



Academy of Language Studies,  
UiTM Pulau Pinang  
13500 Permatang Pauh,  
Pulau Pinang  
Tel: +604 382 3496  
Website: [APB UiTMCPP](http://APB.UiTMCPP)

### eLingua

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We need your contribu-  
tion,



1. if you've attended or presented at any work-shops / conferences etc
2. if you've updates re-garding Third languages (Mandarin / French /Japanese/German/Arabic)
3. if you've updates on the English Language Club
4. if you've contributions from your students (in any language)
5. if you've your own per-sonal contribution



### ... from the Editorial Team

Greetings, everyone. We meet again in another issue of eLingua. It has been a challenging time for all of us, especially in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, it is heartening to see that the pandemic has not dampened your zeal to write and contribute to our bulletin. There has been a record number of entries this time around (this issue has 47 pages). More interestingly, we have also received contributions from outside our department (Thank you, Encik Jamal Othman from JSKM and Puan Farhana who had contributed even though she is now with another campus). Not forgetting, a big THANK YOU to Prof. Ts Dr. Salmiah Kasolang for participating in the GTKY section. So, we hope you have a good time reading this issue. If it is still not too late, we would like to wish all of you a 'HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021'



## Covid 19 Challenges & Opportunities: UiTMCPP-UNTAN Webinar 2020

by Nazima Versay Kudus

Yet again, another laudable effort of Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA Pulau Pinang (ALS UiTMPP) and has fruited an international webinar entitled Covid 19: Challenges & Opportunities. The event was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September, 2020, at 9.00-11.00 a.m. Malaysia Time (8.00-10.00 am Indonesia Time). The objectives of the said event were first, to establish an educational interaction platform and social network between academic staff in the field of English studies, second, to create a positive impact for lecturers through more global exposure and the concept of borderless education and finally to raise the university's visibility. The invited panelists were Dr Hajah Rofiza Aboo Bakar and Dr. Isma Noornisa Ismail from ALS UiTMPP and Dr. Ikhسانudin and Dr. Yanti Sri Rezeki from the Faculty of Teacher Training and Education Universitas Tanjungpura (UNTAN), West Kalimantan, Indonesia. The seminar was mo

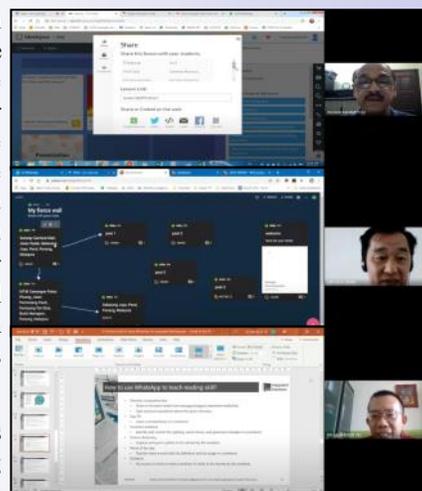
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# Events ... (Conferences, Meetings, Trainings & Workshops)

## Open Distance Learning (ODL) Workshops of Academy of Language Studies, UiTM CPP

By Marni Jamil

The higher learning institutions in Malaysia have seen waves of drastic adjustments in teaching and learning (T&L) approaches ever since the COVID-19 pandemic first hit the world at the end of 2019. In light of this phenomenon, educators from around the world have been consistently executing progressive actions by extensively integrating technology in their T&L practices. In an initiative to assist fellow department staff of the Academy of Language Studies (ALS), Universiti Teknologi MARA, Cawangan Pulau Pinang (UiTM CPP) to make the transition from offline to online platforms, the first online learning training session was conducted on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2020 from 10 AM to 12 PM via Google Meet. The department's experts, Mr. Rasaya Marimuthu, Mr. Lim Teck Heng, and Dr. Mah Boon Yih shared their knowledge and skills of handy digital education platforms such as Blendspace, Padlet, and WhatsApp. In addition, suitable apps and software for high, medium, low and no bandwidth connections were also discussed to facilitate the need for synchronous and asynchronous learning.



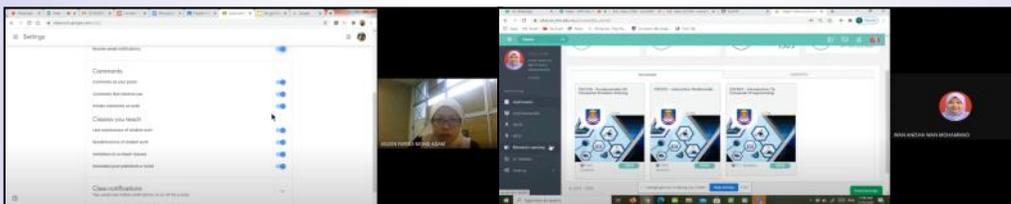
Mr. Rasaya Marimuthu and Ms. Marni Jamil, the E-learning Task Force representatives of ALS, UiTM CPP were invited to a workshop on Open Distance Learning (ODL) Teaching Enhancement that was organised by the Centre for Flexible Learning (CFL), UiTM CPP on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020. The main objective of the workshop was to enable the representatives to organise an online training session for their respective departments. The topics covered included the latest information on digital platforms for T&L strategies, specifically, the use of UFuture, Screencast-O-Matic, Open Broadcaster Software, PowerPoint recording, Google Meet, and Microsoft Teams.

The second online workshop that involved the virtual presence of 27 academic staff of ALS, UiTM CPP took place on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020 from 9 AM until 12 PM through Google Meet. Prior to the workshop, an ODL pre-workshop survey was carried out to obtain the data on the familiarity of recording tools used by the academic staff of ALS, UiTM CPP. The workshop was divided into four sessions. Mr. Rasaya Marimuthu started off the workshop with web-based screencasting software tools, and recording programs. There was a brief tutorial on using Screencast-O-Matic, Open Broadcaster Software (OBS), and PowerPoint recording in the first tutorial session. In the following tutorial session, Dr. Suhailah Mohamed Noor, a Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert, from the Faculty of Civil Engineering, UiTM CPP proceeded to share her expertise on Microsoft Teams, which is a unified suite of tools for productive collaborative workspace within Microsoft 365/Office 365. In the third tutorial session, Ms. Aileen Farida Mohd Adam of ALS, UiTM CPP gave a tutorial on using Google Classroom effectively for ODL. In the final tutorial session, Ms. Azlina Mohd Mydin and Ms. Wan Anisha Wan Mohammad of CFL provided a tutorial on using the latest features of UFuture, which is the official Learning Management System of UiTM. The workshop ended with a question-and-answer session.



Session 1: Mr. Rasaya Marimuthu  
(Video Recording Tools)

Session 2: Dr. Suhailah Mohamed Noor  
(Microsoft Teams)



Session 3: Ms. Aileen Farida  
(Google Classroom)

Session 4: Ms. Azlina Mohd Mydin & Ms. Wan  
Anisha Wan Mohammad  
(uFuture/iLearn)

Ultimately, UiTM CPP educators will be able to deliver incredible learning experiences that enable students to dynamically engage with educational content by utilising the online learning platforms. Online distance learning has made it possible for learning to be more personalised, engaging, and meaningful for educators and learners!

# Events ... (Conferences, Meetings, Trainings & Workshops)

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derated by Nazima Versay Kudus.

The two-hour session was filled with interesting questions related to the current pandemic that has affected the world. The questions posed were on online teaching, dissertation supervision, curriculum, equity in education, the rise of AI, online assessment, international mobility and partnerships and the future of education.

Dr Ihsan viewed the pandemic as a blessing in disguise especially to the third world countries. Before this, technology infrastructure are developed by the haves not have not. Due the rising need of online technology especially in learning process and academic activities, these countries have placed the agenda on developing their IT so as not to be left behind.

Dr Isma admits the educators and students are not short with the influx of available platforms, of which can be overwhelming. She cautioned that apart from mindset readi-

ness and technological proficiency, educators need to maintain students engagement in the activities if not it will just be another boring task.

Dr Yanti cited how some individuals and communities in Indonesia have participated in providing equity in education. They have provided free or shared Wi-Fi for students and internet quota for teachers who are teaching in remote areas. Assessments she cautioned must be flexible according to the tasks given.

The pandemic has certainly reshaped the future of education said Dr Rofiza. There is a need to address the redefining roles of educators. The notion of an educator as the knowledge provider no longer fits for the purpose of a 21st-century education. Improvements need to be made along the ways in terms of content preparation and technological proficiency to facilitate students' learning needs.

## Asyura – Its Religious & Cultural Celebration

By Nazima Versay Kudus

*Asyura* is celebrated on the tenth day of Muharram, the first month of the Islamic calendar. This year it falls on the 29<sup>th</sup> of August 2020. Prophet Musa (Moses) and his people fasted out of gratitude to Allah when they were saved from the tyrannical Pharaoh. To commemorate the day of *Asyura*, Prophet Muhammad SAW (PBUH) ordained the Muslims to fast an extra day, either on the 9th or 11th of Muharram to differentiate the practices of Judaism to that of Islam. One of the merits of fasting on this day as reported Abu Hurayrah and narrated by Bukhari as said by Allah's Messenger (PBUH), "The best time to fast after Ramadan is Allah's month of Muharram."

Apart from its religious celebration, *Asyura* holds a unique cultural celebration in Malaysia – partly due to the famous dish called *Bubur Asyura*. This delicacy is normally prepared using ten ingredients – perhaps due to its religious association of the date. The ten contents are mung beans, red beans, sweet potato, yam, corn, peanuts, banana, sago, sugar (white and/or palm sugar) and coconut milk.

Growing up in 1970s in Penang, the preparation of *Bubur Asyura* is always an *esprit-de-corps* affair. Participating households would each be assigned to prepare a particular ingredient. For instance, my mother may be assigned to prepare the mung beans, Mami Yah – red beans and Khala Jan, the sweet potato. My mother would prepare the beans as how she was taught by her mother and her mother by her mother. First she would wash the beans and then pan fry them. According to her this process would enhance the flavour and aromas of the beans. Then the beans would be soaked overnight. The next morning the soaking water will be discarded. Fresh water is used to boil the beans as this she believes can remove flatulence compounds or causing 'angin' and make the beans easily digestible. The process of softening the ingredients was all done individually at respective homes. After *Asar* prayers, the ladies would all be armed with the containers of the pre-cooked ingredients to the WI representative's house; await them is a bubbling pot fill with freshly squeezed coconut milk cooked with refined and palm sugar. Normally, the process of putting them onto a boil mode would not take long because the ingredients have been precooked. Once combined, put to boil and ready, each lady would then fill up her container and bring back the dessert for break of fast that evening.



Bubur Asyura Utara



Bubur Asyura P. Pinang



Bubur Asyura Pantai Timur



Bubur Asyura Selatan

## Events ... (Conferences, Meetings, Trainings & Workshops)

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According to the *Bubur Asyura* literature there are basically three distinct types- *Bubur Asyura Utara* (Northern Style), *Bubur Asyura Pantai Timur* (East Coast Style) and *Bubur Asyura Selatan* (Southern Style). Even within the *Bubur Asyura Utara* there is one distinct style - *Bubur Asyura Pulau Pinang* (the one that I shared you earlier). The other version of *Bubur Asyura Utara* is that of Kedah and Perlis style. The content is basically similar. Only the process of softening the ingredients in the latter style are done simultaneously in one cauldron thus producing a cakey form. Remember should you want the ingredients intact in its form they must be cooked separately and at different time frame. A sweet potato needs lesser time to be brought to cook compared to red beans. Well, these all depends on individual taste and way to do things. The Penang style *Bubur Asyura* is a 'true' representation of its form. It is what it is – a *bubur* – sweet (watery) porridge.

The east coast version is more of a savoury type. The ingredients include sautéed onions, ginger, galangal, beef, chicken and special spices. Its' form once ready is cakey like, like the *Bubur Asyura Utara*. Meanwhile *Bubur Asyura Selatan* (Johor) is similar to that of *Bubur Lambuk* (creamy porridge rich in spices and cooked in coconut milk popular in Ramadan). The only difference is that fried peanuts are added upon serving. To put it simply *Bubur Asyura Johor* is a cross between *Bubur Lambuk* and *Soto*.

