

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Inside Cover Page.....	i
Inside Title Page.....	ii
Declaration Page.....	iii
Dedication Page.....	iv
Thesis Advisor’s Approval Page.....	v
Thesis Examiners’ Approval Page.....	vi
Acknowledgments.....	vii
Epigraph.....	ix
Table of Contents.....	x
List of Tables.....	xii
Abstract.....	xiii
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Statements of the Problem.....	6
1.3 Objectives of the Study.....	6
1.4 Significance of the Study.....	7
1.5 Definition of Key Terms.....	7
CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW .....	9
2.1 Hedges.....	9
2.2 Hedges in Academic Writing.....	11
2.3 Classification of hedges.....	13
2.4 Review of Related Studies.....	15
CHAPTER III: METHOD OF THE STUDY.....	17
3.1 Research Approach.....	17
3.2 Population and Sample.....	18
3.3 Technique of Data Collection.....	19
3.4 Technique of Data Analysis.....	20

CHAPTER IV: DISCUSSION.....	22
4.1 Findings.....	22
4.1.1 Hedging Devices Used in Linguistics and Literature Theses.....	22
4.1.1.1 Modal Auxiliaries.....	28
4.1.1.2 Epistemic Lexical Verbs.....	31
4.1.1.3 Epistemic Adjectives and Adverbs.....	33
4.1.1.4 Miscellaneous.....	34
4.1.2 The similarities of Hedges Used in Linguistics and Literature Theses.....	35
4.1.3 The differences of Hedges Used in Linguistics and Literature Theses.....	36
4.2 Interpretation of the findings.....	38
 CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION.....	 52
5.1 Conclusion.....	52
5.2 Suggestion.....	55
 REFERENCES.....	 56

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1 Types of hedging devices found in the introduction section of Linguistics and Literature theses .....	
Table 4.2 Hedging items found in the introduction section of Linguistics and Literature theses .....	
Table 4.3 The differences of hedges used in the introduction section of Linguistics and Literature theses .....	