

TSL 755

CANDIDATES' PERCEPTION ON MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITY
ENGLISH TEST (ENGLISH LANGUAGE);
A CASE STUDY AT MARA UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
DUNGUN CAMPUS

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Candidate's Declaration

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

In the event that my thesis was found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive the right of conferment of my degree and agree and be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations by the MARA University of Technology.

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ABSTRACT

When the Malaysian University English Test (MUET) was introduced, it has certain implications for the level of English Language (EL) proficiency among the undergraduates in the public universities. Taking from the cue, a research which uses questionnaires as the main source of data collection was administered on 86 undergraduates from various degree courses at MARA University of Technology (UiTM) Dungun Campus become the respondents. This research has three objectives, firstly, the researcher saw the need to provide feedbacks from the target group for consideration for improvements of EL program in universities, secondly, to determine the skills and course contents students regard as important and thirdly, to understand their attitudes towards MUET(EL). The research reveals that the respondents do not have a positive attitude towards English thus affecting their MUET (EL) achievements to score a higher band thus the objectives of the research are achieved.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

Trained and competent human resources are essential for Nation Building. Thus, one of the main objectives of education in Malaysia today is to train and provide manpower, using all available human capital to make VISION 2020 a reality. In order to meet these objectives, more emphasis is concentrated on learning the English Language (EL).

1.1 Background to the Study

In the National System of Education, EL is taught as a second language to all students, right from their first year of primary education through eleven years up to the end of their secondary education. However, EL ceased to be taught at the Sixth Form or pre-university phase of education. Yet upon entry into the local public tertiary institutions, these students are required to undergo a course in EL proficiency.

It is with the dual purpose of filling the gap with respect to the teaching and learning of EL as an important second language and that of consolidating and further enhancing the EL ability of pre-degree students that the Malaysian University English Test (MUET) is introduced.