

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**TRACING TEACHERS' CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT
CONCERNS: A CASE STUDY ON FOUR TESL STUDENT-
TEACHERS**

DIANE SIMA ANAK DOUGLAS TELAJAN

Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of
Master of Education TESL

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Candidate's Declaration

I declare that the work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. The thesis has not been submitted to any academic institution or non-academic institution for any other postgraduate study 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 postgraduate study and agree to be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulation of Universiti Teknologi MARA.

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ABSTRACT

This study investigates the use of reflective journals among UiTM TESL student-teachers during their 10 weeks of formal teaching practise. This study focuses on the use of reflective journals in tracing the classroom management concerns of the student-teachers during their formal teaching practise. In this study, teachers' classroom management is categorized into three categories that are establishing physical and psychological environment, and monitoring students' behaviour and learning progress. Aside from that, this study also attempts to find out the student-teachers' perceptions on the use of the reflective journals. The data of this research is obtained from document analyses from the student-teachers' diaries and interviews done with the student-teachers. The interviews were done on two of the four research participants due to logistic reasons. From the document analysis of the student-teachers' diaries, it is found that reflective journals provide evidence of the student-teachers' concerns in classroom management especially in terms of their class' psychological environment and how they are to monitor their students' behaviour and learning progress. Moreover, based on the interviews done, it is essential to note that both participants believe that reflective journal writing would be beneficial if the teachers know how and what to reflect on. The results of this study also show that the UiTM TESL student-teachers have a positive attitude towards the use of reflective journals during their formal teaching training. It is also found that reflective journals are beneficial in helping the student-teachers improve their classroom management concerns by encouraging them to become more critical in their thinking. The findings from the study can be taken as examples for student-teachers in the future on what and how to go about writing their reflective journal. Aside from that, this study is beneficial for future student-teachers in exposing them the various categories of classroom management that they need to keep in mind in the near future. Moreover, the findings that have been obtained from this study is helpful in giving insights to student-teachers that reflective journals can be used as a very useful learning tool for them. However, it is suggested that future research should focus on investigating the quality of reflection by student-teachers. It is also recommended to future researchers to include observation as one of the research instrument while interviews should be carried out on the student-teachers' supervisor and mentor in order to obtain information on their opinion regarding the observations they have done on the student-teachers.

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji penggunaan jurnal reflektif di kalangan pelajar TESL UiTM Shah Alam semasa latihan praktikal di sekolah-sekolah yang telah ditetapkan. Kertas kerja ini mengfokuskan penggunaan jurnal reflektif untuk mengesan 'concern' dalam pengurusan kelas di antara cikgu-cikgu pelatih yang sedang menjalankan latihan praktikal masing-masing. Kertas kerja ini juga bertujuan untuk mengetahui pandangan guru pelatih terhadap kegunaan jurnal reflektif. Data kertas kerja ini telah diperolehi melalui analisa jurnal reflektif para guru pelatih, dan temu bual telah dilaksanakan kepada dua daripada empat peserta kajian tersebut disebabkan kesulitan logistik. Dari analisa document diari guru pelatih, ditemukan bahawa reflektif jurnal mempamerkan bukti 'concern' para cikgu pelatih dalam pengurusan kelas mereka. Hasil daripada kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa para guru pelatih telah memberikan respon yang positif terhadap penggunaan jurnal reflektif semasa praktikal mengajar formal mereka. Selain itu, hasil daripada kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa jurnal reflektif adalah berguna untuk memperbaiki 'concern' pengurusan kelas dengan menyokong mereka untuk menjadi individu yang berpemikiran lebih kritikal. Hasil daripada kajian ini juga dapat diambil sebagai contoh untuk guru pelatih dikemudian hari. Justeru, hasil kajian ini juga amat berguna dalam memberi petunjuk and mendedahkan guru-pelatih yang akan datang akan kategori pengurusan kelas yang mereka perlukan untuk masa terdekat. Lebih daripada itu, kajian ini juga amat berguna untuk memberi pandangan kepada guru-pelatih bahawa jurnal reflektif dapat digunakan sebagai alat pembelajaran. Namun, adalah dicadangkan bahawa kajian masa depan memberi fokus kepada penyelidikan mutu refleksi oleh guru-pelatih. Selain itu, amat disarankan kepada pengkaji yang akan datang untuk mengambil kira pemerhatian sebagai satu instrumen pengkajian. Oleh yang demikian, temu bual penyelia and mentor guru pelatih juga harus dijalankan bagi memperolehi informasi and pendapat terhadap pencapaian guru pelatih tertentu.