

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**ANXIETY IN SPEAKING ENGLISH AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL
STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY**

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Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

Master Of Education

(TESL)

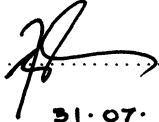
Faculty of Education

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I declare that the work in the thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This topic has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

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ABSTRACT

The effects of second or foreign language anxiety are particularly evident in the language classroom. In this study, the focus was on communication apprehension, the main component of foreign language anxiety. Hence, this study was carried out to examine the perceptions of secondary school students towards learning and speaking English. Specifically, the objectives of the study were to investigate students' anxiety level in speaking English as second language and to identify the sources that contribute to speaking during the language lesson. A combination of quantitative and qualitative technique was employed to investigate these issues. A total of 230 Form four students of one identified secondary school at Taman Melawati, Gombak, Kuala Lumpur participated in the survey and 8 of them were interviewed to further strengthen and verify the findings of the survey. The sampling of participants was done through purposive sampling in order to select information rich cases. The study revealed that 1) secondary school students experienced low to moderate level of speaking anxiety 2) the students reported to be most anxious when giving oral presentation and role-play in front of the class and 3) five themes such as fear of making mistakes and apprehension about evaluation of others toward their speaking acts, language teacher's roles and classroom environment, pedagogical practices and classroom activities, linguistic difficulties: pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary and variations in individuals were identified as various sources of speaking anxiety during English lessons. Some implications for the students and language teachers are also stated briefly. Finally, some recommendations are suggested for practices and future study.

ABSTRAK

Kesan daripada kesukaran menggunakan bahasa kedua atau bahasa asing sewaktu berkomunikasi jelas kelihatan di dalam kelas bahasa. Kebimbangan berkomunikasi merupakan faktor utama tahap kesukaran yang menjadi fokus dalam kajian ini. Kajian ini telah dijalankan untuk mengetahui pandangan pelajar sekolah menengah terhadap kesukaran yang dialami oleh mereka apabila bertutur dalam Bahasa Inggeris. Secara khusus, objektif kajian ini ialah mengenal pasti tahap kesukaran para pelajar dan mengenal pasti punca kepada tahap kesukaran yang tinggi di kalangan para pelajar. Kombinasi pendekatan kuantitatif dan kualitatif telah digunakan untuk menyoal isu-isu berkaitan. Seramai 230 orang pelajar tingkatan empat dari sebuah sekolah menengah di Taman Melawati, Gombak, Kuala Lumpur menyertai kajian dengan menjawab soal selidik dan lapan orang pelajar pula telah menyertai temubual bersama penyelidik. Sampel peserta kajian dilakukan mengikut sampel bermakna untuk memilih kes-kes bermaklumat tinggi. Hasil kajian mendapati sampel mengalami tahap kesukaran yang rendah dan sederhana apabila berkomunikasi di dalam bahasa kedua. Sampel juga dilaporkan mengalami tahap kesukaran yang tinggi sewaktu aktiviti pertuturan secara lisan dan main peranan di dalam kelas bahasa dan lima tema telah dikenal pasti menjadi punca kepada kesukaran berkomunikasi sewaktu kelas bahasa Inggeris. Tema-tema tersebut adalah ketakutan melakukan kesilapan dan penilaian orang lain sewaktu berkomunikasi, peranan guru bahasa dan persekitaran kelas, latihan pedagogi dan aktiviti kelas, kesukaran ilmu bahasa seperti menyebut dengan betul, tatabahasa, dan perbendaharaan kata selain perbezaan dalam diri individu. Implikasi kepada para pelajar dan guru bahasa dinyatakan secara ringkas. Beberapa syor juga telah diberikan untuk kajian lanjut..