What's important in each food preparation is that it brings about a different identity that should be feted. Your *Bubur Asyura* can be like a 'melting pot' or a 'salad bowl'. In any way the process of preparing it, there will be an intermingling of people that promotes camaraderie.

### International Conference on Environmental and Technology of Law, Business and Education 2020

by Noraziah Mohd Amin

The International Conference on Environmental and Technology of Law, Business and Education (ICETLAWBE-2020) took place on September 26, 2020. The conference could be attended virtually on Zoom at the specified times: Indonesia (12.30 p.m), Malaysia (1. 00 p.m), Russia (8.30 a.m), Maldives (10.30 a.m) and Australia (1.30 p.m).

This conference was organized by University of Lampung, Indonesia as the main organizer along with Universiti Teknologi MARA, Cawangan Pulau Pinang, Malaysia and some other universities such as Rostov Universiti Russia and University of Diponegoro, Indonesia. Among the speakers of this conference were Prof. Dr. Salmiah Kasolang, Rector of UiTM, Cawangan Pulau Pinang, Malaysia; Prof. Dr. Maroni, Dean of Faculty of Law, University of Lampung, Indonesia; and Dato' Prof. Emeritus Dr. Hassan Said, Vice-Chancellor of Asia e-University Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The conference offered a platform for researchers and academics to share their recent studies and knowledge on disciplines such as Law, Technology and ICT, Business and Education. Two lecturers, Wan Noorli Razali and Noraziah Mohd Amin from Akademi Pengajian Bahasa, UiTM, Cawangan Pulau Pinang attended this conference and presented their research at Smart Classroom, UiTM, Cawangan Pulau Pinang. Apart from these two academics, the conference's presenters and attendees from UiTM, Cawangan Pulau Pinang were mostly students from the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program. The conference, apart from being a congregation of academics, also served as a place for people to expand their networking for possible research collaborations in the future. It is hoped that such program can be organized again by UiTM, Cawangan Pulau Pinang and be joined by more participants and presenters.



## KEJOHANAN TENPIN BOLING ANTARA BAHAGIAN PIALA REKTOR UiTM CAWANGAN PULAU PINANG 2020 |

oleh Melati Desa

### Bahagian I : Pantun TETAP Mukadimah

*Pergi ke darat mencari rotan  
Parang terikat di kanan pinggang  
Sukan bersepakat membuahkkan intan  
Badan sihat minda senang bukan kepalang*

### Bahagian II : Penerangan Kejohanan

Seperti tahun lalu, APB tetap mengorak langkah cergas dan bersepakat menurunkan seramai 6 orang peserta sebagai barisan pemain boling pada tahun 2020.

Tambahan untuk bahagian II : walaupun langkah cergas tetap kemas, apa yang kurang menariknya, tiada peserta dalam kalangan kaum pria APB yang dapat turun padang pada kejohanan kali ini. Diharapkan golongan pria dapat bersiap siaga untuk mengambil bahagian dan membuahkkan hasil yang berlipat ganda pada kejohanan mendatang – 2021.

### Bahagian III : Maklumat Kejohanan

Tarikh : 24 Septemberr 2020 (Khamis)

Masa : 8:30 pagi – 1:30 petang

Tempat : Mega mall Bowling Centre, Prai.

Secara keseluruhannya, seramai 150 orang peserta mengambil bahagian yang mana para peserta dibahagikan kepada 50 kumpulan. Oleh itu setiap kumpulan pula terdiri daripada 3 orang peserta. Para peserta ini pula diasingkan kepada trio lelaki dan wanita.

Dengan itu peserta yang mewakili APB terdiri daripada 2 kumpulan, pecahan trio seperti disertakan dibawah.

Trio Wanita APB (A)

Trio Wanita APB (B)

Melati

Linda

Pjoy

Nani

Nooli

Ili

Nota : nama panggilan ditulis bertujuan untuk menghadirkan rasa mesra dalam semangat kesukanan J

### Bahagian IV : Keputusan dan Penceritaan Kejohanan.

Trio wanita A berjaya menduduki tempat kelima. Hadiah yang merupakan sebuah hamper dan piala berjaya dibawa pulang oleh ketiga-tiga peserta kumpulan. Agak kurang memuaskan apabila peserta wanita dari APB secara individu hanya berjaya mendapat tempat ke 5 daripada 69 jumlah peserta wanita.

Seperti mana-mana laporan, tidak lengkap sekiranya penulis tidak memperincikan perkara-perkara yang berlaku dalam kalangan peserta APB sepanjang kejohanan berlangsung. Jika tahun lalu penulis melaporkan dalam bentuk pantun, maka kali ini benarkan penulis memilih untuk menyampaikannya dalam baitan sajak, walaupun kurang puitisnya. Beginilah persembahannya...

*Pagi Khamis itu  
Seperti Khamis yang selalu  
Engkau, aku dan kamu-kamu  
Bertemu di Khamis itu  
Satu tuju, satu padu, satu hayunan yang jatuhnya satu??  
Atau satu hayunan semuanya jatuh berbaki satu??  
Bukan itu yang dicari pada Khamis itu*



*continued on the next page ...*

# Events ... (Conferences, Meetings, Trainings & Workshops)

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9,10, atau 11

Sukatan atau timbangan? Kurang jelas

Selepas balingan raut wajah terkilas

Gerak badan terpapar bebas

Terzahir kecewa atau azam dan puas

Pagi Khamis itu berlalu

Engkau, aku dan kamu-kamu

Bukan pulang tangan kosong kaku

Walau bukan nombor Satu

Yang ke 5 bukanlah sesuatu yang kurang laku

Trio wanita A ayuh terus maju

Esok lusa mungkin piala pusingan milik APB, siapa tahu?

Kejohanan tenpin boling dua ribu dua puluh satu,

Kamu tunggu kami maju

## Bahagian V : Pantun TETAP Penutup

Indah sungguh warna pelangi

Tidak luput hingga senja

Kalau ada tournament lagi

Sudilah kiranya KPP bagi belanja



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# Congratulations

# Community Service Project

## Program Literasi untuk Kanak-kanak Tabika Kemas Kampung Tok Elong

Oleh Ong Sheau Fen

Pada 17 September 2020, satu program khidmat masyarakat telah diadakan oleh Akademi Pengajian Bahasa (APB) dengan kerjasama Perbadanan Perpustakaan Awam Pulau Pinang (PPAPP) dan Tabika Kemas Kampung Tok Elong. Program ini dijalankan secara atas talian dan dimulakan dengan ucapan daripada pengerusi Puan Raja Rosila. Menurut beliau, objektif program ini adalah untuk memperkenalkan kemudahan PPAPP kepada kanak-kanak sambil belajar Bahasa Inggeris. Selain itu, beliau juga mengucapkan terima kasih kepada ketua pusat pengajian APB Dr Rofiza dan staf APB atas sokongan yang diberi untuk menjayakan program ini. Program seterusnya disambung dengan taklimat daripada staf PPAPP dengan sedikit penerangan tentang latar belakang PPAPP dan kemudahan-kemudahan yang disediakan oleh PPAPP untuk kanak-kanak. Antara kemudahan-kemudahan yang ada adalah “Big story book”, “i-play toy library”, permainan elektronik dan se-

bagainya. Selepas taklimat, program diteruskan dengan aktiviti-aktiviti yang disediakan oleh staf APB kumpulan pertama yang diketuai oleh Puan Haslinda. Aktiviti yang dinamakan sebagai “Monkey in the tree” ini fokus kepada membaca perkataan seperti “monkey”, “butterfly” dan sebagainya dengan kuat bersama-sama dengan kanak-kanak tabika. Staf APB kumpulan kedua yang diketuai Dr. Rushita selepas itu menjalankan aktiviti-aktiviti yang menumpu kepada sapaan, dialog, lagu dan cerita. Seterusnya program disambung oleh staf APB kumpulan ketiga yang diketuai oleh Cik Marni dengan “story telling” dan “action verb activity”. Aktiviti ini telah diserikan dengan pemberian kek cawan dan belon kepada kanak-kanak tabika. Selepas aktiviti ini tamat, maka program sampai ke penghujungnya. Sebagai tanda penghargaan, plak, sijil dan hadiah telah diserahkan kepada pihak perpustakaan, tabika dan kanak-kanak dan program tamat pada 12 tengahari.



Program Literasi untuk kanak-kanak Tabika Kemas Kampung Tok Elong





*'Getting to know you more'*  
**Featuring ... Professor Ts Dr Salmiah Kasalong**  
**Rector, UiTM CPP**



*It is indeed our pleasure, privilege and honour that this issue carries an interview with our campus rector, Professor Ts Dr. Salmiah Kasalong who had gracefully agreed to provide us an insight to her personal life, in spite of her ever busy schedule.*

*Interview prepared and conducted by Mr. Liaw Shun Chone, LSC for short.*

*Some background information.*

**Professor Ts Dr Salmiah Kasalong** helms the position as Rector of UiTM Penang Branch effectively from the 1st of May, 2020 during the month of Ramadan amidst the Covid19 pandemic. Here, in this short interview with her, she gladly shares with APBians the lighter side of herself, her enthusiasm, insights, passion and advice.

**PROFESSIONAL:** Prof Dr Salmiah Kasolang was the Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering for 2 years and prior to that she was the Deputy Dean (Research and Industry Network) for 7 years. She is also the President of MYTRIBOS for the second term. Her engagement with the Malaysian Tribology Society (MYTRIBOS) has enabled her to link up with other tribologists in Malaysia. MYTRIBOS promotes many aspects of engineering including but not limited to education, research, and industry-community engagement. In relation to engineering education, she is one of the executive members of the Society of Engineering Education Malaysia (SEEM). She is also one of the CDIO master trainers in UiTM and has conducted several trainings on OBE and CDIO at national and international levels. Her recent engagement was in Bengaluru, India as an invited speaker on OBE and CDIO at the BMS College of Engineering, Kartanaka.

In terms of research work, she is actively leading a Tribology research group in UiTM. Since 2008, she has been awarded with several grants amounting to approximately RM647K as Principal Investigator and RM1.54M as Member. She has produced more than 100 publications. She also actively supervises FYP and 10 Postgraduate students. She has produced more than 15 Postgraduates and currently supervises several more. She has organized many international conferences including ICAME (2010-2019), ASIATRIB2018, MITC (2013-2020) mostly as Chairman. As President, she represents MYTRIBOS at the International Tribology Council, ITC.

**PERSONAL:** Prof Dr Salmiah Kasolang was born in Pamol, Sandakan, Sabah in 1969 to a blessed couple, Kasolang Bacho and Wallam Bacho. She is the daughter of a Ketua Kampung in Tindakon Pamol, an oil palm plantation owned by a British Company then. She has 9 siblings and one of them is her twin, Amir Hassan. In 1991, while studying in the University of Wisconsin, she got married with her senior by the name of Ahmad Zamree Shaari who is from Pasir Puteh, Kelantan. Indeed, it is an explosion when 'Sabah Meets Kelantan'. Prof Salmiah is blessed with 7 children and one of them Sophea (the only girl) was born in Sheffield UK when she was doing her PhD at the University of Sheffield under the supervision of Professor Rob Dwyer-Joyce. Her eldest son, MD Nashruddin (UiTM alumni) got married to Aminatus Salasiah (also UiTM alumni) last year and now, Prof Salmiah is eagerly waiting for her first grandchild. Her youngest son, Luqman Nurhakeem, is in Primary 5 at Sekolah Rendah Puncak Perdana. Despite her big family, she is actively contributing in her career and to her organization.

*Now, on to some direct responses from the Prof...*

**LSC:** Name three persons you idolise.

**Prof:** *As a Moslem, I refer to the Prophet, Muhammad S.A.W for the way I conduct my life, insyaAllah.*

*In my career as staff of UiTM, I look up to many people such as the Deans, TNCs, VCs (past and present). I also adore some renowned figures such as Prof Normah of ARI.*

*As an academican, I adore great philosophers and thinkers such as Imam Al Ghazali, Imam Shafie, Alber Einstein, and Niels Bohr.*

**LSC:** What makes you laugh the most?

**Prof:** *Funny moments such as those of babies or toddlers.*

**LSC:** What is/are your favourite vacation/tourist spots that you have been to?

**Prof:** *I love Krabi, Bandung, Jeju, Kyoto, and Chengdu, For, religious spots, Mekah and Madinah.*

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LSC: When was your proudest moment?

