Ladies and gentlemen,

As I stand before you today, holding this completed thesis, I am filled with a mixture of nostalgia and gratitude. This journey, which began several years ago, has been a significant chapter in my life, marked by both challenges and triumphs.

Reflecting back, I remember the first steps into unfamiliar territories of research and endless nights pouring over literature, all of which seemed daunting at the outset. Yet, it was during these times that I discovered not only the depth of knowledge I was capable of acquiring, but also the strength within myself to persevere.

I owe a great debt of gratitude to those who have supported me along this path. To my advisor, whose guidance and encouragement have been my compass, I remain ever thankful. To my family, whose unwavering support has been the foundation upon which I have built my dreams, I am endlessly appreciative. And to my friends and colleagues, who provided laughter and companionship during the more trying times, I am deeply grateful. This thesis is dedicated to all of you who have been a part of this incredible journey. It stands as a testament not only to academic pursuit but to the enduring power of support and perseverance. While this chapter comes to a close, the memories forged along the way will carry on, a reminder of where I have been and what I have achieved. Thank you.