ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My master dissertation would never have been accomplished without priceless support and strong encouragement of many individuals, to whom I would like to truly express my gratitude. I would like to take this valuable opportunity to respectfully express my appreciation from the bottom of my heart to all the valued persons who have guided me and accompanied with me thorough the journey of learning at the School of Foreign Languages of Suranaree University of Technology (SUT).

First and foremost, I would like to express my truly gratitude to the Chair of School of Foreign Languages, Dr. Butsakorn Yodkamlue, for granting me a "Vithedbundit" Scholarship to pursue my graduate program.

I would like to express my inclusive gratitude to my thesis advisor, Dr. Suksan Suppasetseree, for his restless support and precious guidance to me thorough the way we explore the new knowledge. He has spent his countless and priceless hours to help me with investigating my book, giving comments, and supporting me restlessly. Honestly, my dissertation would not have been accomplished without my dear advisor who always has meaningful and careful advice.

My strong gratitude and truly thanks go to all of thesis committee members: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pragasit Sitthitikul and Asst. Prof. Dr. Jeffrey Wilang, who worked professionally in giving their priceless comments and meaningful feedback to build up and develop the content of my dissertation. Their valuable advice and support come a great appreciation to me.

My sincere appreciation goes to all lecturers in the English Language Studies program of School of Foreign Languages who played a significant role in giving me the knowledge and guiding me to become more analytical, critical, and intellectual in research activities during my course work.

My truly gratitude and special thanks go to all the experts who assisted me in developing a variety of research instruments to ensure the most trustworthy and reliable value. That is my deep appreciation to Dr. Suksan Suppasetseree, M.A. Dao Minh Trung, and M.A. Huynh Huu Linh who spent their priceless time in assessing and validating my research instruments. Their professional and insightful feedbacks throughout the entire process are greatly appreciative.

My truly thanks go to all examiners who contributed their precious time in giving scores to the pre-speaking and post-speaking tests during the experimental study. That is my special thanks to Ajarn Dao Minh Trung, Ajarn Huynh Thi Ngoc Kieu, Ajarn Kim Hoai Tan, Ajarn Nguyen Hieu Thao, M.A. Thomas Kirst, and Mr. Kevin Nadeau. Their professionals and carefulness in evaluating the students' speaking performance thorough the speaking tests come to my strong gratefulness. Especially, my great gratitude is expressed to Dr. Gregory Brown for his dedicative time of proofreading the writing to make it elaborative and reader-friendly.

Besides, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all my classmates at SUT who always offered me strong support and encouraged me during my journey to knowledge. They are always very cooperative, supportive, and heartful to me whenever I ask for their favor.

I am deeply indebted to my former instructors: Ph.D. Thai Cong Dan and M.A. Dao Minh Trung, who dedicated their valuable time to write recommendation letters for me so that I could successfully get in SUT and become part of School of Foreign Languages to pursue my master degree until now.

Last but not least, I would like to express my respectful and heartful thanks to my mother, my mother-in-law, my beloved wife Ngan, and my dearest son Kien for their strong support and long-lasting endurance during my master journey. Without my family, my accomplishment would be meaningless.

Tam Duong