

**EVALUATION REPORT ON THE PH.D THESIS (ALAGAPPA
UNIVERSITY)**

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**Title of the Thesis : An Investigation into the Teaching and Assessment
of Creative Writing in English at Higher Secondary Level**

The relatively new concept of Creative Writing can technically be considered any writing of original composition. In this sense, creative writing is a more contemporary and process-oriented name for what has been traditionally called literature including the variety of its genres. Those who support creative writing programmes either as part or separate from the English discipline, argue for the academic worth of the creative writing experience. Creative writing really hones the students' abilities to clearly express their thoughts. Moreover, it entails an in-depth study of literary terms and mechanisms so that they can be applied to the writer's own work to foster improvement. These critical analysis skills can further be used in other literary study outside the creative writing sphere. Indeed the process of creative writing, the crafting of a thought – out and original piece is considered by the linguists to be an experience in creative problem-solving. Based on the concepts stated above, I appreciate the scholar for selecting an innovative topic for his research work.

In his introductory chapter, the researcher has given the various definitions for creative writing and its importance, also underlining the importance of the English language, in the field of teaching. He has given ample introduction of the research theme with empirical evidences in the first chapter. He has further supported his concepts with the secondary sources in the second chapter. He has described the sampling technique

aptly. His description of the research tools used by him and his ways of determining validity and reliability of the tools have to be appreciated.

The research methodology chosen by the researcher is an appropriate one. He has constructed an observation schedule, an interview schedule, an open-ended questionnaire, a check list and a test to assess creative writing skill. I appreciate the researcher for using descriptive analysis and correlational analysis in his study. Hence, the major findings of the thesis are scientifically supported. Moreover, I consider that the thesis is organized well from the beginning to the end as per the prescribed international standard and format. The researcher has used apt style and appropriate tone and followed logical arguments. The bibliography at the end is a comprehensive one. His recommendations and suggestions for further research are rational and his convincing conclusions have to be commended.

I, therefore, state that the thesis of Mr. A. Muthuraj is highly commended for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Education.

Athens, 29.07.2013.

/A.L. Katonis, University of Thessaloniki, Greece/