



The **Epitome** */I'pitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Cawangan Kedah

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

2023
Volume 1
Issue 2

COPYRIGHT PAGE

Copyright© 2023 by Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah Branch.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, copied, stored in any retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission from the Rector, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Kedah Branch, 08400 Merbok, Kedah, Malaysia.

The views, opinions, and technical recommendations expressed by the contributors are entirely their own and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors, the Faculty or the University.

eISSN 3009 – 0075

Published by:

UiTM Cawangan Kedah,

Pn. Razanawati Nordin, Chief Editor,

UiTM Cawangan Kedah, Kampus Sg. Petani, 08400 Merbok, Kedah

Email address: razanawati@uitm.edu.my

Contact No: 044562421

Copy Editor: Ms. NurFarisya Binti Hafiz

Graphic Designer: Mr. Mohd Hamidi Adha Mohd Amin

APB KEDAH: THE EPITOME EDITORIAL BOARD

Advisor



Mr. Azlan Abdul Rahman

Chief
Editors



Dr. Nur Syazwanie
Mansor



Puan Razanawati
Nordin

Managing Editors
& Promotion



Puan Sharifah Syakila
Syed Shaharuddin

Editor &
Content Reviewers



Puan Hajjah
Sharina Saad



Puan Phaveena
Primsuwan



Puan Samsiah
Bidin



Dr. Berlian
Nur Morat



Puan Syazliyat
Ibrahim



Ustaz Mohd
Zulkhairi Abd
Hamid



Puan Noor 'Izzati
Ahmad Shafiai



Cik Lee Chai Chuen



Mr. Mohd Hamidi
Adha Mohd Amin

Secretaries



Puan Nor Asni
Syahriza Abu
Hassan



Puan Mas Aida
Abd Rahim



Puan Rafidah
Amat



Puan Khairul Wanis
Ahmad

Technical
& Website



Mr. Mohd Hamidi
Adha Mohd Amin

Graphic
Designer



Cik NurFarisya Hafiz

Copy
Editor

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.

table of contents

我的快乐时代	21
By: Lee Seng Hua Department of Wood Industry, Faculty of Applied Sciences , UiTM Pahang Branch Jengka Campus	
Imbauan Semalam	22
By:Melina Mahpuz Fakulti Komunikasi dan Pengajian Media, UiTM Shah Alam	
Lamunanku Terhenti	25
By: Dr. Mohd Izani Othman Fakulti Farmasi, UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang Kampus Bertam	
When Something Ends	27
By: Muna Liyana Mohamad Tarmizi Akademi Pengajian Bahasa UiTM Shah Alam, Selangor	
My DRP Journey	28
By: Nurul Nadiah Dewi Faizul Ganapathy Academy of Language Studies	
Customer Services 101	30
By: Razanawati Nordin Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Cawangan Kedah, Kampus Sg. Petani	
Observation	32
By: Ruzana Omar UiTM Kuala Terengganu	
Reconnecting Millennials with Society	34
By: Dr Sheikh Ali Azzran Sh Said School of Construction and Quantity Surveying, College of Built Environment, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam	
A Never-Ending Vacation	36
By: Sharifah Syakila Syed Shahrudin & Sharifah Sharmaine Syed Shahrudin	
Hurtful Authenticity or Flattering Lies	38
By: Nor Asni Syahriza Abu Hassan Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch	
A Mother's Anguish	40
By: Sharina Saad Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch	

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

Hurtful Authenticity or Flattering Lies

Nor Asni Syahriza Abu Hassan

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch
syahriza@uitm.edu.my



People have been blabbing that “honesty is the best policy”, and every time we ask for feedback, we often assert “be honest, okay”. A simple example would be a man-woman or spousal’s exchange of ideas. The woman would ask, “honey, what d’you think of these heels? Be honest, okay”! The man, seconds before responding, whispers to himself, “Nooooo, not this again”. Then encouragingly (though somewhat hesitant) would say “They’re nice”. I seriously don’t have to write the rest of the conversation. We all know ideas are not often exchanged when a woman converses with her man, they are mostly directives.

We do want people around us to tell us the truth, that is why we tell them to be honest, be real, be authentic. But to what extent can we handle it? Just like the woman, can she handle the man’s truthful opinion? Will she be satisfied with the authentic response?

The problem is, when we ask for feedback or opinion, we already have a definite answer about the matter, we just need reassurance, second-opinion to actually agree with us. So, when the feedback is not on the same boat with ours, we stop listening, we show rejection in different ways. The husbands would suddenly have the silent treatment, family is torn apart, good friends would suddenly not speak to one another anymore are the devastating effects of rejection to truth.

Sadly, when people have formed a description of you, that you cannot handle the truth, the next time we ask for feedback, we would normally get flattering lies. It’s not people who are fake, but your personality makes them to force fakeness for the greater good, i.e. you wouldn’t be hurt and relationships are saved.

Flattering lies are surely good for the ears, and for your self-esteem too, but they impede your growth. I’d honestly say, when asking for feedback or opinion from the people we know, love and trust, our husband, our family, our best friends, let them have their honest say.

If they say that you shouldn’t wear pink, so don’t. If they say you need to do your job like that and not like this, so you do it like that. It wouldn’t hurt nor will it lead to your death if you make changes in your lives if changes are good for you. In my opinion, to always “do you” is too arrogant. Then, there are ... supposedly-constructive criticisms that are not welcomed. It is people’s judgement about us, how basically strangers see us.

I was once told that I should speak ‘proper’ Bahasa Malaysia and not a kampung one, because it doesn’t represent my educational qualification and my occupation.

I wonder, should I be speaking British English with my jiran kampung when we are merely talking about going to the nat pokok getah (morning market)? And mind you, I am from the northern region, even if I were to speak standard bahasa let alone English, my jiran kampung who is also my good friend would say “hang mabuk ka apa”? I know I’m not the only one who has been judged.

“How old are you? Shouldn’t you think about getting married”? Then when we do get married, they’ll ask “how many children do you have? None! You should go and see a doctor”.

Then, the number of children we have could be too few or too many! “Shouldn’t you think about family planning? You already have five!”.

GOODNESS LORD! WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT???

These homo-sapiens, as long as they come with a mouth that functions, they are going to keep talking, commenting about you. We get judged all of our lives, about everything by everyone. These are strangers, people we don’t know that well, maybe people we don’t even like or trust, then you can actually filter their comments. “Filter” is the word, not reject.

When someone I know but not too well, or too close told me I should speak properly, I stopped, listened and analysed, I wasn’t in a classroom, teaching. I was with a good friend of mine from my kampung, so to speak the way I spoke, would be appropriate.

When even strangers say “you need to cover your aurat”, take a moment to listen, comprehend and realise.

Don’t reject and say “I am covering my aurat”, without realizing the clothes we have on are too tight.

When strangers say “You’re too loud”, take a moment to listen, comprehend and realise.

Don’t reject and say “So what? This is me and I am going to be myself”, without realising we are a disturbance to others.

These criticisms are often assumed to be foul judgement, so we tend to reject them straight away, thinking we are doing the right thing. Sometimes, they mean well, because they are authentic, and not lies.



The
Epitome
/I'pitəmi/

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Cawangan Kedah

eISSN 3009-0075



9 773009 007004