

**A STUDY OF TIME USE, LEARNER AUTONOMY AND ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN MALAYSIA**



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Contents

1. Letter of Report Submission.....iii

2. Letter of Offer (Research Grant).....iv

3. Acknowledgments.....v

4. Enhanced Research Title and Objectives.....vi

5. Report.....1

 5.1 Proposed Executive Summary.....1

 5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary.....2

 5.3 Introduction.....3

 5.4 Brief Literature Review.....7

 5.5 Methodology.....9

 5.6 Results and Discussions.....10

 5.7 Conclusions and Recommendations.....22

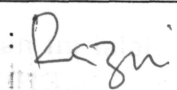
 5.8 References/Bibliography.....24

6. Research Outcomes.....25

7. Appendix.....28

1. Letter of Report Submission

BORANG TAMAT PROJEK GERAN PENYELIDIKAN

BAHAGIAN A : MAKLUMAT KETUA PROJEK	
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Tajuk Projek:	A Study Of Time Use, Learner Autonomy And Academic Achievement Among Secondary-School Students In Malaysia
BAHAGIAN B : MAKLUMAT PROJEK PENYELIDIKAN	
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Penerbitan Berindeks (Tajuk dan Penerbit)	<p>1. A Study of Time Use, Learner Autonomy and Academic Achievement among Secondary School Students in Malaysia 27th International Self-Directed Learning Symposium Cocoa Beach, Florida, USA February 6 - February 9, 2013</p> <p>2. A Study Of Time Use And Academic Achievement Among Secondary-School Students In The State Of Kelantan, Malaysia. International Journal of Adolescence and Youth (2014). http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02673843.2013.862733</p>
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5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary

The preliminary report of the Malaysian Education Blueprint - 2013-2025 (Malaysia Ministry of Education, 2012) highlights the importance, in a globalized world, of producing future intellectual, social and human capital for Malaysia. It is paramount to note that adolescents are the future human capital of Malaysia. Literature indicates adolescents are confronted with an environment that is rapidly changing and the time spent on non-school-related activities has negatively impacted academic performance. This research investigated the contribution of time use among students to academic achievement. The sample of secondary school students was stratified to ensure balance of gender, school type and grade level. Correlation analyses were conducted to determine the associations among the variables identified in the study. Participants completed the Daily Record of How I Use My Time each day for seven consecutive days. Cooperating schools provided copies of the academic transcript of each participant. This information was used to establish the overall secondary school academic achievement of each participant. The data collected were subjected to bivariate comparisons of means and t-test comparisons of means to yield correlations among the target variables. The findings of this research support those of some previous studies and contradict those of other studies, many conducted with non-Malaysian populations. In sum, the present study may help to develop a conceptual framework for guiding efforts to improve academic performance, as it relates to time-use, as a contribution to accomplishing the national agenda of Malaysia.

5.3 Introduction

Today's youth are confronted with a media environment that is rapidly changing. The time spent on media, whether for the purpose of school-related or non-school-related learning, has influenced youths more than before. A study on Malaysian youths showed that they spent about 32.6 hours per day on media-related activities such as watching TV, surfing the Internet, listening to the radio and reading magazines (Raj, 2012). It was possible to exceed 24 hours per day of such activities because technology allows us to multitask. One can talk on the phone, watch television, check the Facebook account and listen to music at the same time. However, research showed that out of the 32.6 hours, more than 30%, or approximately 11 hours, was spent on media related activities such as surfing the Internet (3.3 hours), watching television (2.5 hours) and using phones (1.3 hours). On the use of computers for social networking, Malaysians were found to have the highest number of Facebook friends, with an average of 233 in each account. Malaysians spend nine hours a week on Facebook, which is one of the highest compared with other countries, and more than 10 million Malaysians are currently Facebook users.

A study of time use among Malaysian youths as it relates to school achievement, particularly one that differentiates between school-related activities and non-school-related activities may provide insights into how these activities impact the performance of youths in school. Such insights may be useful to educational policy makers, school administrators, teachers, civic groups, parents and adolescents concerned with optimizing the opportunities provided during the secondary school years of Malaysian children.

5.3.1 Objectives of the Research

Hence, in order to study the relationship between time use, learner autonomy and academic achievement among secondary-school students in Malaysia, several objectives were formulated. The specific objectives of this research were:

1. To investigate the contribution of time use for school-related activities to academic achievement among secondary school students in Malaysia.