

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**WRITING BEHAVIOR, STRATEGIES AND
STYLES NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY: A
CONTRASTIVE RHETORIC STUDY OF THREE
ETHNIC GROUPS**

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work in this dissertation is my own except for quotations and summaries which have been duly acknowledged

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ABSTRACT

The thinking processes, verbalization and writing text could provide coherent and clear understanding on language, psychology and communication processes relationship within a diverse multicultural setting such as Malaysia. It started with Kaplan (1966) who introduced contrastive rhetoric concept in a seminal paper that studied hundreds of essays produced by his foreign students who are studying in the States universities and he introduced five doodles that represent five ethnic groups when communicating in English writing. In this study, in honoring the views proposed by Kaplan (1966) and Connors (1996), this study incorporated writing behavior, writing strategies and writing styles as the centerfold of the ESL writing study conducted at National Defence University, Malaysia. Three respondents that represent three main ethnic groups in Malaysia are selected as the writers of this study. The respondents' ethnics groups are the Malay, Malaysian of Chinese Descendants and Malaysian of Indian Descendants. In order to analyze that different culture affected the English writing, Hayes (1996) writing model was selected as the conceptual framework in collecting the data of this study. With Hayes (1996), this research can be conducted by assigning respondents with collaborators that come from the same ethnic groups of which the model acknowledged. This concurs with the aim of this study that analyzes the differences between individuals who come from different ethnic background when writing English essay. The instruments used in understanding this study are Narrative Inquiry (NI) notes, Thinking Aloud Protocols (TAP) transcripts and the Text Produced So Far (TPSF) writing text. It was found that the individual differences emerged though generalization is not permitted. This study is successful in determining that there are differences in term of writing behavior, strategies and styles with the aid of the introduction of the contrastive rhetoric tree as the centerfold concept of this research. At the end, this study summarized that each individual in an ethnic groups is as 'a tree in a forest' and with that concept, the EL officers instructor and instructors in the Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) would benefited the concept of 'knowing the individual tree in a forest' as opposed to 'knowing the forest, you know the trees' concept that as the preferred methodology in planning their English writing class.

SIKAP, STRATEGI DAN STAIL PENULISAN: SATU KAJIAN RHETORIK KONTRA TERHADAP TIGA KUMPULAN ETNIK DI UNIVERSITI PERTAHANAN NASIONAL

ABSTRAK

Bila proses berfikir, bercakap dan teks penulisan digabungkan, ia memberi satu kesinambungan tentang kefahaman perhubungan di antara bahasa, psikologi dan komunikasi di dalam suasana pelbagai etnik yang mempunyai pelbagai budaya seperti di Malaysia. Kajian ini diilhamkan oleh Kaplan (1996) yang telah membentangkan satu kertas seminar berkaitan retorik kontra dimana beliau telah mengkaji beratus esei karangan yang ditulis oleh pelajar-pelajar asing yang belajar di university-universiti Amerika Syarikat dan dia telah membuat dapatan bahawa terdapat lima jenis bentuk lukisan yang dapat menggambarkan lima kumpulan etnik yang mempunyai lima cara berkomunikasi yang berbeza. Kajian ini telah memilih kajian Kaplan (1966) dan kajian Connors (1996) sebagai teras untuk mengkaji sikap, strategi dan stail penulisan yang dilaksanakan di Universiti Pertahanan Malaysia. Tiga individu mewakili tiga kumpulan utama etnik di Malaysia telah dipilih sebagai responden di dalam kajian ini. Responden yang dipilih adalah terdiri dari kaum Melayu, orang Malaysia berketurunan Cina dan orang Malaysia berketurunan India. Jadi, untuk mengkaji hubungan perbezaan budaya dengan penulisan Bahasa Inggeris, satu kajian dilaksanakan berdasarkan Hayes (1996) model konsep yang digunakan sebagai konsep untuk mengambil data. Dengan konsep Hayes (1996) setiap responden diberikan seorang rakan kolaborasi yang berasal dari kumpulan etnik yang sama dengan responden. Dengan itu, dapatlah kajian ini menilai perbezaan di antara responden yang berasal dari kumpulan etnik yang berbeza apabila mereka menulis esei Bahasa Inggeris. Intrumen untuk kajian ini adalah nota 'Pertanyaan Naratif' (PN), transkrip 'Berfikir Dengan Bercakap' (BDB) dan teks penulisan yang dinamakan 'Teks Yang Dihasilkan Setakat Ini' (TYDSI). Dari dapatan kajian ini, didapati perbezaan individu di dalam kajian ini telah dapat dibuktikan, walaubagaimanapun, hasil dapatan ini tidak boleh dibuat sebagai dapatan umum dengan membuktikan bahawa setiap ahli dari kumpulan etnik tersebut mempunyai paten menulis yang sama. Kajian ini juga berjaya membuktikan bahawa ada perbezaan dalam dapatan sikap, strategi dan stail penulisan esei Bahasa Inggeris melalui konsep yang diperkenalkan iaitu 'Pokok Konsep Retorik Kontra'. Secara kesimpulannya, dapatlah dirumuskan bahawa setiap responden dalam kajian ini ibarat sebuah 'pohon di dalam kawasan hutan' dan dengan konsep ini perlu digunapakai oleh jurulatih pegawai dan jurulatih Bahasa Inggeris di dalam Angkatan Tentera Malaysia (ATM) agar mereka dapat memanfaatkan konsep mengenali penuntut mereka dengan konsep 'kenal individu pokok, maka dapat mengenali kawasan hutan' dan ini berbeza dengan praktis masakini di ATM dimana mereka lebih menyukai dan mempraktikkan konsep 'kenal hutan, maka dapat mengenali pokok di dalam hutan' dalam kelas penulisan Bahasa Inggeris mereka.