UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

TOLERANCE OF AMBIGUITY AND LANGUAGE LEARNING STRATEGY OF IPGM TEACHER TRAINEES

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Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Education

Faculty of Education

May 2013

CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of University Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

In the event that my thesis be found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive the right of conferment of my degree and agree to be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations of University Teknologi MARA.

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Thesis Title TOLERANCE OF AMBIGUITY AND

LANGUAGE LEARNING STRATEGIES OF

IPGM TEACHER TRAINEES

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Date 30th May 2013

TO MY BELOVED FAMILY

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdulillah. Thank you Allah for all the blessings that He has given me. He provides me with the much needed strength and determination to complete this mentally and physically exhausting study, in which I will cherish forever.

I am especially grateful to my dissertation supervisor, Dr. Nabilah binti Abdullah for her assistance and invaluable advices throughout the process of completing this study. Her comments, encouragement, and prompts have helped me to improve and complete this research report.

My special thanks go to my beloved family. I owe an enormous amount of debt to my parents who continuously pray for my success. I also wish to express my deepest gratitude to all my sisters, brothers, nephews and nieces for their unconditional love and support.

A few special people also deserve special mentions. My gratitude goes to my best friends, Ainur Rahmah Ellias and Zurina Khairuddin, for lending their shoulders when I had troubles in completing this.

To all my students, I love you all. Thank you.

ABSTRACT

This study explores the types and usage level of language learning strategies and the degree of tolerance of ambiguity of the Bachelor of Education in Teaching English as a Second Language in a Malaysian Teacher Training Institute (IPGM) in Terengganu. It involved 162 participants who were randomly chosen based on certain criteria set. The study also sought to find out any relationship between language learning strategies and tolerance of ambiguity. For the study, the Strategy Inventory for Language Learning (SILL for EFL/ESL) developed by Oxford (1990) and the Second Language Tolerance of Ambiguity Scale by Elly (1995) were used. It was found that the participants were of high users of different language learning strategies. It shows that language learning strategies are frequently used by them. Students' most preferred language learning strategies were the Metacognitive strategies, while the least preferred strategies were the Affective strategies. Their overall tolerance towards ambiguity was found to be above moderate nearing to high intolerance. This signifies that descriptively they do not exhibit high tolerance that would lead them to accept new and ambiguous language elements unquestioningly, nor do they possess total intolerance that could impede their second language learning process. Correlations between tolerance of ambiguity and the language learning strategies were found to be statistically significant and positively correlated, although modest. It indicates that there is indeed a relationship between those variables.