Prof: *Completing my Hajj. Proud but humbled.*

LSC: How is it like being a risk taker?

Prof: *I feel very hopeful and be more mindful of the journey as well as the subsequent impact it has on the organization as a whole.*

LSC: What motivates you to work hard?

Prof: *To get the blessing and love of Allah and the life after world life.*

LSC: Do you like or dislike surprises? Why or why not?

Prof: *Surprises are the spice of lives. It is good while it comes in small amounts. Too many surprises are bad for management of any organizations. In summary, I like when it is manageable.*

LSC: What do you intend to do in future now that you have successfully obtained your professorship academic title?

Prof: *To mentor more people (academic and non academic) to achieve their goals and better career advancements, insyaAllah.*

LSC: Do share with APB staff your struggles (if any) while doing your PhD studies and how you finally managed to triumph against all odds.

Prof: *Having struggles in a PhD journey is expected; there is usually a challenge either in personal life or academic work. Some may face challenges in both. Just embrace this and make peace with whatever comes in your path. This challenge is a source of blessings and it makes you strong in so many ways. To ease the journey, three preparations can be planned: before, during, and after. A good move is to have the end in mind. Use your mental picture to visualise yourself success fully completing it. Do this periodically and at strategic times.*

LSC: What is your highest award achievement?

Prof: *In academic, getting my PhD and Professorship; in personal life, having 7 kids and so far, they are all progressing well, alhamdulillah. Family life is quite settled compared to those days when we started as we were young.*

LSC: How do you usually ensure that your team maintains its focus while embarking on a particular project?

Prof: *Before we start any actions, we always ask ourselves or my team, What is my/our intention? This helps us to a) engage with the Creator (connectivity), b) be mindful of the end in mind, and c) to be clear of the preparations needed.*



FAMILY MEMBERS OF 7 CHILDREN



MY FAMILY MEMBERS OF 7 CHILDREN AND | 1 DAUGHTER-IN-LAW



COVERAGE DALAM TV1 SABAH. KAMI BAH INI KBI



## Jom kenali IJPTL: Jurnal ‘kasih sayang’

oleh Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar



IJPTL adalah acronim kepada ‘International Journal of Practices in Teaching and Learning’. Jurnal ini dijangka akan membuat kemunculan sulungnya pada Januari 2021. Ia merupakan antara Projek Khas Rektor UiTM CPP dan saya telah diamanahkan untuk menerajui jurnal ini. Roh kepada kemunculannya adalah untuk memberi peluang kepada para pensyarah, pelajar dan pemain industri untuk menulis tanpa rasa ragu-ragu atau bimbang dan berusaha menyumbang artikel yang bercorak pengajaran dan pembelajaran.

Jurnal ini bak kata sang Rektor ialah “jurnal kasih sayang”.

Dengan mengambil tema ‘No one shall be left behind’ dan bersandarkan kepada SDG atau ‘Sustainable Development Goals’, IJPTL diharapkan dapat menjadi jurnal yang memberi peluang kepada para penulis untuk berkongsi ide-ide pengajaran dan pembelajaran berkualiti kepada semua lapisan masyarakat baik di Malaysia ataupun antarabangsa.

Tema pertama yang terpilih ialah CSR atau ‘Corporate Social Responsibilities’. Universiti kita memang sudah tidak asing lagi di dalam peranannya melaksanakan pelbagai program dengan masyarakat di luar menara gading ini. Oleh itu, tema ini dirasakan amat bersesuaian untuk para penulis memberikan penjelasan kepada sesuatu projek yang dirasakan berjaya ataupun membuat refleksi terhadap projek-projek kemasyarakatan yang telahpun dijalankan.

Tanggal 26 Oktober, 2020, saya dengan dibantu oleh Dr. Ilianis, Marni, Linda dan Aileen telahpun menjayakan sebuah rancangan ‘2020 Edition Coffee Talk with the Chief Editor of IJPTL’ yang berjaya mengumpulkan sekitar hampir tujuh puluh peserta dari UiTM CPP, Australia dan Indonesia. Di dalam rancangan yang berlangsung selama sejam, telah dikupas bahawa untuk menulis artikel jurnal, secara asasnya, formulanya ialah ‘I’, ‘M’ ‘R’ dan ‘D’.

‘I’ ialah ‘Introduction’ iaitu pengenalan. Untuk seksyen ini, latarbelakang kajian, pernyataan masalah dan objektif kajian dinyatakan secara jelas. Manakala, ‘M’ ialah metodologi, contohnya persampelan dan instrumen kajian. ‘R’ ialah ‘Results’ atau dapatan yang membincangkan hasil kajian secara menyeluruh. Akhir sekali, ‘D’ ialah ‘Discussion’ atau perbincangan yang menerangkan tentang betapa kajian ini menyokong atau tidak dapatan sebelum ini dan apakah juga kelainan atau novelti kajian ini berbanding kajian lalu.

Walaupun penulisan artikel untuk sesebuah jurnal tidak dinafikan sukar, terutama sekali apabila artikel itu ditolak oleh sidang pengarangnya, namun pasangkan niat bahawa yang ditulis itu bakal dimanfaatkan. Jom kita sama-sama tanamkan azam untuk menyumbang penulisan ke IJPTL.



Penulis bersama sebahagian sidang pengarang IJPTL yang sangat ceria dari mula hingga akhir program

## Penulisan Surat Rasmi Menjadi Punca Stres

oleh Noraziah Mohd Amin, Nur Afiqah Ab. Latif, Che Nooryohana Zulkifli, Mah Boon Yih, Raja Rosila Raja Berahim, Melati Desa dan Noor Azli Affendy Lee

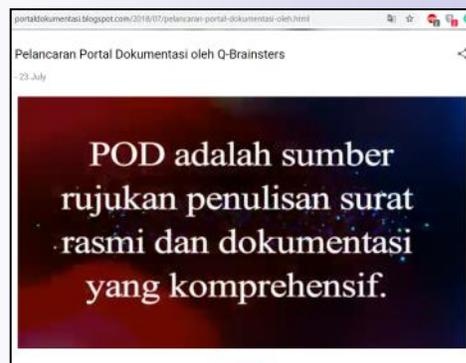
Penulisan surat rasmi tidak seharusnya menjadi sesuatu yang membebankan dan menyebabkan seseorang berasa tertekan. Namun, dalam kajian yang dilakukan oleh sekumpulan pensyarah Akademi Pengajian Bahasa (APB), UiTM, Cawangan Pulau Pinang iaitu Nur Afiqah Ab. Latif, Che Nooryohana Zulkifli, Noraziah Mohd Amin, Mah Boon Yih, Raja Rosila Raja Berahim, Melati Desa dan Noor Azli Affendy Lee ke atas 30 responden yang menjawab borang soal selidik yang diedarkan kepada mereka, didapati kebanyakan responden bersetuju bahawa penulisan surat rasmi dapat memberikan mereka tekanan yang serius. Antara punca bagi mereka berasa tertekan akibat penulisan surat rasmi ialah apabila penyediaan surat rasmi untuk urusan di jabatan mereka perlu mengambil masa yang lama, banyak kerja yang lebih penting terpaksa ditangguhkan akibat daripada penyediaan surat-surat rasmi, format surat rasmi yang rumit, dan juga kewujudan birokrasi (pelbagai peringkat) dalam penyediaan surat rasmi bagi urusan di jabatan mereka. Hal ini dikhuatiri akan mengganggu kestabilan mental seseorang yang diamanahkan untuk menyediakan sesuatu surat rasmi sekiranya penyediaannya menuntut peruntukan masa dan tenaga yang banyak kerana memenuhi kehendak pelbagai pihak.

Menyedari hakikat kesukaran dalam menulis surat rasmi yang boleh mengundang stres kepada penulis surat tersebut, tujuh orang pensyarah APB yang disebutkan di atas telah menubuhkan suatu blog yang dapat menjadi portal rujukan bagi penulisan surat rasmi yang dinamakan, "Portal Dokumentasi" (POD) yang dapat diakses melalui pautan ini; <http://portaldokumentasi.blogspot.com>. Terdapat banyak informasi penting yang diselitkan dalam blog ini bagi membantu penulisan surat rasmi yang lebih baik. Antara maklumat yang disediakan dalam portal ini adalah tip-tip penulisan surat rasmi, penggunaan tanda bacaan, contoh kesalahan dan pembetulan tatabahasa, serta glosari surat rasmi. Turut dimuatkan dalam portal ini adalah sampel-sampel surat rasmi untuk rujukan para pelayar blog.

Penulisan surat rasmi bukan seperti penulisan surat tidak formal yang lebih santai dan bebas dari segi gaya bahasa dan formatnya. Beberapa perkara yang perlu dielakkan ketika menulis surat rasmi dari segi gaya bahasa yang digunakan adalah; tidak melibatkan penggunaan bahasa klasik atau kreatif (berbunga), bahasa pasar (slanga) dan bahasa yang kurang sopan. Perkataan-perkataan yang sukar difahami tidak digalakkan untuk dimasukkan dalam surat rasmi selain daripada penggunaan peribahasa, perumpamaan dan lain-lain bahasa kiasan. Penulis surat rasmi juga tidak disarankan untuk menyelitkan humor atau jenaka. Selain itu, singkatan perkataan seperti "dsb", "yg", "dll" tidak digalakkan dimasukkan ke dalam surat rasmi kecuali yang biasa digunakan seperti dalam jadual di bawah:

### Perkataan Singkatan dalam Surat Rasmi

Kata Singkatan	Penjelasan
Ruj. Kami	Nombor rujukan pihak yang menghantar surat
Ruj. Tuan	Nombor rujukan pihak yang menerima surat
YBhg.	Yang Berbahagia
YAB	Yang Amat Berhormat
KSU	Ketua Setiausaha
No. Faks.	Nombor faksimili
b.p.	Bagi Pihak
s.k.	Salinan kepada
u.p.	Untuk perhatian
Bil.	Bilangan



Penggunaan bahasa berbau sinis (sarkastik) yang bertujuan untuk memerli dan mewujudkan rasa kurang selesa penerima surat adalah tidak dianjurkan. Penggunaan nama pena atau panggilan harian bagi penulis surat adalah dilarang sama sekali dalam surat rasmi selain daripada mengakhiri surat dengan pantun seperti, "Pecah kaca pecah gelas, sudah baca harap balas."

Penulisan surat rasmi memerlukan pengetahuan yang cukup bagi menghasilkan surat rasmi yang sempurna dan sesuai mengikut kehendak pihak tertentu. Walaupun setiap tempat kerja atau jabatan mungkin mempraktikkan penulisan surat rasmi dengan stail mereka sendiri, format asas dan gaya bahasa surat rasmi adalah sama secara umumnya. Oleh yang demikian, setiap individu perlu melengkapkan diri dengan ilmu penulisan surat rasmi yang cukup bagi memudahkan urusan mereka di tempat kerja dan hal ini seterusnya dapat mengelakkan stres yang tidak sepatutnya mereka alami.

## Every Author Needs an Editor, Don't You?

by Dr. Mah Boon Yih

# NEED A LANGUAGE EDITOR/ PROOFREADER/ TRANSLATOR?

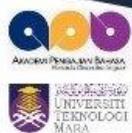
## WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU! WHY CHOOSE US?

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UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang, Kampus  
Permatang Pauh, 13500 Permatang Pauh,  
Pulau Pinang, Malaysia.

Everyone can write, and it may seem like an easy task. However, for some people, it may not. Though many writers can write well, it does not mean they could improve their writing. Many people could be great writers; however, they are still seeking for help to edit their work. Why shouldn't they even give a try? Well, based on my experiences as an author as well as an editor, I have summarised the reasons into three main points.

