

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

THE LANGUAGE LEARNING STRATEGIES USED TO DEVELOP
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE AMONG UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS

NURUL HIDAYAH ROZLAN

MASTERS IN EDUCATION (TESL)

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

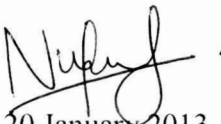
2013

Candidate's Declaration

I declare that the work in this dissertation 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 reference work. This dissertation has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

In the event that my dissertation is found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive the right of conferment of my degree and agree to be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA.

Name of Candidate : Nurul Hidayah Bt. Rozlan
Candidate's ID No. : 2008264676
Programme : Masters of Education (TESL)
Faculty : Education
Dissertation Title : The Language Learning Strategies Used to Develop English Communicative Competence among University Students

Signature of Candidate : 
Date : 20 January 2013

Abstract

English proficiency level among Malaysian students has declined in spite of English being made the compulsory subject in all primary and secondary schools curriculum. The Ministry of Education (2000) states that the curriculum “aims to extend learners’ English proficiency in order to meet their needs to use English in certain situations in everyday life, for knowledge acquisition, and future workplace need.” However, many students complain that they understand the language but are not confident enough to converse using English language. The main purpose of this study is to provide significant findings related to the language learning strategies in developing competent English speaking skills. This study will focus on the use of speaking strategies by university students to acquire English speaking fluency and proficiency. Ten Semester Three students from the Faculty of Public Administration were selected and responded to the study. A qualitative research method was used to analyze the data. The results showed that the students use various language learning strategies in order to make themselves communicatively competent in using English. The results also showed that students need to have a high motivation level to learn, acquire and master the English language. The implications and recommendations of the study are also discussed.

Abstrak

Tahap kecekapan berbahasa Inggeris dikalangan pelajar Melayu menunjukkan kadar penurunan walaupun Bahasa Inggeris telah dijadikan subjek wajib di semua sekolah rendah dan menengah. Pada tahun 2000, Kementerian Pelajaran Malaysia telah menggariskan bahawa kurikulum sekolah bercita-cita untuk memartabatkan tahap kecekapan berbahasa Inggeris para pelajar. Ini adalah bertujuan untuk memenuhi kehendak menggunakan bahasa tersebut dalam kehidupan harian, seperti untuk tujuan pembelajaran, perolehan sesuatu dan keperluan pekerjaan pada masa hadapan. Walau bagaimanapun, segelintir pelajar mengadu bahawa mereka memahami Bahasa Inggeris tetapi kurang yakin untuk berkomunikasi menggunakan bahasa tersebut. Tujuan utama kajian ini dijalankan adalah untuk menyediakan perolehan yang penting berkaitan dengan kaedah pembelajaran bahasa yang berkesan bagi membolehkan pelajar menguasai kefasihan, kepetahan dan kecekapan berbahasa Inggeris. Seramai sepuluh orang pelajar Semester Tiga dari Fakulti Pentadbiran Awam telah dipilih dan memberi respon yang diperlukan untuk kajian ini. Kaedah kajian berdasarkan kualiti digunakan untuk menganalisa data yang telah dikumpul. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa pelajar menggunakan pelbagai kaedah pembelajaran bahasa bagi membolehkan mereka berkomunikasi secara berkesan dengan menggunakan Bahasa Inggeris. Hasil kajian juga menunjukkan bahawa mereka juga perlu mempunyai semangat motivasi diri yang tinggi bagi membolehkan mereka belajar, memperoleh dan menguasai bahasa tersebut. Implikasi dan cadangan turut dibincangkan.

Acknowledgements

First of all, I would like to thank the Almighty Allah, Most Beneficent, Most Merciful for making this possible for me. I would also like to thank all the lecturers, who taught me throughout the course, for their guidance. “Your enthusiasm towards teaching and lifelong learning is truly inspiring.” To my course mates, “thank you for the wonderful times we shared and experienced together. I would have never made it without you girls.”

Most importantly, I would like to thank my family for their love, support and prayers. A heartfelt thank you goes to my parents, En. Rozlan Abdul Rahim and Allahyarhamah Nik Hazinah Nik Ab Hadi, who have instilled in me the value of hardwork, persistence and perseverance. To my mom, “Sorry mama, you couldn’t see me finish this even though you have always urged me to do so.” Most of all, I would like to thank my husband, Mohd Rabbi Zakariah, for his endless support and encouragement, and also for believing in me.