The effectiveness of comprehensive corrective feedback in second language writing
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Citation for published version (APA):

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Recently, I was invited to give a short talk about my life as a Ph.D. candidate at a career orientation event for university students. At the end of the evening, one of the attendees came over to me with a huge grin on her face. I asked her why she was so happy. She explained that she had been unsure if pursuing a Ph.D. would be the thing for her, but that this uncertainty had now disappeared because she gathered from my talk that I had very much enjoyed being a Ph.D. student. And indeed, I have! It has been a valuable, inspiring, and fun four years. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the people who, more or less directly, contributed to this memorable experience.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my promotor, Folkert Kuiken, and my co-promotor, Nivja de Jong. I consider myself extremely lucky, having two such highly involved and supportive supervisors. Folkert, it was really good to know that I could always stop by for questions and advice, while at the same time being granted great freedom and confidence. Nivja, thank you for being the perfect role model. I have learned so much from you over the past few years!

Secondly, I am in debt to the members of my scientific committee. I warmly thank John Bitchener, Kees de Glopper, Jan Hulstijn, Lourdes Ortega, Gert Rijlaarsdam, and Rob Schoonen for agreeing to take part in my defence ceremony, and for their invaluable comments on this dissertation’s manuscript as well as on earlier papers. I am grateful for their interest in my work, and for their cordiality when meeting each other (at conferences).

Moreover, I would like to dedicate a word of thanks to Dolly van Eerde, Maaike Hajer, Patrick Snellings, and Ineke Vedder for their support in the earliest stages of the project, as members of my advisory committee.

I am also grateful to all the pupils who participated in the research project, and to their teachers for welcoming me into their classrooms. Without their willingness and cooperation, I would have been unable to write this book. Furthermore, I would like to thank my intern, Laura Kettner, and student assistant, Marjolein Prins, for accompanying me on some of the school visits, and for helping me with transcribing and coding the data.
I am thankful to the Amsterdam Center for Language and Communication (ACLC) for providing me with plenty of opportunities to follow courses, take part in workshops, and attend (international) conferences. I also thank the Dutch Linguistics capacity group, led by Fred Weerman, for giving me the chance to combine the two things I like to do best: research and teaching. Moreover, I have benefited much from being part of the CASLA research group. I really enjoyed the critical discussions, opportunities for presentation try-outs, and having a sounding board for research-related questions and ideas.

Before I started working on my dissertation, people had warned me about the lonely existence of Ph.D. students. Thanks to many (former) colleagues, I never felt that this stereotypical image applied to my situation. I want to thank all my fellow Dutch linguists and ACLC colleagues for sharing lunches, drinks, dinners, Sinterklaas-parties, and even singing workshops. Loulou, Suzanne, Marian, Josefien, Marcel, Marjolein, Irene, Maren, and Antje, it was great to have people around who were in the same Ph.D. boat! A special thanks also goes out to Ingeborg, for nice coffees and chats, to Lotte and Nomi, for their warmth and wit, to Wienieke for putting on her dancing shoes, and to Petra for helping out a colleague in despair whenever needed. Sible, my PCH companion, you made working on multilevel modeling fun, and I cannot thank you enough for helping me with the lay-out of this book! Nada and Sonia, it was so good to have you as my roommates in the challenging final stages of the project!

There are a couple of people outside the University of Amsterdam I would like to thank. To begin with, I have met many wonderful people at conferences over the years. Four of them, however, are especially dear to me: Koen, Veerle, and Daphne, thank you for sharing good times! Lieve, I will always remember our trip to California! Secondly, I thank my fellow board members of Anéla for making such a good team!

My dear friends and family I would like to thank for their support and understanding, especially during the final year of the project. Mum, dad, Joke, and Cees, thanks for entertaining Jip when I had to work extra time. Sabine, René, Leontine, Alex, Marieke, Steven, Pauline, Vincent, Kevin, and Annemiek, I promise to become a social creature again from now on! Dearest Floor and Jip, thank you for always being there for me, and for putting things in perspective.

I saved this final paragraph to thank my two dear parannymphs. Marije, having you as a roommate was great in many different ways. It was great because I could always profit from your expertise, it was great because we stimulated each other’s productivity, it was great because we shared the same applied linguistic interests, but most importantly it was great because you have become such a good friend. Petra, my little sister and best friend, it
feels so good to have you by my side on this important day. And of course a big kiss and thank you for making the cover of this book look as nice as it does!