First, human has a limited mental capacity. When we write, we are expressing our thoughts using words and putting them on display for the readers to comprehend. Writing and editing are two different processes at all. We cannot write and edit our work simultaneously when we are emotionally attached to it. Second, over-confidence leads to believing that editing is unnecessary than it deserves. Some writers will assume their work are nearly or almost perfect; but in fact, nothing or nobody is perfect, neither how much effort nor time is being invested. Third, writing an excellent article is a daunting task: time-consuming, tiring, and skill-demanding. Depending on how much you have devoted yourself to write, you might be exhausted when it comes to reading your own words. You may want to get through it faster—this is no way for you to edit with full motivation and concentration.

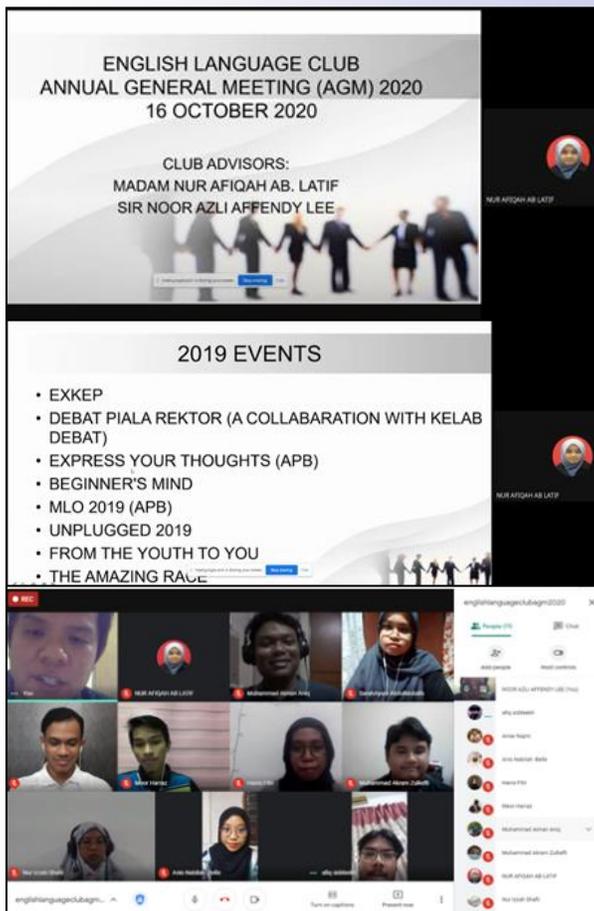
An editor usually investigates grammar, spelling, and punctuation, which sometimes may include content revision (content editing) and typography (copy editing). Grammarly is one of the widely used applications for spelling, grammar,

and plagiarism checking, which are essential for language editing. After editing, proofreading is the next step to review typos, spacing, and formatting issues before submission. A translator is needed when the writer intends to compose an article in another target language. Whether you are an academic, researcher, grant holder, or postgraduate student, it is always recommended to hire a professional editor or subscribing an editing service provider such as WhiteSmoke. By doing so, it can help you to delivery your complex idea effectively before getting it published. To request for editing, proofreading, and translating services, you may fill up the form at <https://tinyurl.com/yczykyxc>.

# English Language Club Report

## English Language Club AGM 2020 Report submitted by NurAfiqah Ab. Latif (Club Advisor)

The English Language club of UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang (UiTM CPP) conducted its very first virtual Annual General Meeting (AGM) through google meet on 16 October 2020 (9.30 p.m. - 11.00 p.m.). The meeting was chaired by the club advisor, Mr. Noor Azli Affendy Lee and minuted by Miss Hanis Fitri Ismail. The meeting agenda includes presenting events conducted by the club in 2019, voting for the new Executive Members (MTs) and discussion on future events. The meeting started with a prayer by Mr. Meor Harraz Mohd Lokman and an opening speech by Mr. Azli. After that, Mdm. Nur Afiqah Ab. Latif, who is also the English Club advisor, presented all the programmes organised by the club in 2019. The programmes are EXKEP 2019 (Expo Kelab dan Persatuan 2019), Debat Piala Rektor (in collaboration with Kelab Debat), Express Your Thoughts (collaborated with APB), Beginner's Mind, Unplugged 2.0, From The Youth To You and The Amazing Race. The club had actually planned to conduct three more events in the earlier 2020; unfortunately, the events were cancelled due to the pandemic Covid-19. Next, the new MTs candidates were asked to introduce themselves, and all the club members voted for each leading position - President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a few more posts. The new President of UiTM CPP English Club (2020-2021) is Ammar Najmi bin Ahmad Anuar while the Vice President is Anis Nabilah binti Mohd Razib. Both of them are part two diploma students from Faculty of Hotel and Tourism Management. The advisors congratulated the new MTs and wished them the best.



### LIST OF THE ENGLISH CLUB EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

 <b>PRESIDENT</b> AMAR NAJMI BIN AH- MAD ANUAR	 <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> ANIS NABILAH BINTI MOHD RAZIB	 <b>SECRETARY</b> MUHAMMAD AKRAM BIN ZULKEFLI	 <b>TREASURER</b> MUHAMAD AFIQ BIN AHAMED SIDDEKH	
 <b>MULTIMEDIA &amp; PROMOTION EXCO</b> HANIS FITRI BINTI ISMAIL	 <b>PROTOCOL &amp; PUBLIC RELATION EXCO</b> MUHAMMAD AIMAN ANIQ BIN MD SAAD	 <b>PROTOCOL &amp; PUBLIC RELATION EXCO</b> MEOR HARRAZ BIN MOHD LOKMAN	 <b>SPECIAL TASKS EXCO</b> SARAH AYUNI BINTI ABDUL MU- TALIB	 <b>SPECIAL TASKS EXCO</b> NUR IZZAH BINTI SHAFII

# ENGLISH CLUB E-POSTER COMPETITION (NOV-DEC 2020)

Report prepared by

Noor Azli bin Affendy Lee, Advisor for English Language Club UiTM Penang

The English Language Club of UiTM Penang had just completed their second project activity which is the ePoster Competition. This competition was opened for UiTM Penang students for a duration of one month from the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November till the 24<sup>th</sup> of December 2020. The competition was divided into 3 different categories:

Category A for pre-diploma students which focused on cultural themes such as traditional customs, food, sports, games and costumes.

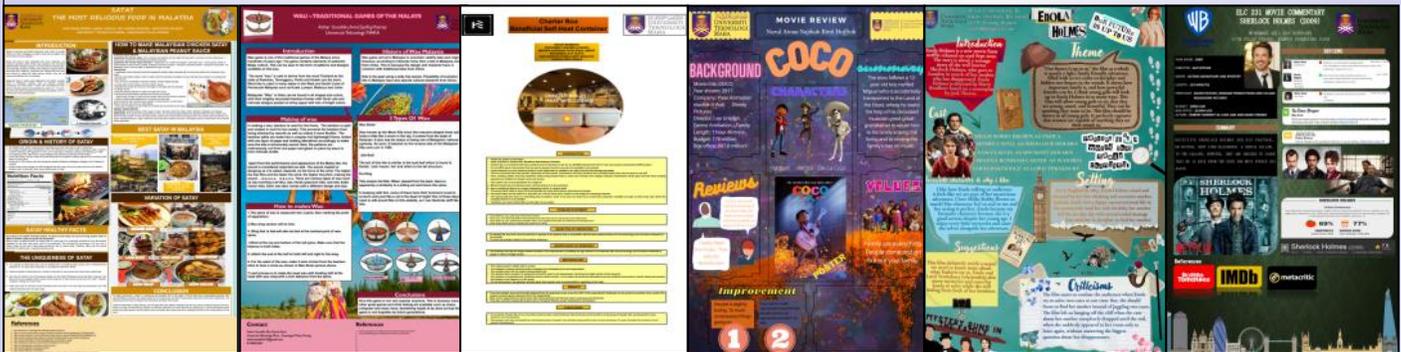
Category B for degree students which focused on research or innovation.

Category C for diploma students which focused on film, TV series or book review.

Both categories A and B were opened for group submission while category C was for individual submission. The top 3 posters from each category were to be selected by three judges from the Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Penang and the chosen winners would have to submit a video presentation of their e-poster in order for the judges to decide the first, second and third places. There were 11 groups who submitted for category A and 12 individuals who submitted for category C. Unfortunately, due to lack of promotion by the club members to degree students, there was only 1 group submission for category B, in which the group won the category without competition. The group who won category B submitted a poster of their final year innovation project which is called the Chatter Box in which they shared their presentation video on YouTube (link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2m-gGEtAtx0&feature=youtu.be>).

For category A (pre-diploma groups), the winning group will receive RM200, the runner-up will get RM150, and third place will receive RM100. Currently, the judges are in the process of judging the video presentations of the three selected groups who submitted posters on Malaysian cultural festival, the traditional game of wau, and the cultural food satay respectively.

For category C (diploma groups), the winning individual will receive RM100, the runner-up will get RM75, and third place will receive RM50. Currently, the judges are deliberating on the video presentations of the three selected posters which are all movie reviews. The titles of the movies that were reviewed are Coco, Sherlock Holmes and Enola Holmes. The results for the ePoster Competition will be announced early January 2020 via the Instagram page of the English Language Club UiTM Penang. ( <https://www.instagram.com/englishclubuitmpp/?igshid=1t9xzuz8kawv7> )



Category A - Satay

Category A - Wau

Category B - Charter Box

Category C - Coco

Category C - Enola Holmes

Category C - Sherlock Holmes



Category A - Festivals



# ENGLISH CLUB SHORT ESSAY COMPETITION (NOV 2020)

Report prepared by Dr. Nur Ilianis Adnan



The English Language Club of UiTM Penang has conducted a short essay competition as a kickstart for the new committee members of the club. It was held from 16th November till 22nd November of 2020. The reason in using Instagram as a platform for this competition is to promote and attract more attention to the usage of the English language among young adult learners especially during the pandemic. Since Instagram is a famous social platform nowadays, youths who are very engaged in this kind of social media can join us easily. In future, we hope that our club would gain recognition from all students and made them realize the importance of the English language is in our society these days.

## A Bad Parent

My mother lies peacefully in her bed, next to it was a life-support machine. I kissed her hand before leaving the bedroom. As I wandered in the mansion, I crossed paths with my heartless father.

"How is she?" he asked.

*Why do you care?*—I thought. But I didn't say that.

"Mom's fine. Still need the new liver, though" I said dryly.



## "The struggle you're in today is developing the strength you need tomorrow."

Daniel is a 25-year-old man who lost his parents and at a very young age, became an orphan. Then, his aunt cared about him. Today, he's a successful entrepreneur in Malaysia. He has faced several challenges before.

At first, after his parents had died, he felt really lost. This is because he was the only child. He doesn't have anybody to count on him. Moreover, all his friends left him alone because they felt that Daniel was a burden to them because he's not as wealthy as they were. He was later diagnosed with extreme



## THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN THE BEAUTY OF THEIR DREAMS.

"Mr. Safwan graduate with honours Bachelor of Surgery, Monash University". I just forced a smile to the cameraman. I know I should be ecstatic because I finally graduated as a surgeon. Yes, I am happy but not too happy. I don't know what to feel. Even though I graduated with honour, does my parents still not proud of me? My parents should be here; celebrating with me. Sadly, they don't have time to focus on me because I am a burden for them. Compared to my older brother, Helmi who



## APB Greenation Buddies @ UiTM CPP

oleh Wan Noorli Razali

Setelah menghadiri mesyuarat projek Greenation Buddies UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang, satu kumpulan ahli jawatankuasa kecil telah ditubuhkan diperingkat APB bagi merealisasikan impian bersama pihak atasan untuk menghidu dan mengindahkan kampus Permatang Pauh. AJK Kecil ini diketuai oleh Puan Wan Noorli Razali dan dibantu oleh Encik Noor Azli Affendy Lee, Puan Muriatul Khusmah Musa, Dr. Rushita Ismail, Puan Melati Desa dan Puan Nazima Versay Kudus.

Pada 11 September 2020, semua staf APB berkumpul di hadapan Pusat Islam untuk aktiviti pembersihan

**“Hujan emas di negeri orang, hujan batu di negeri sendiri, lebih baik di negeri sendiri”**

kawasan dan penanaman pokok. Penglibatan semua staf APB menunjukkan komitmen kami sebagai sebuah keluarga dalam memberi sokongan penuh kepada usaha universiti untuk menghidu kawasan kampus yang secara tidak langsung menyejukkan bumi dan mengurangkan pemanasan global.

