

**THE EFFECTS OF ETeMS TOWARDS STUDENTS IN
RURAL AREA**

**NAZIRAH BINTI ABD AZIZ
2006146029**

**FACULTY OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to investigate the effects of ETeMS towards students in rural area which will find out the achievement in English subject, the difficulties encountered by students and also the strategies used to cope with the learning of Mathematics and Science in English. To identify whether there is improvement in students' English achievement, a document reviews method is being used to analyze a group of students' result of English paper from they were form one until they are form five. The difficulties and strategies being used by the rural students are identified through a set of questionnaire distributed to 52 respondents. The document review which involved participant of a class of 21 students has revealed that their English achievement has deteriorated significantly starting from the last PMR result until form five. While the questionnaire findings revealed that the most prominent difficulty faced by students are they have to refer to dictionary if they do not understand words, language barrier whereby it is a lot easier to understand if they learn both of the subjects in Malay and lastly is students request for explanation of the subjects in Malay language when they do not understand it. While among the strategies being adopted by students are by buying additional reference books, forming study group with peers who are better in the subjects and lastly is by keep on referring to dictionary to find definition of difficult words. It is hoped that this research will be able to help future researchers to do develop another study by using the data being collected in my study. Besides, it is also hoped that English teachers out there will get benefits or ideas from this research to improve students' English proficiency in their classroom.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

The implementation of teaching Mathematics and Science in English was proposed by our former Prime Minister, Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad due to the falling standards in English language competency among school students. The Malaysian government concerns with the current scenario during that time as they are responsible in preparing workforces to meet the challenges of a globalize world in 21st century. As English has become the international language and widely used all over the world, thus it is a need to be a competent user of English language in order to keep on track with all the new technology formation and its knowledge. Hence, the implementation of the new education policy in teaching Mathematics and Science in English is seen as the best way in improving students' English language proficiency. Nevertheless, throughout the implementation of this policy starting from 2003, many researches have been done to measure the pros and cons of it and the Deputy Prime Minister who is also the Education Minister had announced on the reversal of the medium of instruction after analyzing the outcomes from several surveys and studies done on this matter recently, (The Star, July 8, 2009).