ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This independent study could not have been completed without support from many people and institutions. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Dr. Monnipha Sompong, my independent study adviser, for her time, advice, continual support, patience, and understanding as well as her dedication in proofreading for the correctness and completeness of this research study. I am also grateful to all of the instructors and the administrative staff at the Language Institute, Thammasat University. In addition, I would like to thank all of the respondents for data and information provided by them.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my family, who gave me strength and encouragement to complete this study.

Thammasat University Bangkok, Thailand Arjaree Chutimawong March 2009