Pepatah ini pastinya biasa didengar pada satu ketika dahulu. Namun kini, hujan emas menjadi penyeri laman sendiri. Dengan tema *Minimalist Pocket Garden*, Akademi Pengajian Bahasa UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang telah mengambil langkah berani memilih sejenis pokok renek yang pastinya jarang dilihat di mana-mana landskap di negeri ini. *Rain of Gold* atau Hujan Emas digunakan sebagai asas kepada ruang lanskap kawasan lot yang telah diamanahkan kepada jabatan ini. Berkonsepkan minimalist, APB memberi tumpuan khusus hanya kepada 2 jenis pokok iaitu *Rain of Gold* dan Kemboja.



Ramai mungkin tidak mengenali pokok ini. Ia adalah sejenis pokok renek berbatang keras yang mempunyai potensi berkembang sehingga 4 kaki lebar dengan ketinggian antara 4 ke 6 kaki. Pokok yang juga sinonim dengan panggilan *Thryallis* ini dikatakan berasal dari Amerika Tengah dan

Mexico. Ia mempunyai nilai perubatan dalam kalangan rakyat tempatan untuk mengatasi banyak masalah kesihatan termasuk tekanan perasaan dan kemurungan. Sejenis pokok yang tahan lasak dan amat menggemari cuaca panas. Ia memerlukan jumlah air yang minimal namun mempunyai daya tahan yang tinggi terhadap jangkitan penyakit. Bunganya bersaiz kecil dan berwarna kuning seakan turunnya hujan pastinya memukau setiap mata yang memandang.

Biarpun kelihatan amat ringkas dengan penggunaan pokok yang minimal, keluarga besar APB percaya bahawa sesuatu yang kecil dan ringkas tetapi dilaksanakan dengan jujur dan amanah boleh membawa impak yang besar dalam memberi sokongan kepada usaha menghidu UiTM CPP.

APB memberi penekanan kepada penjagaan tanaman untuk jangka masa panjang. Oleh itu, jadual tugasan secara bergilir setiap 2 minggu telah disediakan untuk aktiviti merumput dan membaja. Barisan Rain of Gold yang mengelilingi kemboja di atas lembaran rumput yang menghidu adalah pemandangan yang diharapkan setelah pokok-pokok yang ditanam besar kelak. InshaAllah

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**Usaha-usaha Akademi Pengajian Bahasa dalam menghijaukan UiTM CPP  
'Ringkas dan Bermakna'**

**11 September 2020**



**9 October 2020**



**23 October 2020**



6 November 2020



18 Disember 2020



Rain of Gold



# Classroom Experience - Sharing #1

## It's brow, bro!

by Che Nooryohana Zulkifli

Since I had numerous opportunities for teaching students from the Hotel and Tourism Management Faculty, it's pretty frequent for me to enter all-girls classes. Being girls, many of them came to class with smashing colours of bags, scarves and of course, make-ups! A make-up savvy like myself, I can't help feeling intrigued! I know that a few stares and gazes won't kill them and so I had to lean closer to my students and whisper, I love your shoes!

It's pretty easy to see my liking, and even though some may consider me as a stern teacher, my students usually fall for what I wear to class as I play with all sorts of colours with my outfit and yea, a pair of chunky heels to boot! It's surreal, but it is true, wearing bright and bold colours to class encourages everyone to stay focused for a long time. So, I guess that is my strongest point, to pique my students' interest with what we both like in common.

I started my first classes with ice-breaking questions like 'what is your dream job?', 'if there is something you can do, what would it be?' and 'if you can change your past, what would it be?'. Apparently, I wanted to make my classes more academic, and I thought that the students might want to put their best foot forward, so I anticipated answers like, 'how I wish I can fulfil my parents' dream - to be a doctor!' or 'I wish I've studied harder so I don't have to struggle during my SPM'. Surprisingly, the answers given were in all honesty, and so many of them confirmed that being famous on YouTube is the next best thing! Upon hearing this, I couldn't help smiling even though I did have a lot of reservations.

What I did next, I just went around, letting everybody express what they liked. So, I found many of the girls loved to watch online make-up tutorials and some even dreamed of being make-up gurus someday and posting their very own videos on YouTube. In subsequent classes, while delivering what I needed to as per syllabus, I scrutinised what these girls love to do as part of learning vocabulary in class. Since I am very much familiar with many tools and products in dabbing colours on my face, I tested them with 'What do we call this in English?'. Well, I did have some boys in my classes while I was doing this, and even though I thought I might bore them to death with this girl-thing, they happened to be in good heart. They even responded to every picture or item that I've

shown, and we had quite a few show-and-tell sessions in learning make-up vocabulary. One thing that I've realised, many of our students preferred to watch local make-up tutorials, and mainly it is because most of the products or tools used by the YouTubers are accessible here in Malaysia. Yes, a good choice.

The efforts of these young YouTubers posting English make-up tutorials are commendable, I must say. However, many of the viewers have started to get the wrong idea in pronouncing many words. I once pointed my finger to my eyebrow, and I shot a question, 'so what is this? We need a beautiful arch of this to achieve a sharp look, you know.' One of the girls answered, 'eye-bro!' Out of shock, I can't help it, 'eye-what'? The students looked at each other, and the girls began to whisper to one another until a male student shouted in a jesting manner, 'hey, it's eyebrow, bro!' Trying not to embarrass the girl, I immediately responded, 'where did you get that pronunciation from?' She didn't take long to reply to me and said, 'well, I really thought it's eye-bro, and even the YouTubers said so too!'

Right after that, I tested them with many more make-up tools, products and even techniques, and soon I discovered some were off track from the correct pronunciation and now I know that the influence from the videos is real and huge! The remedy is simple – all the students have to do is to *Google* it, but if they don't, the mistakes prevail. I have to admit that whatever is posted on social media can quickly gain people's attention. Hopefully, soon enough, the content that we have on social media can help our youth not only in how doing things they like but also doing it correctly.

Sharing something in common with the students easily warms our learning ambience and promote active engagement. The students had so much fun doing this, and some even came to me personally, showed their make-ups and asked me how to pronounce them correctly. Learning is always an exciting journey!

I remember there was one piece of advice I gave them, 'be careful with what you ask from the sales assistant in Sephora. You might want to ask her, 'where can I get the bestseller matte lipstick' because obviously, you do not want her to give you a 'Paper mate lipstick'.'



# Classroom Experience - Sharing #2

## Useful Tips in Teaching Online Effectively

by Farhana Haji Shukor (UiTM Kampus Dengkil)\*



It is undeniable that teaching online can be frustrating experience for some educators. Thus, well-organized plan is needed as a guideline for educators to execute it accordingly.

Some of the challenges that I encountered at the very beginning of online classes include determining the best platform to conduct online classes that could cater to the needs of all students, monitoring the progress of the students during class and after class besides to follow up on some of the late or missing assignments. All these tasks were once easy as I have had ten years of teaching experience in the traditional classroom model.

Here are some of the useful tips that you might want to consider in planning and executing your online classes.

### ACCEPT CHANGES

Learning has now shifted to a total online environment but having said that, the first step to ensure that the learning experience will become successful is that the situation should be accepted as part of the phase in our lives. We should never be stagnant especially for education purpose. All that we should do at that very moment is to become optimistic. Most of the educators have joined courses on how to conduct online classes. Thus, it should be viewed by the educators that this is their golden opportunity to explore new way of teaching and to ensure that learning takes place. With the right mindset of the educator, it will then influence the students to be motivated to learn and both parties will be satisfied with the new norm in education.

### DECIDE ON DIGITAL TOOLS & PLATFORMS

At the very first phase of conducting online classes, educators need to find out about what would be the best digital tools and platforms to be used. Survey needs to be done about students' preferences as well as capability of their internet connection. The fact that more work is required in searching for the best digital tools and platforms that can cater the students' needs as educators need to go extra miles exploring about what would be suitable for teaching purpose. Some of the digital tools that can be utilized include *Web Whiteboard* and *Videoscribe* to scribble their ideas, *Unicheck* and *Turnitin* for plagiarism

checker as well as *Formative* and *PearDeck* to conduct formative assessments and assignments.

After two semesters of conducting online classes, it is decided that we use Google Meet to have real-time presentation with the students, Google Classes for a free and easy tool helping educators efficiently manage and assess progress, while enhancing connections with students as well as UFUTURE as a platform for delivering learning content online to any person who wants to take a course, with no limit on attendance. Both parties, educators and students are becoming active users as they go along getting themselves immersed in these digital tools and platforms. It takes more time and effort to prepare and execute online classes but with perseverance and willingness to learn, it has become a successful experience.

### ORGANIZE TASKS

In order to organize your weekly-basis tasks, it is a must for everyone to choose one day to list down things to do so that you can keep yourself on track. For example, you might want to allocate few minutes of your Friday afternoon to prepare the list of what needs to be done for the following week. Make it a habit to plan well and be organized. As the saying goes, "If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail". We surely do not want to be one of those who fail, right?

It is best to divide the tasks into three varieties such as long-term goals, short term-goals and to-do-now list. You can best identify them to fall under which categories from the deadlines given. For instance, to-do-now list can have the expected dates to be completed in a day up until three days. Meanwhile, tasks that needs to be done and submitted in four to seven days will be put under short-term goal tasks whereas the others will be categorized as long-term goals. Complete doing items in to-do-now list followed by short-term goals and then only you continue with long-term goals. If you try this out, you will observe yourself to be working efficiently and manage to submit the tasks before the deadlines.

### PLAN FOR BREAKS

Breaks are needed so that you will not be burned out especially after you have conducted 6-hours of online classes with your students. It is needed for you to stay productive and to deliver your content well. You might want to consider taking a walk for about 10 minutes at your nearby park just to get yourself refreshed and are ready to get back to work.

Educators are expected to also plan for breaks in their online class. Getting the students to be attending online classes and becoming participative is crucial so that everyone will be continuously motivated to teach and learn in the class. We can conduct online games with the students tailoring to the subject contents after they have sat for the assessments of the course. There will surely be no absentees in your class if you manage to tackle the heart of the students as they are eager to take part

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## Classroom Experience - Sharing #3

### Penggunaan Kata Sendi 'Zai' dalam Bahasa Mandarin

oleh Lim Soo Giap

Kata Sendi 'Zai' dalam Bahasa Mandarin jika diterjemahkan dalam Bahasa Malaysia mempunyai beberapa makna yang berbeza.

1. Wáng xiānsheng zài jiā ma?  
Adakah En. Wang di rumah?
2. Wǒ de shū zài Wáng xiānsheng de jiā.  
Buku saya di rumah En. Wang.



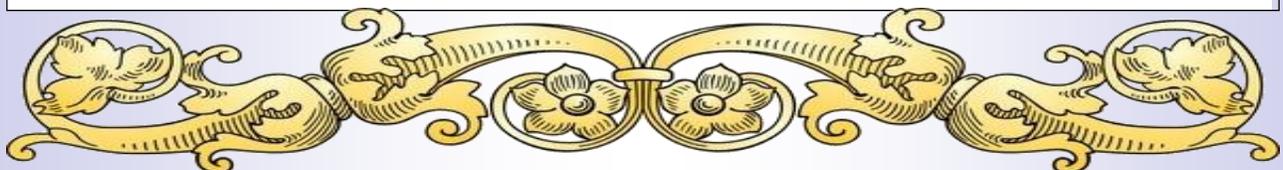
Di sini 'zài' berfungsi seperti perkataan 'di' dalam Bahasa Malaysia. Dalam Bahasa Mandarin 'zài' biasanya digunakan untuk menunjukkan tempat orang atau benda berada.

3. Wáng xiānsheng zài jiā ma?  
Adakah En. Wang di rumah?
4. Zài (jiā).  
Ada (di rumah).

'zài' juga membawa erti hadir. Dalam ayat ke-3 'zài' mempunyai makna ada di sesuatu tempat dan ayat ke-4 merupakan jawapan ringkas bagi ayat ke-3.

