UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH STUDENTS' ORAL TEST PERFORMANCE

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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 to not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

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ABSTRACT

Students' test anxiety was identified to be one of the influencing factors which might give impact to their overall language performance (Chan and Wu, 2004). Accordingly, the main purpose of the study was to examine the relationships between the performance of students in School-based Oral English Test and their anxiety level, attitudes and perceptions towards language learning and their learning environment. The main problems students faced based on their own opinion were also investigated. A descriptive-correlational research design was employed in this study. The quantitative and qualitative data collection involved the use of a questionnaire, open-ended questions and interviews. Participants were 108 form four students and two English teachers in a boarding school in Terengganu. Results from the quantitative data indicated that there was a weak correlation between the Oral English scores and the students' anxiety level, attitudes and learning environment. However, qualitative data revealed the considerable magnitude of influence the independent variables had on the oral performance. Qualitative data also demonstrated other contributing factors like grammar skills and vocabulary which emerged from interviews and open-ended questions. This indicated that there were many variables influencing the students' speaking abilities. The findings of this study generally can help the teachers and administrators of the school studied and other boarding schools in Terengganu to plan and identify the best ways and strategies to further improve the students' perceptions and practices of communicating in English.

ABSTRAK

Tahap kebimbangan pelajar terhadap ujian telah didapati menjadi salah satu faktor penyumbang terhadap pencapaian mereka secara keseluruhan (Chan dan Wu, 2004). Sehubungan itu, tujuan utama kajian ini dijalankan adalah untuk mengenalpasti hubungan di antara pencapaian lisan pelajar di dalam Ujian Lisan Bahasa Inggeris Berasaskan Sekolah dengan tahap kebimbangan, sikap dan persepsi mereka terhadap pembelajaran dan juga situasi pembelajaran pelajar. Masalah-masalah utama yang dihadapi pelajar dalam menjalankan tugasan berbentuk lisan juga dikaji. Rekabentuk penyelidikan deskriptif-korelasi telah digunakan di dalam kajian ini. Data kuantitatif dan kualitatif dikumpul menggunakan boring kaji selidik, soalan terbuka dan temubual. Subjek kajian merupakan 108 pelajar tingkatan empat dan dua orang guru Bahasa Inggeris di sebuah sekolah menengah berasrama penuh di Terengganu. Dapatan data kuantitatif menunjukkan terdapatnya satu hubungan yang agak lemah di antara pencapaian lisan Bahasa Inggeris dengan tahap kebimbangan, sikap dan situasi pembelajaran pelajar. Namun begitu, data kualitatif mendapati wujudnya pengaruh yang kuat di antara pembolehubah tak bersandar terhadap pencapaian lisan pelajar. Data kualitatif juga menunjukkan faktor-faktor penyumbang yang lain seperti kemahiran tatabahasa dan perbendaharaan kata yang dikesan melalui temubual dan soalan terbuka. Ini menunjukkan terdapat banyak faktor yang mempengaruhi pencapaian lisan pelajar. Dapatan kajian dapatlah digunakan untuk membantu guru dan pentadbir di sekolah kajian dan sekolah-sekolah berasrama penuh di Terengganu untuk mengenalpasti dan merancang strategi dan cara yang terbaik untuk meningkatkan persepsi dan amalan berkomunikasi di dalam Bahasa Inggeris di kalangan pelajar.

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