



The **Epitome** */I'pitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Cawangan Kedah

*We are back!
Welcoming the epitome of artistic ideas &
astonishing writers!*

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SYNOPSIS

The Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Cawangan Kedah is thrilled to announce the release of the second edition of its e-magazine, The Epitome. This publication exemplifies our steady dedication to fostering creativity in language and literature.

The primary objective of THE EPITOME is to offer a platform where writers, educators, scholars, poets, and researchers can come together to exchange their ideas, discoveries, expertise, and narratives. Our special focus revolves around an array of creative writing genres, encompassing Playwriting, Short stories, Songs, Speeches, Memoirs, Literary Journalism, Humour writing, Lyric essays, Innovative essays, and Personal essays, with a goal to embrace diverse linguistic expressions, with content available in four languages: English, Bahasa Melayu, Mandarin, and Arabic.

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Every day is learning curves...

Dear Readers,

We are back! We are thrilled to present a collection of articles that we believe capture the essence of the writers. Our team has worked diligently to curate content that we hope will both engage and resonate with you.

In these pages, you will find a diverse range of perspectives on life, from joy to sorrow. We hope these pieces inspire reflection and spark meaningful conversations.

We want to express our deepest gratitude to our talented contributors for their time and expertise. Their dedication is what makes the second issue of Epitome possible.

As always, we value your feedback. Please do not hesitate to reach out with your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you for being a part of our Epitome community.

Warm regards,

Razanawati Nordin
Editor-in-Chief,
The Epitome

EDITOR'S NOTE

The power of using the correct words and phrases to motivate others:

A learning process and gained through experiences.

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1) I pursued MMedEd (Master of Medical Education) at University Malaya (UM) on my own effort, self-funded. (I already hold a Ph.D. and M.Sc. in my field and do not need another master's degree). My initial goal in enrolling in this programme was to strengthen my basic skills as a medical educator. I gained a lot by attending all the lectures on education and thereafter sitting for the written exam. This self-effort is neither for promotion nor for career requirements. Although it was a coursework programme, candidates are required to submit a dissertation as a requirement for master's completion. Because of this requirement, I went through many hurdles and deferred for more than 1.5 years.

My supervisor from UM kept motivating me by using the word: "WE". Whenever I told him that I could not do this and I wanted to defer, and also when there were too many corrections along the way of writing, I became silent for a few weeks due to stress. I felt like I was giving up on finishing the writing.

He came back to me with these sentences:

"We must graduate. I will help you".

" We must do this together."

" We need to be patient."

The word WE made me feel less pressured; contrarily, it motivated me. Because of his persistence in using the word WE, I finally completed the submission.

Alhamdulillah.

2) Throughout the ups and downs of writing, my husband kept saying:

"We need to finish this. We have spent a lot for this master's, and the more you defer the submission, the more money we need to spend". "We need to submit this. Our kids are waiting for their mother's attention"

The word WE, appearing to be a co-commitment again repeated by my husband, rekindled my enthusiasm. We need to finish this because of my children and money matters.

Finally, I submitted the dissertation, thus completing all the requirements for MMedEd. Alhamdulillah. I did not expect that I could manage to complete this despite all the hurdles, including the challenging time after giving birth to my only daughter in the past 6 months. The master's degree is not a requirement for my career development, yet I gained self-satisfaction as an educator. The constant motivation from my supervisor and husband had a profound impact for me to move forward. This experience taught me the power of using the correct words and phrases in challenging time.

3) Today, I met my postgraduate student who is having some problems in our lab; I changed my style and approach:

"We can do this XXX; I will be with you throughout the troubleshooting phase."

"We can do this XXX. We will appreciate this learning experience once we sort this out."

Then I could see her eyes light up. This is the power of using the correct words and phrases to motivate others.

Lesson and I'brah:

I learn and learn and learn. I learn how to be a good educator as well as how to include humanistic value in all actions. It is a learning process, the beauty of motivating others, the art of nurturing positivism in others, and how an educator should approach his or her students. As Muslims, we need to relate all these motivations with "ghayatul hayah" (the purpose of life).

Life is to be kind to others, and life is to motivate others, especially toward your students. They are your stakeholders. They are your ticket to Jannah. Be kind and keep motivating them.



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