

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**THE PERCEPTIONS OF PART 1 FACULTY OF EDUCATION  
STUDENTS TOWARDS FACTORS AFFECTING ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE LEARNING AND LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study was aimed to investigate the perceptions of first year students of Universiti Teknologi Mara, UiTM towards English language learning and the level of language proficiency. This study takes into account feedback from 104 respondents from seven different programs. This study was conducted to determine the factor that most affect English language learning as well as the level of proficiency among students. There are five main factors highlighted in this study, namely, motivation, attitude, home environment, learning strategies and linguistic distance. Thus, the five factors studied the correlation in order to determine the factors that most affect the students in learning and mastering English proficiency level. The findings of the study indicated that 'motivation' is perceived as the most important factor by the students. Then, the results of the study also showed that there is a weak positive correlation between gender differences and students' motivation. Besides that, this study also proposed that there is no significant relationship between motivation and level of proficiency among students.

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## **CHAPTER 1**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

Ever since the era of colonisation, Malaysia has built its reputation to become one of the developing countries. In the past few years, Malaysia has become well known for its growth in terms of finance, city development and education. Malaysian education system has also become well known because it is among the best in Southeast Asia. The government of Malaysia has provided free education for both primary and secondary school and it is compulsory for students to attend up until 11 years of schooling. The schooling system in Malaysia is also systematic and it has its own goals. Malaysia education system is conducted and governed by the Ministry of Education, MOE. The roles MOE is to set the rules and regulations, set the documents and syllabus for school as well as to supervise schools and universities in Malaysia.

The goal of Malaysia National education is to be able to produce a holistic individual. Holistic means ‘whole’ or in other words, the government aims to produce