

M.A. THESIS IN LINGUISTICS

**DIFFICULTIES FACED BY TAMIL  
SPEAKERS IN PLURALIZATION  
OF ENGLISH NOUNS**

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March 2015

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FGS/LING/MA/13/60

## Abstract

The purpose of this study is to find the difficulties faced by the Tamil learners in pluralization English nouns. It can be analyzed in both speaking and writing. Though they make mistakes in speaking, here it is attempted to pay attention to writing as the learners are assessed for their writing skills in the general examination.

This study would help the researcher to improve the knowledge in English language and help the researcher to understand the difficulties faced by the learners as the researcher is a teacher of English and a student of linguistics. The researcher assumes that it is important to every teacher of English to know the problems of the second language learners.

The first chapter deals with the history of English teaching and learning in Sri Lanka along with the theories of second language acquisition. Krashen's theory of second language acquisition has been cited for a better understanding.

In the second chapter after the literature review the findings of second language acquisition research of the past few decades have been studied. This chapter also discusses different learning models.

The third chapter is about the research methodology. This chapter also discusses the contrastive analysis and error analysis. The fourth chapter gives notes on the inventory of English plurals and Tamil plurals. The study about the difficulties faced by the Tamil learners has been discussed in chapter five based on contrastive analysis and error analysis. The final chapter gives the conclusion of the whole study. It reveals that since the plural pattern in English is not found in Tamil continuous practice and opportunities should be created to overcome such difficulties.