



The **Epitome** */i'pitəmi/*

Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Kedah Branch

Capturing Life Lessons and Moments

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Copyright Page

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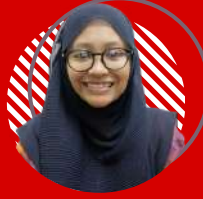


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Synopsis



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

The primary objective of THE EPITOME is to offer a platform for 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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Preface

Mr. Azlan Abdul Rahman
Head of Faculty
Academy of Language Studies
UiTM Kedah Branch

Welcome to the fourth issue of *Epitome*, where creativity and imagination shine brightly. Within these pages, you will discover a rich tapestry of voices and visions—each piece a celebration of the limitless potential of words.

This issue of *Epitome* is more than a mere publication; it is a tribute to the art of storytelling in all its forms. Whether you are captivated by evocative poetry, enthralled by engaging short stories, or intrigued by insightful essays, we aim to present something that resonates with every reader.

We are passionate about the transformative power of literature, and we hope that this collection will inspire, challenge, and delight you. As you explore these pages, may you uncover new perspectives and experiences that enrich your own creative journey.

Thank you for embarking on this literary adventure with us.

Happy reading!





Editor InChief

Dear gentle readers,

Let me welcome you to our fourth edition of e-magazine, where we explore the beauty of life's journey. Our theme, "Capturing Life Lessons and Moments," encourages you to pause, reflect, and celebrate the wisdom that arises from everyday experiences.

Life is a mosaic of moments, each with the potential to teach us something profound, inspire change, or remind us of the surrounding beauty. Within these pages, we have unfolded stories, reflections, and insights that illuminate the lessons woven into the fabric of our lives. From the quiet wisdom found in fleeting moments to the power of life-changing events, this edition pays tribute to the learning that occurs beyond the classroom, in the heart of our daily lives.

Our contributors have poured their hearts into capturing these moments, sharing personal stories that resonate with authenticity and depth. You will find essays exploring the significance of small acts of kindness, articles reflecting on the lessons learned from adversity, and creative pieces celebrating the joy found in simple leisure. Each piece serves as a reminder that life's greatest lessons often emerge from the most unexpected places.

As you flip through this edition, we hope you find inspiration in the shared stories and perhaps discover a mirror to your own experiences. May these pages encourage you to appreciate the moments that shape you, learn from the challenges that test you, and embrace the wisdom that life offers at every step of your journey.

Thank you for joining us in exploring life's lessons and moments. We invite you to take your time, savour each piece, and maybe even gain a new perspective on the experiences that have shaped your own life.

Happy reading!

Warm regards,

Razanawati Nordin
Editor-in-Chief
THE EPITOME





Beneath The Canopy of Sakura

Zaiton Md Isa & Simah Md Noor
Akademi Pengajian Bahasa, UTM Shah Alam

In the realm where your body, once stiffened by the snow, eagerly awaits the emergence of a new season, a transformation unfolds. As the winter chill dissipates, you persist in anticipation of the blooming of a new life. In the season of blossoms, your essence unfolds without the burden of leaves. Your beauty becomes an aspiration, carrying with it a thousand hopes—a prelude to a new beginning.

Under the azure sky, I traverse the array of your floral companions, each tree a testament to your grace. My soul finds tranquility, relishing in the beauty crafted by the divine. The fragrance you exude imparts strength, and the smoothness of your hues bestows serenity. With your strength as my ally, I continue to tread upon this blessed earth. Fueled by the spirit of your blossoming, I persevere in my journey. You, however, are but a fleeting presence, swept away by the breeze of the spring. Falling like a tapestry, you blanket the earth, teaching me the value of a momentary existence, one rich in meaning.

Sakura...

In this land under the rising sun, I too navigate life's brief moments. Though ephemeral, I shall traverse them with the hope that this fleeting opportunity may yield a multitude of goodness in the days to come.

Sakura...

Throughout your ephemeral existence, I begin to grasp the essence of life. Your presence, though brief, bequeaths a thousand beauties. It dawns on me that life is not an everlasting entity but a transient experience. Embrace it with hope and an unwavering spirit. No matter the strength of the challenges, face them with wisdom, much like the Sakura born in the cold without leaves by its side. Blooming gracefully, it serves as a dedication to the eyes that behold it.





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