5. Wáng xiānsheng zài kàn diànshì.  
En. Wang sedang menonton TV.
6. Lǐ Xiǎojie zài zhònghua.  
Cik Li sedang menanam bunga.  
(kàn =tengok; diànshì =T.V.; zhòng =tanam)

'zài' juga digunakan bila kita ingin menerangkan satu perbuatan yang sedang dijalankan seperti dalam ayat ke-5 dan ke-6. Di sini 'zài' boleh diterjemahkan sebagai sedang dalam Bahasa Malaysia.



# Classroom Experience - Sharing #4

## Are you having fun learning French?

by Er Ann Nah

French is a living and vibrant language spoken widely in the world for centuries. There are about 80 million native speakers and 200 million L2 speakers of this age old language. It is the second most extensively learned foreign language after English and is considered the fifth most spoken language in the world. It is considered as an international and official language for about 29 countries for business or diplomatic reasons. Besides this, knowledge of French opens up a world of fashion, theatre, visual arts, dance and gastronomy.

Most people considered French as a beautiful language, the language of love because of the flow of the language where the pronunciation glides elegantly off ones tongue. It's extremely melodious to a non-native ear when the 'r' is effortlessly rolled, liaisons married and nasal vowels slightly emphasized. When this musical richness is coupled with gestures typically French, *voilà* you have the beauty of the spoken *français*!

Therefore it is not surprising that students come to class with this expectation in mind. Unfortunately, they are often discouraged when confronted with the maze of verbs in its *conjugaison*, the grammatical structures and the confusing gender rules in the French language.

To avoid this disillusionment, it is of utmost importance to introduce some elements of literature to a French language class. This not only underlines the beauty of the language but opens a great intercultural space for students to explore. Unconfined by rules and regulations, the charms of the language manifested itself naturally thus making learning French a definite pleasure.

Numerous great literature works are born in the French language. It is the language of Victor Hugo, Molière, Jules Verne, to name a few. You may be familiar with the translated version of famous works by Victor Hugo, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (1831) and *Les Misérables* (1862). While popular stories like *Journey to the Center of the Earth* (1864) and *Around the World in Eighty Days* (1872) are renowned literature works of French writer, Jules Verne. As for Molière, he is a revered playwright, who is as iconic in the history of French literature as Shakespeare is in English.

Students beginning French can be introduced to simple fables and poems before progressing to more advanced literature texts. You may be familiar with celebrated and cherished fables of your childhood like *The lion and the rat* (1962) or *The grasshopper and the ant* (1668) written by Jean de la Fontaine.

Simple and beautiful poetries by famed poet Jacques Prévert in his collection 'Paroles' (1946) are easy to understand for students discovering the language for the first time. The stark simplicity of Jacques Prévert's pieces is widely used in the French classroom and frequently appears in French language textbooks throughout the world. His poems are full of humor and humanity that sketches simple tender scenes of everyday life.

Some of Prévert's poems such as *Les Feuilles Mortes* are turned into songs, sung by prominent 20th century French vocalist such as Yves Montand and Edith Piaf. In 1950, an American composer Johnny Mercer even rebranded this song by adding some of his own lyrics and renamed it as *Autumn Leaves*. This English version has been recorded by countless singers from Nat King Cole to Eric Clapton.

Poetries are actually an excellent tool for learning a foreign language. In fact how do poetries influence a French language class? For a start, listening to foreign poetries brings pleasure and delight to the ears. It leads students to improve their diction and articulation. Besides, working with poetries improves oral and written comprehension skills.

Aside from this, poetries invoke curiosity and interest for the language. Students are encouraged to imagine and perceive the language in a different manner. They are placed on the outside of the habitual practice of the language. This encourages creativity and increases motivation to learn more of this intricate language.

At the same time, learning through poetries helps reinforcing sentence patterns and grammatical structures indirectly. It also expands students' vocabulary and it is an excellent exercise for memorization.

As an example, here are two of Jacques Prévert's frequently used poetries in a French language class: *Déjeuner du Matin* and *Le Message*.

In the first poem, *Déjeuner du Matin* or Morning Meal, beginner students are exposed to a simple vocabulary, easy sentence structures and a story closely linked to a reality of ordinary life. To begin, students are invited to watch one of videos on this subject and began a discussion on it. Who are the characters in the play, what are they doing or feeling, what might be the theme of the story. From the pedagogic point of view, this poem is ideal to work on the past tense and the *conjugaison* of the verbs. Other creative exercises include a miming of the story or a role-play of the personages in the poem. Students can also write an imagery ending for the characters in the story.

*continued on the next page ...*

**Déjeuner du matin**

Il a mis le café  
Dans la tasse  
Il a mis le lait  
Dans la tasse de café  
Il a mis le sucre  
Dans le café au lait  
Avec la petite cuiller  
Il a tourné  
Il a bu le café au lait  
Et il a reposé la tasse  
Sans me parler  
Il a allumé  
Une cigarette  
Il a fait des ronds  
Avec la fumée  
Il a mis les cendres  
Dans le cendrier  
Sans me parler  
Sans me regarder  
Il s'est levé  
Il a mis  
Son chapeau sur sa tête  
Il a mis  
Son manteau de pluie  
Parce qu'il pleuvait  
Et il est parti  
Sous la pluie  
Sans une parole  
Sans me regarder  
Et moi j'ai pris  
Ma tête dans ma main  
Et j'ai pleuré.



**MORNING MEAL**

He poured the coffee  
Into the cup  
He poured the milk  
Into the cup of coffee  
He put sugar  
In the café au lait  
With the teaspoon  
He stirred it  
He drank the café au lait  
And he replaced the cup  
Without speaking to me  
He lit a cigarette  
He blew smoke rings  
He placed the ash  
In the ashtray  
Without speaking to me  
Without looking at me  
He got up  
He placed his hat  
On his head  
He put on  
His mackintosh  
Because it was raining  
And he went  
Into the rain  
Without a word  
Without looking at me  
And me I placed  
My head in my hands  
And I cried.

As for the second poem entitled *The Message*, the grammatical objective of this exercise is to firstly, work on the relative pronouns *où* and *que*. Secondly this linguistic tool helps students discover how the agreement of the past participles and past tense works in the French language.

To introduce the poem, students can look at a set of pictures or illustrations and come up with a word or sentence that represents it. Or students can rearrange the pictures to reconstruct the story in the poem. On a more hands on basis, a student can read the poem out loud, good practice for intonation and pronunciation, while another can mime or act out the story. To further enhance creativity, students can come up with sentences of their own that resembles the poem and mime them for their friends, so that they can guess their meaning. Students are also encouraged to write a play based on the poem and put up a theater performance. Who knows, one might discover hidden talents of would be actors in one's French class.

**Le Message**

La porte que quelqu'un a ouverte  
La porte que quelqu'un a refermée  
La chaise où quelqu'un s'est assis  
Le chat que quelqu'un a caressé  
Le fruit que quelqu'un a mordu  
La lettre que quelqu'un a lue  
La chaise que quelqu'un a renversée  
La porte que quelqu'un a ouverte  
La route où quelqu'un court encore  
Le bois que quelqu'un traverse  
La rivière où quelqu'un se jette  
L'hôpital où quelqu'un est mort.

**The Message**

The door that someone opened  
The door that someone closed  
The chair on which someone sat down  
The cat that someone petted  
The fruit that someone bit into  
The letter that someone read  
The chair that someone tipped over  
The door that someone opened  
The road where someone is still running  
The woods that someone crossed running  
The river in which someone jumped  
The hospital where someone died.

In conclusion, poetries are no doubt a formidable pedagogical support and an amazing linguistic tool to assist in the learning of a foreign language. They are easy and interesting to use in class. The simple language engages students to work on oral and written competency. The mere verbal form of poem itself assists improvement in both pronunciation and intonation. Furthermore, the text can be used to revisit a grammatical point and to reinforce written competency.

Learning a foreign language is no fun when it is saddled with dry grammatical rules and regulations. Therefore including poetries in a foreign language class does make learning more effective and interesting. Students are more comfortable and are less intimidated. So who said learning French is not entertaining?

Other works by Jacques Prévert from *Paroles* (1946)

**Quel jour sommes-nous ?**

Quel jour sommes-nous ?  
Nous sommes tous les jours  
Mon amie  
Nous sommes toute la vie  
Mon amour  
Nous nous aimons et nous vivons  
Nous vivons et nous nous aimons  
Et nous ne savons pas ce que c'est que la vie  
Et nous ne savons pas ce que c'est que le jour  
Et nous ne savons pas ce que c'est que l'amour.

**What day are we?**

What day are we?  
We are every day  
My friend  
We're the whole of life  
My love  
We love and we live  
We live and we love  
And we don't really know what life is  
And we don't really know what the day is  
And we don't really know what love is.

**Pour toi mon amour**

Je suis allé au marché aux oiseaux  
Et j'ai acheté des oiseaux  
Pour toi  
Mon amour  
Je suis allé au marché aux fleurs  
Et j'ai acheté des fleurs  
Pour toi  
Mon amour  
Je suis allé au marché à la ferraille  
Et j'ai acheté des chaînes, de lourdes chaînes  
Pour toi  
Mon amour  
Et puis, je suis allé au marché aux esclaves  
Et je t'ai cherchée  
Mais je ne t'ai pas trouvée  
Mon amour

**For You My Love**

I went to the market, where they sell birds  
and I bought some birds  
for you  
my love  
I went to the market, where they sell flowers  
and I bought some flowers  
for you  
my love  
I went to the market, where they sell chains  
and I bought some chains  
heavy chains  
for you  
my love  
And then I went to the slave market  
and I looked for you  
but I did not find you there  
my love

in your class activities. Plan for something interesting and you notice that they would voluntarily turn on their camera without you forcing them to do so.

**FAIR GRADING**

At the end of the course, the learners are being graded but this time around it has huge difference in the way that they are being assessed. Most of the materials used for grading purpose such as rubrics, marking template and scoresheets are now ready in online version. The trickiest part for educators to ensure fair grading to make sure that the learners understand what are expected from them in taking assessments online.

First thing that educators need to do is to expose the students about the purpose of the assessments or assignments that they

need to submit. This is to ensure that the students will answer the questions well and to fulfil the requirement of an assignment. Some samples can be shared with the students so that they understand and can ask the educator to clarify things that they are unsure after the sharing session. We can make it as a weekly process that cater for certain skills such as by asking these students to write good introductory paragraphs for different topics as our week 2 assignment and up until writing concluding paragraph for week 6 task.

These five tips are only some of the suggestions as to how we can ensure teaching and learning experience will never be exasperating experience. Who knows you can try it out when you are planning for next semester's class? It works well me, and it might also work for you! Happy teaching and all the best!

*\*Editor's Note: Thank you Miss Farhana, for still contributing to eLingua despite leaving us for UiTM Kampus Dengkil.*



## Ritualistic Dances in Malaysia

### Introduction

Malaysia has many unique, traditional performances that are part of its cultural identity. Some of the performances are theatre dances that can be ritualistic and spiritual in their origins such as Ulek Mayang, Menora and Mak Yong. These dances have some cultural values that all Malaysians should be proud of and appreciate before they are completely gone when there is no one who can perform them.

### Ulek Mayang Dance

Ulek Mayang dance is a popular dance known to have been originated from Terengganu, Malaysia. “Ulek” refers to rhythm spells or mantra, while “mayang” refers to coconut flowers. Ulek Mayang dance is performed with its own song. The song was said to have actually been used by a “bomoh” sometime in the old days to recover a fisherman’s captured spirit from seven “djinn” princesses from the sea. “Mayang” in this dance is a tool used to treat the unconscious fisherman. It is said that a few fishermen went to the sea doing their usual routine to catch fish when there was suddenly a storm at the sea that washed them to the shore. The exhausted fishermen were lucky to be alive except one fisherman who was still unconscious. To help him regain his consciousness, his fellow fishermen friends called a “bomoh” (shaman) to do a ritual for this. The “bomoh” had to work hard to ward off the “djinn” princesses during the ritual until finally the seventh princess appeared to end the fight between the six princesses and the “bomoh” and said “Ku tahu asal usul mu. Yang laut balik ke laut. Yang darat balik ke darat” (“I know where you are from. Those from the sea, go back to the sea. Those from the land, go back to the land”).



