



The
Epitome
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Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

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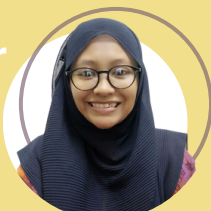
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synopsis

The Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Cawangan Kedah is thrilled to announce the release of the third 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.

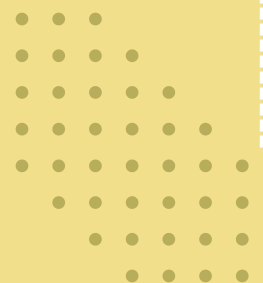




table of **contents:**

Island Echoes: A Memoir of Bandung's Enchanting Beauty, And the Rest of Indonesia	17
by Fahmi Samsudin, Mohamad Firdaus Azman & Mohd Zaidi Sulaiman	
Journey of a Dreamer	19
by Dr Azura Binti Abdul Rahman	
Kembara Hajah Yom Ke Tanah Suci	21
by Ibtisam Abdul Wahab	
Kisah Di Suatu Petang Saat Hujan Membasahi Bumi	24
by Noorliza Zainol, Abdul Rahman Ahmad Rozali, Norrina Din & Mohamad Azli Razali	
Language & Wordscapes: The Behavioural Dynamics	26
by Jean Hoo Fang Jing & Raihan Ibrahim	
Life of a Solo Traveler	28
by Zaity Akhtar Binti Mukhtar	
Makan Bantal Atau Cukur Bantal?	29
by Hema Zulaika Hashim (Phd)	
Malaysia's Merida	31
by Sara Tasnim Binti Samsudin & Assoc. Prof. Dr Maheran Binti Katan	
Memori Pulau Kenangan	32
by G Sharina Shahrudin	



Preface



Mr. Azlan Abdul Rahman

Head of Faculty
Academy of Language Studies
UiTM Kedah Branch

Welcome to Epitome, the 3rd Issue – a collection of thoughts, reflections, and stories that encapsulate the essence of an academic's journey. As the pages unfold, you will embark on a thoughtful exploration of the human experience, woven through the threads of joy, sorrow, and everything in between.

In designing this compilation, our intention is to offer readers a mirror to their own experiences, inviting moments of reflection and connection. Epitome is not just a creative publication; it is an invitation to pause, reflect, and find quality in the shared tapestry of our existence.

Through these pages, the reader may encounter familiar landscapes of the heart and perhaps discover a transformed perspective on the beauty and complexity of academic life. Each piece within Epitome is a humble contribution to the ongoing dialogue of what it means to be human.

I extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have been a part of this journey – especially to all the contributors and the esteemed Epitome Editorial Team. Your involvement and presence surely added depth and meaning to this publication.

May Epitome serve as a companion, provoking thought and sparking moments of connection and collaboration.

Thank you for embarking on this literary voyage with us.

Editor-In-Chief



Creativity is intelligence having fun

Dear Epitome Community,

We are back for the third issue and enthusiastic to share with all of you the collection of creative writings crafted by dedicated and imaginative writers. In this third issue, we present a variety of articles ranging from playwriting to lyric essays, each offering a unique tone and style of writing. Thanks to all the creative and talented writers, we hope these pieces can inspire you in various ways.

We would like to extend our congratulations to all the inspiring writers for their valuable contributions and unwavering support. Many of these names are familiar to us, as some have been submitting their work since our first volume. Additionally, we would like to express our gratitude to the dedicated committee and reviewers for their time and expertise.

Thank you for being a part of our Epitome community.

Till the next volume,

Dr. Nur Syazwanie Mansor
Editor-in-Chief,
The Epitome

Language & Wordscapes: The Behavioural Dynamics

Jean Hoo Fang Jing & Raihan Ibrahim

Academy of Language Studies, Alor Gajah, UiTM Cawangan Melaka

Word choice counts every time we speak, and I have been stressing this to my students, friends, and even my own children since I began teaching a long time ago. Knowing and learning how to speak appropriately is surely a vital element in our lives, as the language we use on a regular basis represents our true nature. But these days, when we listen to the words of the younger generation, and the adults even worse, it sounds nothing like this!

Speaking mindlessly is effortless. Even easier is the choice not to connect with others and listen to them with sincerity. Words have the power to bring about catastrophe when said carelessly and it appears like nothing counts in today's culture. Ideas, aspirations, and actions are either bolstered or dampened by words. Words can evoke a wide range of emotions, from joy to sadness, fear to wrath, and even hope. A person's surroundings, profession, and life are all impacted by the words they choose to use.

I don't remember a time when I was very careful with my choice of words or how I used them, but there were plenty of instances when I despised careless language use that caused harm to myself or others. I hated people behind their backs for using nasty remarks, and I didn't even realise it. The impact of social media has only made matters worse. When we define and speak about an issue in a certain way, we invite other people to do the same. The words we use and the way we frame an issue can have a profound impact on how another person perceives it. The basic theory is that what isn't named can't be counted. And what can't be counted can't be acted upon.



Is it so hard to use appropriate language when expressing one's opinions and ideas? Does it truly disturb the fact that the appropriate vocabulary used to respect others has been declining dramatically over the years, and that we as a culture do not practise good language? Where are all the lessons in good manners and polite speech that we were taught when we were little? The necessity of including fundamental civics in the school curriculum begs the question: why?

There must be a lot of people out there that are worried about this. There are many people in society who have been offended using harsher language than in the past. These people include grandparents, parents, educators, members of extended families, friends, coworkers, members of the public, and everyone else. Inappropriate language used by adults, particularly in films and social media has reached younger generations. We need to find a way to cope with this unfortunate reality, or perhaps make a change?

Words have power, and people need to start recognising that. Humans' idiocy and intelligence are mirrored in the language we employ. It is indeed the case that we reside in a world where individuals are making the mistake of judging others. We undoubtedly made sincere efforts to instruct the younger generation in the use of proper language even though we failed to do so ourselves. Our civilisation is sick, and we must accept this fact and work together to find a cure.

The fact that language is fundamental to human interaction is something we tend to forget from time to time. Our connections, emotions, and contributions to those around us and our shared environment are all shaped by how we choose to use it. For this reason, I think that the way we express ourselves verbally is crucial to our personal and social development. It is through words that we build or break relationships, that we acquire knowledge and pass it on, and that we shape our reality and our way of life to a significant degree.

How you are shaped by your environment is quite dynamic. The world around you is heavily dependent on words. Mind the language around you if you desire a shift for the better in your professional and personal life. Power is contained in words. Words Bring Power. What are you doing with yours?

The End.



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