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Permulaan yang sempurna

Tell Us A Story

Haliza Ab Ghani

Lecturer, Academy Of Language Studies

Storytelling definitely had a certain magic when we were kids. Storytimes, whether spent before bed, around the dinner table, or on a lazy afternoon with family, had a way of capturing our imaginations and taking us to other places. We loved hearing tales of brave heroes, mischievous tricksters, and faraway lands filled with adventure and wonder. Every story was like a key that opened a new world of possibilities.

Listening to stories as children, we didn't just hear the words—we felt them. We became part of the story, living the adventures alongside the characters. When the hero faced a challenge, we felt the tension in our own hearts. When they triumphed, we celebrated with them. The stories taught us about the do's and the don'ts, about kindness and bravery, about love and friendship.

Stories also had a comforting rhythm, a sense of familiarity that made us feel safe. No matter how many times we heard the same tale, it never lost its magic. We knew the endings by heart, but that didn't matter. What mattered was the journey, the way the story unfolded, and the joy of being swept up in it once more.

The stories our parents and grandparents told us when we were kids set as rubrics for our own narrative development. They showed us the power of words, the beauty of imagination, and the importance of sharing our own stories with others. We never lose our love for stories as children; it just evolves into who we are and how we interact with the world. Through these shared stories, we learnt about each other's experiences, cultures, and perspectives. These moments weren't just about fun; they were the foundation of relationships that helped us grow and see the world from different angles.



Keeping Students Engaged with Storytelling

The ability to tell stories is more than just a skill—it's a pathway to sharing ideas, expressing opinions, and making an impact. In the classroom, stories made lessons come alive. To better understand complex ideas, science concepts were easier to grasp when presented through a story. And when it came to literature, we weren't just reading words on a page; we were stepping into new worlds, walking in someone else's shoes, and experiencing emotions that helped us understand life a little better.

As we move from those school years into our teaching careers at UiTM, the power of storytelling continues to be just as important. Lecturers play a key role in helping students understand and engage with what they're learning. While traditional lectures can be effective, adding storytelling can make lessons more relatable and easier to remember. When lecturers use stories, we're not just teaching facts—we're giving context and meaning, which helps students see a clearer vision of the subject taught.

Keeping students engaged is a common struggle for lecturers. With many distractions, capturing and holding students' attention can be tough. This is where storytelling comes in handy; it adds interest and makes the material more enjoyable. When students hear a story, they're more likely to pay attention and remember what they've learnt.

Besides, stories can also trigger emotions, making the information stick better in students' minds. On top of that, stories frequently feature issues and their solutions, which can provoke thought and conversation among students.

Industry Insights: The Need for Storytelling

Employers in today's competitive job market are seeking candidates with strong communication and creative thinking skills. Just having good ideas is not enough—the ability to sell them is needed. That's where storytelling comes in. It's the bridge between creativity and communication.

During visits from industry professionals to Akademi Pengajian Bahasa, one suggestion that often comes up is the importance of students being proficient at storytelling. Industry leaders emphasise that in the workplace, the ability to express ideas clearly and compellingly is crucial. Whether it's pitching a new concept, presenting a project, or simply communicating in a team, storytelling is a key skill that employers look for.

Students who master storytelling can better express their ideas, making them more persuasive and effective communicators. This skill is not just useful in academic settings but is also highly valued in the workplace environment. Therefore, it's important for educational institutions to focus on developing students' storytelling abilities as part of their overall communication skills.



Encouraging Students to Share Their Own Stories

Each student has a unique perspective, and by sharing their stories, they bring more depth and variety to the discussion. In addition, students are able to learn from one another and improve their own learning experience.

Furthermore, storytelling fosters creativity and critical thinking. By encouraging students to think about how they present their ideas, they learn to see different perspectives, anticipate questions, and find the best way to communicate their message. This particular way of thinking is what drives innovation and problem-solving in any field.

However, storytelling isn't just about speaking; it also involves listening skills. When students engage in storytelling, they also learn to listen more effectively—to pick up on the emotions, intonations, and motivations of others. This aspect is a crucial factor for building strong relationships, whether in personal interactions or in professional settings.

By nurturing storytelling skills in our university students, we're equipping them with the tools they need to excel in their future careers. We're teaching them how to stand out, how to lead, and how to make a difference. In a nutshell, the ability to tell a compelling story is invaluable. When these skills are mastered, it can open doors to countless opportunities.

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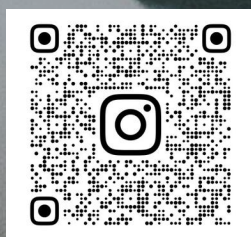
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