A song was composed and adapted from the mantra by Mazlan Embong. The original version of the mantra is composed of more lines and mentions the appearance of each of the princesses. The song version of the mantra composed by Mazlan Embong only contains the lines that mention the second, fourth, sixth and seventh princesses with a closing line. The song was popularized by Wan Salmah Wan Sulaiman, the original singer of the Ulek Mayang song in the early 1960s when she joined the Persatuan Belia Darul Ehsan, Kuala Terengganu which was active in arts and cultural activities in Terengganu. There is no specific costume for the “Ulek Mayang” dance. However, usually female dancers playing the roles of the seven princesses wear the Malay traditional dress and accessories, while the male performers playing the roles as the fisherman and the “bomoh” are dressed accordingly. The “Ulek Mayang” song has a melancholic and mellow melody that is said to have some mystical elements where if performed without any precautions, the dancers or audience can be possessed by some spirits believed to be the seven princesses apart from other undesirable things that can happen.



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## Menora Dance

Menora is a traditional dance popularized in Kelantan and southern Thailand and it is usually performed in Thai and some Malay language using Kelantanese dialect. Menora is categorized as a dance drama that features Siamese drama theatre (Santos, 1995) and was performed in the palaces in the old days. Menora has a combination of storytelling, singing, acting, and medical rituals (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012). Among the characters involved in this dance are the king, queen, princess, “peran” (joker), “marshi” (monk) and “ibu bota” (monster) (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012). The costumes, accessories and props used in the dance among others are “kecopong” (sert or head accessory) and “cangga” (metal finger accessory). According to Ilias, Ahmad and Ahmad Zubir (2012) among the musical instruments used in the dance are “serunai” (clarinet or flute), “tetawak” (gong), rebab, “cerik” (cerik), “gendang” (drum), “klong” (geduk), “kesi” (small cymbals), “gedombak” (traditional drum), a small gong or two gongs suspended in a wooden frame (“canang”).



A stage opening ceremony will be held before Menora is performed during the first night of the Menora performance to make sure that the troupe and the whole show operate properly without any evil spirit disrupting them (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012). In the opening stage ceremony, the items used are roasted chicken, virgin coconut, joss-stick, white cloth, a pillow, a mat, “cerana” (a metal container with betel leaves and areca nut), raw thread, three candles, white rice, incense, sandalwood, and some money (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012). A shaman, known as Tok Menora or Pak Si Tong, may perform the ceremony (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012). Next, the breaking story ceremony will be performed after the stage opening ceremony is finished and Pak Si Tong will appear on the stage dressed in a colorful costume to begin the performance by making the twelve steps of the Menora dance (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012). The Menora dance performance is closed with the stage closing ceremony at the end of the dance or during the final night of Menora which involves scattering turmeric rice at each corner of the stage and singing the final song by Tok Menora and other singers (Ilias, Ahmad & Zubir, 2012).



## Mak Yong Dance



Mak Yong is a type of dance theatre that combines both dance and acting performance depending on the story presented. Mak Yong which is also known as Mak Hiang is popular in Patani, southern Thailand and Kelantan, Malaysia. According to Yousof (2016), there are a few versions of the origin of Mak Yong and one of them is that this dance came into existence from the rituals linked to the goddess of rice (“semangat padi”). Mak Yong is categorized into two types: one that is performed merely for entertainment and one for ritualistic purposes such as for presenting salutation to teachers (“semah guru”) and for situations that require certain healing (Yousof, 2017). Similar to the Menora dance, among the musical instruments used in Mak Yong dance are “rebab”, “gendang”, “tetawak”, “canang”, “kesi” and “serunai.” Among the accessories worn during the dance performance are “la mak yong” (a chest accessory made of colorful beads), “setanjak” (head accessory usually made of “upih nibong” or nibong palm). Mak Yong is sometimes performed with an opening dance called, “menghadap rebab” to “worship” the main musical instrument, “rebab.” A few lines sung during “menghadap rebab” are as the following:



continued on the next page ...

Bong wei...membalik tipo gak  
Dage membue silolah cik wei  
Dage membue silolah cik wei  
Ayuhlah cik wei  
Seperti suloh bermain angin la...  
Eh...bemban gugor di tapok  
Selude cik wei...meningga maye la...  
Ayuh tue wei

(Source: Makyung, Kementerian Kebudayaan, Kesenian dan Pelancongan 2003).

Mak Yong is sometimes played together with “main teri” which is also called, “main puteri”, a ritual involving a particular mantra for healing illnesses related to “spirit interference.” Besides, it is also said that Mak Yong involves some spiritual elements in terms of its dancers’ character appreciation during their performance. It is claimed by Yousof (2017) that Mak Yong stories are 12 in number and the first one being “Dewa Muda”, which is the most significant and the one that encapsulated the origin of Mak Yong dance. Other stories include “Dewa Pechil”, “Anak Raja Gondang” and “Raja Tangkai Hati” whose origins remain unknown (Yousof, 2017). The important characters of Mak Yong are “Pak Yong” (king), “Mak Yong” (queen), “Pak Yong Muda” (the hero), “Puteri Mak Yong” (the heroin), “peran” (joker), “dayang” (ladies in-waiting”). Mak Yong is claimed as another version of Menora and indeed both dances share similar characteristics.

## Conclusion

To conclude, Ulek Mayang, Menora and Mak Yong are local heritage that should be preserved in order to prevent them from dying out and this cultural heritage being lost to the forces of modernization and globalization that characterizes contemporary society. Thus, the government should take some actions to encourage the preservation and development of Ulek Mayang, Menora and Mak Yong that are a representation of Malaysian identity that have the potential to attract tourists to come to Malaysia.

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## Oh, my face! Goodbye chemicals, hello facial oils!



Facial oils have suddenly taken the world by storm as soon as the awareness of organic products rises. It's a great pleasure for me to let you know here that there are many oils out there that we can use to replace our usual moisturiser that may contain several chemical ingredients that we cannot even pronounce!

Some people think any kinds of oil can be beneficial, but hey, that's not true. As a makeup-savvy, understanding the fact that I'm putting a lot of chemicals onto my face every day, tweaking this ritual a bit and starting to replace my moisturiser with facial oils can be a splendid idea!

After a few years of readings as well as going through a slew of self-experimentations, I've finally realised that all I need is one kind of facial oil to replace my toner, serum/essence, moisturiser and makeup primer! Yay! So, here are some facial oils that you can easily find on our local market.

**Olive oil** is helpful after a sunburn, but for daily use, it can cause breakouts, especially to those who are acne-prone. So if you really need it to seal in hydration, just take about 2-3 drops for the entire face.

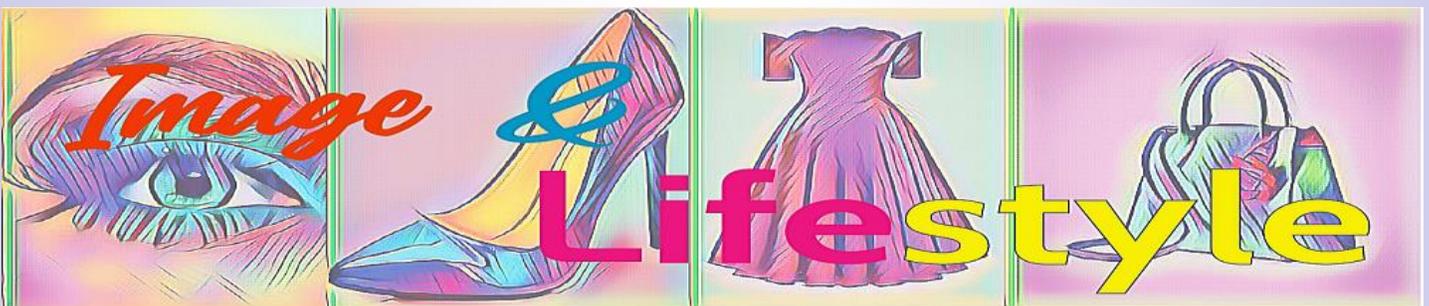
**Virgin coconut oil** is good for hydration, but on some skins, it can cause oil-seeds (milia) which are extremely difficult to be removed! However, the smell is comforting and cures flaky skins almost instantly! So I'm sure this oil is indeed useful to moisten our cracked heels and dry elbows.

**Argan oil** can really do wonder because it sinks quickly! It is also rich with Vitamin E, so it can help to prevent and reduce ageing lines as well as to keep age spots at bay. Even better, those with oily skin can use it!

**Rosehip oil** is the best facial oil that I have tried! It is not greasy, sinks instantly and smells great! Both dry and oily skin can use it, and I've found it is useful to make my makeup last even much longer. So instead of using a primer which is loaded with chemicals, you can opt for this one instead. I've also found reviews saying that rosehip oil promotes radiance and clears off our pores. Way to go, one oil for all sorts of purpose!

I'm sure if you read beauty magazines or even articles online, you will find there are many more facial oils that I have not mentioned. The main reason is, not all of these oils are accessible here. Some other oils like jojoba, marula, almond and pomegranate also offer amazing perks! For instance, marula oil is known as a great antioxidant and loaded with vitamins to keep our skin youthful! However, not all of these oils are available here in Malaysia. Well, the good news is there are many brands out there have already moved towards creating products using organic ingredients by concocting a few oils together in one bottle for us to enjoy the multiple benefits!

So, for you to have fewer chemicals on your face, you might want to reconsider this new option. After all, these oils are usually vegan and of course, safer. Happy hunting!





About the column: Welcome to a new column for the eLingua of Akademi Pengajian Bahasa, UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang! I am one of the English lecturers in APB who happens to be an avid animal lover and pet owner. I have experiences in taking care of various pet animals throughout my youth up till now. Currently, due to my job, I am limited to only owning Bengal cats and fennec foxes as my companions at home. However, I had past experiences with many animals in the past that I am happy to share with in this column such as mammals like sugar gliders and gerbils; birds like zebra finches, whydahs and quails; aquatic animals like the arowana, betta (fighting fish), cardinal tetras and crayfish; and reptiles like the Indian star tortoise, red-eared sliders, soft-shell tortoise and many more. I will also be sharing other pet owners' experiences in having domestic and exotic animals as pets in this column. This column will focus on the background of the animal as well as the ups and downs of pet ownership. For any inquiries, feel free to contact me for more information at [azli.affendy@gmail.com](mailto:azli.affendy@gmail.com).

## Sugar Gliders



August 2012: with my own different sugar glider colour variations

A sugar glider (scientific name – *petaurus breviceps*) is a small nocturnal marsupial native to Australia, Papua New Guinea and some parts of Indonesia. It gets its name from the fact that it likes to eat the sugary nectar of plants such as Eucalyptus and Acacia trees and well-known for gliding from tree to tree in its natural habitat. For the past 20 years, at least, sugar gliders have been included into the pet trade to be sold as household pets due to their cuteness and uniqueness.

Sugar gliders have cute, large bulging eyes with excellent night vision due to their nocturnal nature. They sleep during the day and become active when night falls. Due to this, as a pet, sugar gliders need to be kept in a fairly quiet area to allow them to sleep during the day. Male sugar gliders have a bald spot on their forehead which serves as one of their 3 scent glands. These musky scent glands are used to mark territory and social group members. In captivity, the smell of these glands is noticeable and can be quite overpowering. In addition, a pet sugar glider cannot be potty-trained. So, one of the aspects that one needs to consider before adopting a sugar glider as a pet is its smell.



March 2012: with four 2-month old joeys

A unique feature of a sugar glider is it has a very thin skin called the membrane or patagium that is attached from each of its wrists to each ankle, similar to a flying squirrel. This membrane is spread out when a sugar glider jumps from one place to another to be used as a para-glider. The total body length of a sugar glider is around 36 cm which includes its long fluffy tail. The tail itself makes up 17 cm, which is almost half of its body length, and is used for balancing and navigating the sugar glider during gliding. Due to their nature to leap and glide from place to place, and their love of climbing and gliding, sugar gliders need a lot of space if one wants to keep them as pets. Hence, another important aspect one needs to consider before adopting a sugar glider as a pet is space.

