she gave him invaluable advice, guiding him in formulating his research goals, defining his approach, and, generally keeping his thesis on track. He cannot thank her enough for his excellent and patient assistance. Dr. Evi Eviyanti, M.Pd. who was always ready to discuss theoretical and ask the questions with her and generously provided him with concrete suggestions on organizing her ideas and research materials.

He is also especially grateful to his Board of Reviewer members Prof. Dr. Busmin Gurning, M.Pd. also the Head of the English Applied Linguistics Postgraduate School, Prof Dian Armanto, M.Pd., M.A.,M.Sc., Ph.D. also the The Head of Basic Education Study Program of Basic Education Postgraduate School, and Dr. Abrurahman Adisaputra, M.Hum who reviewed his proposal and offered many extremely helpful suggestions without which he would not have been able to bring this thesis into a final form.

He would like to thank his colleagues Conny Pangemanan, Mida Gurning, S.Pd who help the writer to make observation of this research. And to the Board of Leadership members of SCMM Foundation of Indonesia Sr. Rosa Sihotang, SCMM (Chairperson),Leadership member of SCMM in Sibolga, Sr. Dionisia Marbu, SCMM, Sr. Angela Siregar, SCMM (Treasure), Sr. Scholastica Tamba, SCMM (Treasurer), and Aslin Habeahan,S.Pd., M.Hum (Vice Chairperson of

STKIP Santa Maria Sibolga) for his helpful very precious. Words cannot express how grateful he is for their trust, encouragement and support. Once again, he is indebted in all these respects and more.

He is extremely indebted to his landlady, Herlina Matondang who has forever been generous to him and treated him as if he were her sibling son that he has received the best of everything

Sincerest appreciation is especially addressed to his beloved parents Rampa Tambunan and Herlina Lumbanpea whose eternal love and continuous prayers have always empowered him to travel twenty four hours every week to attend classes at the State University of Medan in his endeavor of academic accomplishment. Their philosophy of life inspires him to make sense of profound meaning of education for the good of humanity. Their hard work ethic exemplifies his guiding principles of life and makes him believe that impossible is nothing.

All time and whole-hearted gratefulness is due to his dearest wife Saur Marita Aritonang, S.Pd, and whole life four children Claudy Pebrie Tambunan, Dorothy Angeliana Tambunan, Pierre Marshal Tambunan, and Dinda Khatrin Tambunan who have lost a lot of his love but poured indispensable amount of theirs on him and constantly been supporting and encouraging during the course of his education. This thesis is dedicated to them and they deserve it.

God bless.

Medan, June 2011.
The writer,

Salmon Tambunan
Registration Number: 0809825016