



**READING HABITS AMONG MARA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
SAMARAHAN CAMPUS, SARAWAK (UiTMCS) STUDENTS.**

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ABSTRACT

This research show that the result of our research toward the *Reading Habits Among UiTMCS Students*. The hypothesis that we used to test the research are ; there is significant relationship between the services and activities that has been provided by the library and the UiTMCS Students reading habits; the parents encouragements affect the students reading habits; the amount the money spent for buying reading material affect the students reading habits. For this research we have 142 respondents, who are the UiTMCS students. We have distributed questionnaires to get information for the purpose of analyze data and research. The questionnaires are divided into five Sections; A, B, C, and E. All of the questions are related and easy for us to interpret the data. The analysis and the hypothesis that we use in the research are using statistical method such as the percentage and the table are used to give us the view of the research. The result of the findings shows that the parents' encouragement, amount of money spent to buy reading materials and the role of library does affect the students reading habits and motivate them to read. To increase reading habits among the UiTMCS students, the library should organized more activities to promote reading habits among students .

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction To The Study

According to the last National Survey carried out in 1997 by the National Library, the average Malaysian reads only 2 books a year. This is an improvement compared to an earlier survey in 1982, which revealed that an average Malaysian read a mere page or two a year.¹

Academic success at the tertiary level is likely a multidimensional phenomenon that includes language proficiency, learning and study and certain personal characteristic (Stoynoff. S 1997: 56). In 1996, August was declared as National Reading Month by the government to instill the reading habit among the people. However, it was later changed to July, following the lunch of Merdeka Month (August) a few years later. This shows that government put a lot effort to ensure that we can achieve the objective of the vision 2020 that is to minimize illiteracy among people at the year 2010.

Although, a lot of effort has been done by the government to make reading habits as part of Malaysian culture but our country still facing problem on why Malaysian read less compare to citizen in other country.

Lack of time and access to reading material is an obvious and outdated excuse. The cooperation between Ministry of education and the National Library introduce NILAM (Nadi Ilmu Amalan Membaca) program in order to enhance reading habits and also to exert reading culture among the school students.

¹ The Star Online: *Reading Month Carnival*, June 29, 2003, Page 2 of 2

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

According to a research, in the process of searching for knowledge, one needs to read, and it is generally known that 85% to 90% of the education learning process in the institutions of higher learning is conducted through reading.³ People gain knowledge and information through reading, as it is a part of the educational process.

Our government, through the Ministry of Education has carry out many activities to nurture reading habit as part of our culture. To nurture and instill reading habits among the Malaysian is not an easy task. The government needs to double their effort to ensure that our society will achieve its objective in order to make reading habits as part of our culture.

One of the goals of Malaysia vision 2020 is to minimize illiteracy rate among the peoples. For the passed few years, our government has successfully reduce the rate of illiteracy among the Malaysian people. However, to instill the reading habit culture to our society and community is still in its early stages.

³ Asri Aziz (1992) *Membaca Yang Berkesan*, Dewan Siswa., Page 24