



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**Contribution Of Students' Perspective Towards
Successful Learning of Mathematics in English:
A Study in SMKA Tok Jiring, Kuala Terengganu**

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Abstrak

Pembangunan sains dan teknologi menjadi jejak kejayaan bagi pelaksanaan Wawasan 2020 menjadi kenyataan di Malaysia. Salah satu dari agendanya ialah melaksanakan pengajaran matematik dalam Bahasa Inggeris mulai tahun 2003. Kajian ini dijalankan memandangkan masyarakat umum menganggap bahawa perubahan dari Bahasa Melayu ke Bahasa Inggeris dalam pembelajaran matematik akan menimbulkan banyak masalah di kalangan pelajar. Kaji selidik ini dilaksanakan di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Agama Tok Jiring , sebuah sekolah di pinggir Bandar Kuala Terengganu dengan 60 orang pelajar PMR dan 5 orang guru matematik sebagai responden. Soal selidik dan temuramah digunakan sebagai instrumen. Dari hasil kajian didapati bahawa pelajar PMR SMKATJ beroleh kejayaan yang memberangsangkan dalam peperiksaan matematik PMR dengan pertolongan gigih guru matematik mereka. Kajian pembelajaran matematik dalam Bahasa Inggeris ini diharapkan agar membuah pandangan sikap yang positif kepada pelajar-pelajar dan guru-guru di masa akan datang.

Abstract

The development of science and technology in Malaysia contributes to the success of Vision 2020 to become a reality. Part of this is the implementation of English in teaching mathematics which started in the year 2003. This research was done in view of the public outcry that students will face difficulties when they switch from Bahasa Melayu to English Language. It was conducted in Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Agama Tok Jiring , a school on the outskirts of Kuala Terengganu on 60 PMR students and 5 mathematics teachers. Questionnaires and interviews were used as instruments. From the study, it was found that the students of SMKATJ did quite well in their PMR Mathematics 2005 with the help of their teachers . It is hoped that this research on learning mathematics in English will convey positive attitude to students and teachers in the future.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

This chapter focuses on the background of learning Mathematics in English. When the Ministry of Education decided to implement the programme of teaching Mathematics and Science in English in 2003, it was due to the dire need for Malaysians to communicate well in English in the fields of commerce, science and technology, which has been brought about by the new globalisation era. This will require appropriate changes and modifications to be made to the present school curriculum especially in the area of language use to meet these new challenges of globalisation. The setting for this research is a religious school on the outskirts of Kuala Terengganu town located on the east coast of Peninsular Malaysia. It is a daily school with a total population of about 1000 Malay students and 70 Malay teachers. Sekolah Menengah Agama Tok Jiring is one of the established religious schools found in Terengganu. According to one of the researcher's colleagues, students' attempts to speak in English will be hindered due to their hesitance to use English Language. The researcher's respondents are the first batch of students who have learnt Mathematics in English in the year 2003. They sat for their PMR Mathematics Paper in English in October 2005.

After three years of implementation, any positive and negative factors that can contribute to the students' performance in learning Mathematics in English was assessed at the end of 2005. These students have easy access to lots of materials in English around them: reference books, computers, multimedia, the internet, tuition centres, e-newspaper, and other countless electronic medium. Can students of the new millennium perform much better Mathematics in English now than their seniors who have learnt Mathematics in the Malay language?