



**PRONUNCIATION PROBLEMS OF MALAY STUDENTS
LEARNING ENGLISH IN SMK METHODIST (ACS)
KLANG**

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2009

Acknowledgement

“In the name of God, the Most Gracious and Most Merciful”

First and foremost, endless gratitude and praises for Allah S.W.T. for the blessings and guidance upon me in doing this study. Without the blessings granted, I would not be able to complete this research.

Thank you very much to my supervisor, Mr. Mohd. Shahrudin Mohmud for his patience in guiding me throughout this research. His supervision truly benefits me from the first page of my academic exercise, to the last page of appendices. Without him, I would be no where near the end of this research. I owe you much, Mr. Shah.

Thank you very much to all the teacher and students of 2 Gigih and 2 Azam from Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Methodist (ACS) Klang for assisting me in completing this research. To the 20 students from 2 Gigih and 20 students from 2 Azam, thank you for your willingness and cooperation during the test. Without all of you this research would not be possible.

Last but not least thank you very much to all my TESL friends who always be side by side with me in completing this journey. Thank you to all lecturers who always give guidance and the right direction for me to follow. Alhamdulillah. I am glad that I am able to finish this.

Thank you very much.

Adris b. Ahmad Puad
April, 2009

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this particular study was to examine the pronunciation problems of Malay students learning English in SMK Methodist (ACS) Klang. This study employed a quantitative research, which results consisted of numerical data. This research was a descriptive research, where the variables were associated with a group of sample in a predictable pattern. The aim of this study was to enable students to speak with the correct pronunciation so that they can later communicate intelligibly. The sample for this study were 20 students each taken from two different classes. The first group of 20 students was placed under the control group where these students were exposed to the related teaching materials before they took the pronunciation test. The other group of 20 students was classified as the experimental group where these 20 students were not exposed to the related teaching materials before the pronunciation test. The experimental group was exposed to the teaching after they had taken the pronunciation test as to see if there were any differences in the number of errors they made during the test. The pronunciation tests were administered using words, sentences and dialogues. Findings later showed that the control group which had been exposed to the teaching materials before the pronunciation test made less errors in the phonemes tested compared to the experimental group which had not been exposed to the teaching materials. In the later part of this study, few suggestions were recommended and put forward as feedbacks to the findings.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

English has become significant linguistic tool for business people, academicians or various communities who wish to easily communicate across the world (Morly, 1991). In Malaysia, being proficient in English has become a big demand especially in the work field and daily conversation. Thus, to fulfill the demand, English language teaching in Malaysia classrooms is aimed to produce internationally intelligible English language speakers (Curriculum Development Centre, 2000). Apparently, the role of educating and producing Malaysian citizens who can converse internationally intelligible English is played by the English language teachers.

1.1 Background of the Study

In the education system of Malaysia, English is to be taught as a second language. The fact that English has been reduced to a single subject on the timetable reveals that pupils of non-speakers of English have very little exposure in learning the target language. It is a commonly acknowledged fact that learning English language is not an easy task to non- speakers of the language.