Omnivorous, in their natural habitat, a sugar glider's diet consists primarily of live insects, tree saps, nectar, pollen and tree gum. In captivity, their owners can offer them a variety of insects such as superworms, mealworms, dubia roaches, and crickets, as well as certain fruits, vegetables, eggs, and cooked meat. However, due to their very particular diet, careful consideration must be given on selecting the appropriate and balanced food for sugar gliders. For example, giving low calcium, high phosphorus food will lead to problems with a sugar glider's bones which can cause hind leg paralysis that can lead to death. A majority of sugar glider deaths in the pet trade have been caused by inappropriate diet, so one should put a considerable effort into knowing a sugar glider's diet before acquiring one.

The lifespan of a sugar glider in the wild is around 9 years. However, in captivity, sugar gliders can live up to 12 to 17 years, so, a long-term commitment is required for people who want to have them as pets. Sexual maturity varies among sugar gliders. Males can sexually mature as early as 6 months old and females, between 8 to 12 months of age. Sugar gliders will breed all year round if food is in abundance. Females give birth about 2 weeks after successful conception to normally 1 or 2 babies. A baby sugar glider is called a joey. As with all marsupials, these underdeveloped joeys are born hairless and blind and spend the beginning of their life by crawling from their mother's birth canal into her pouch before latching on to one of their mother's nipples. The young spend about 9 weeks in their mother's pouch. After that, the joey will be weaned and becomes self-sufficient at 3 to 4 months of age. Throughout this period, the mother can become pregnant again while her joey is in her pouch.

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June 2013: with 2 batches of sugar glider joeys – four 2-week old joeys (left and on hand) and two 1-month old joeys (right)

Sugar gliders are very social and vocal animals as they communicate through a variety of sounds such as barks, hisses and buzzes. When stressed or spooked, they will make loud sounds known as crabbing. This loud sound can be very noisy or disruptive when heard by the household or neighbours. Apart from that, the sounds they make to call their members or owner during their active period, which is at night, can disturb others. Therefore, one needs to consider dealing with the nocturnal activities of a pet sugar glider before owning one. In addition, regular interaction is very important if one wants a sugar glider to bond with its owner. Sugar gliders are generally not aggressive pets but they will bite if they feel threatened or frightened. If a glider is not used to being handled by a human, it can take some time and a lot of patience for it to bond with its owner. Playtime during a sugar glider's active period can strengthen the bonds between the sugar glider and its owner.

I have past experiences owning and breeding sugar gliders from 2008 to 2015 and it was filled with memorable moments that help me better understand this unique exotic animal. During my university years, I started by buying one from a pet store in Penang – a female I named A-rora, after doing a lot of reading on its background, care, diet, behaviour and so on. Honestly, in my experience rearing sugar gliders and observing the pet market, it is not recommended to seek advice from pet store workers about the ways to take care and house a sugar glider because most of the time, they provide misinformation such as placing them in small hamster cages and feeding them pallet food. The best party to get advice from is

from sugar glider lovers who breed and study them as a hobby – they are called home-breeders. Home-breeders are the opposite of mill-breeders who breed animals for the market and money.

During my 7-year stint as a sugar glider home-breeder, I have met many sugar glider lovers as myself as well as have dealt and educated many buyers – many who have become good sugar glider owners. In Malaysia, there are many sugar glider community groups on Facebook that a majority of the members are very helpful to guide newcomers on the proper ways to care for the exotic pet. These communities are normally led by one or several experienced sugar glider owner or home-breeder. We even have state-based sugar glider community groups so it is easier and closer for people to consult or discuss about sugar glider care. There were many dramas that unfolded within and among the communities – some sweet and some sour memories due to the passion we fellow Malaysians have with regard to this magnificent creature. During my time as a sugar glider enthusiast, there will be many gatherings made by members of the Malaysian sugar glider community where owners proudly bring their loved pets to recreational parks to meet others who share the same passion.

In the middle of 2015, my first sugar glider, A-rora, passed away. After breeding and rearing over 100 sugar gliders during my young adult years, I finally decided to stop due to the increasing work responsibilities. I no longer have time to play with my sugar gliders and needed the sleep to prepare for my classes the morning after. Hence, I decided to give my remaining sugar gliders to my fellow friends whom I have met and shared my passion of sugar glider rearing with throughout the years. My friends still have some of the sugar gliders I gave them and those that passed away had their own offspring and generations of their own to continue their lineage. It is a legacy that I am very proud of to this day.



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In this section, we will get 'up-close and personal' with two of the most prominent home-breeders of the sugar glider community in Malaysia as they shared their opinions, insights and personal experiences in rearing and breeding this cute and unique pet.



Mohd Azezol Shah bin Ahmad Zainuddin, or more famously known as Marwin Shah in the Malaysian sugar glider community, started to learn about these adorable creatures when he took care of his aunt's sugar gliders in 2003. From there, he slowly accustomed himself in sugar glider care and after four years, in 2007, officially owned a pair. Located in Kuala Lumpur, he has now handled and bred more than 300 sugar gliders with their generations scattered all around Malaysia. He is also one of the founders of SUGAR GLIDER – MALAYSIA Facebook group, which still currently holds the largest number of sugar glider owners (20,000 members) in Malaysia.



Daniel Hamdan, or Dany, started out by helping another friend who is also an avid lover of sugar gliders in Sungai Buloh on December 2009. He helped taking care of his friend's sugar gliders, as well as his own, when his friend went outstation. From the experience, he is used to taking care and handling many sugar gliders with differing personalities and preferences. He moved to his hometown in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah in 2015, bringing along his beloved sugar gliders to the Land Below the Wind. He is one of the founders of Sugar Glider Sabah Bah (SGSB) Facebook group, an extension of the SUGAR GLIDER MALAYSIA Facebook group in the state of Sabah.

*Question: Why are you interested to have this animal under your care?*

**Marwin:** For me, sugar gliders are cute, small and unique animals. They are easy to take care of and do not require a huge space.

**Dany:** I love their big round eyes and they look like squirrels. When I started in 2009, many Malaysians did not know the existence of this exotic animal and they are a rare sight to behold. That attracted me to have them as my pet.

*Question: Explain a unique fact about this animal that you find fascinating.*

**Marwin:** I find their way of communication very unique. The sounds that they make are similar to small puppies, especially when they are seeking attention from their owner.

**Dany:** I think one of the unique qualities they have is their small body size. It is easy to keep them sleeping inside a pouch – hence their nickname 'pocket pets'. Another unique attribute that fascinates me is the way the mothers give birth and keep their babies inside her pouch, just like a kangaroo.

*Question: In your opinion, what is the easiest aspect when having this animal under your care?*

**Marwin:** The easiest aspect for me is the space needed to keep a pair of sugar gliders. We just need a 3 by 2 feet cage. Additionally, I find their diet easy to find or make if we know what they naturally eat.

**Dany:** For me, the easiest aspect of taking care of sugar gliders is the timing. I work during the day, so when I get back from work, I am able to monitor and spend time with my sugar gliders because they are only active at night. Also, I think their diet is quite easy due to them being omnivorous. We can just give them fruits and cooked chicken.

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*In your opinion, what is the most difficult aspect when having this animal under your care?*

Marwin: The most challenging thing in sugar glider care is when a mother rejects her young and I am forced to hand-feed the rejected joey. I have to spend a lot of my time hand-feeding the right milk formula and making sure the joey is warm and safe. This has to be done every 2 to 3 hours until the joey can feed by itself.

Dany: The most problematic aspect when owning a sugar glider in general is there is a lack of animal veterinarians in Malaysia who really know how to treat a sugar glider because not many Malaysian vets expertise in exotic animals. Sugar gliders are prone to diseases but it is difficult to detect because they can keep it hidden until it is too late. The saddest moments are when my sugar gliders died suddenly without showing any signs of sickness.

*What was your most memorable experience with this animal?*

Marwin: One of the most memorable experiences that I still cannot forget is when I successfully managed to hand-feed 3 joeys at once until all of them were able to survive and grow into adulthood. Another memorable one was when I successfully combined 17 sugar gliders into one colony in one big cage. Sugar glider are normally very territorial with outsiders and they will fight any outsider that enters their territory. It was a such a big success for me that I managed to introduce 17 of them to form a new colony.

Dany: A beautiful memory for me was when I reared 31 sugar gliders of different colour variations. At that time, sugar glider variations were still very rare in Malaysia. Normally, we can only find the classic grey variation but I was lucky to get the leucistic (white), white-face and mosaic variations – these variations were very rare during those days and we can only import them from either Thailand or the United States and they cost a fortune! Another memorable experience was when I waited for a joey to come out from its mother's pouch to discover whether it is classic grey or a colour variation.

*What is your advice to others who are interested to have this animal as a pet?*

Marwin: My advice to those who are interested to have sugar gliders as their pet is to study the animal first – how to take care of them and their diet, because these two aspects are the most important ones when we start adopting them as their pet companions. In addition, we need to think of ways to spend our time with our sugar gliders at night due to their nocturnal habits.

Dany: My advice for those who are keen to get these cute pocket pets is to do sufficient research on the animal. Nowadays, the Internet is full of information and there are many sugar glider Facebook groups in Malaysia where the members are happy to guide and help any newcomers in sugar glider care. We just have to be initiative to ask. Also, we need to spend a lot of money to ensure our sugar gliders are being taken good care of. Another advice, for those who are extremely hygienic, a sugar glider is not a suitable pet due to it likes to pee and mark its scent on its owners' body for territory.





# HOME GARDEN

BY WAN NOORLI  
RAZALI

## Rosa (Part 1)



Roses are red,  
Violets are blue,  
Sugar is sweet,  
And so are you.

This traditional poem must have reminded us of the plant's delicate beauty. In this edition, rose is the topic of our discussion. Among many plants in our home garden, this always catches the attention. Roses are definitely soothing to the eyes, a stress reliever due to its therapeutic nature. Well, I may not be an expert but I am here to share my basic and limited experience of planting and growing roses in my home garden.

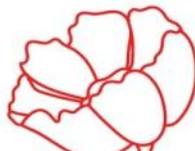
Let us start by knowing the basic types of roses according to its size. Roses generally can be divided into few types; rose tree, tall shrub, small shrub, climber or miniature. When grabbing a rose plant from the nursery, we should care to ask for this information so that we can better plan a suitable landscape. Climber, as the word reflects, meant to be supported by a trellis or allowed to freely climb on the wall. If you like a climber variety but have no space for it to climb, you can exert control over its growth by pruning it like a shrub. Shrubs and miniature roses can be grown in pots depending on their sizes. Ensure that you have the right size of pot. Tall shrub should be planted in a bigger pot like of 13-14 inches in diameter. This allows more space for the root to expand and support its growth. Miniature on the other hand should be planted in a smaller size pots as the root expansion is minimal. A huge pot may damage the plant and it will look rather awkward as the miniature rose would never be able to fill the



Spirit of Freedom  
Climbing Rose

Huntington Modern Rose  
Shrub

Kampung/Damask  
Rose



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# HOME GARDEN

BY WAN NOORLI  
RAZALI

There are also different categories for roses. Well, to prevent confusion, let me just share the most general; the old garden roses and the modern roses. If you are a new beginner, I would recommend the old garden roses or damask, famously known as kampung roses. This type of rose insyaAllah, never disappoint you. Easy to grow, strong fragrant, consumable and disease resistant among the reasons why this type is a must-have. Modern roses include floribunda, hybrid tea, grandiflora and many more. I will need to conquer more than just a column if I were to introduce them all, but you can just simply use the search engine these days.

To those who wish to take care of the modern roses, there are few risks that you have to acknowledge. Most of the varieties are originally from abroad, the areas where snow falls and spring blooms. When it is grown elsewhere, you have to expect that it can't yield the flowers of the exact same quality but they are still gorgeous anyway. The challenges are also different as we are in the tropical region where the amount of heat and the level of humidity are not predictable. Of course it may be better if you are staying on any of the Malaysian mountains and hilly areas which are definitely, colder. However, this does not mean rose likes very cold temperature. Rose generally requires 6 to 8 hours of direct sunlight every day for it to gain energy and produce flowers. The colour is much more radiant and brighter under the sun. Lack of sunshine may inhibit its growth and expose it to fungi and diseases.

Roses also come in different colours and petal types. Some can be wavy like the Japanese variety of Ramukan rose or can also be cuppy like the Mon Couer Rose. Some have harder textured petals while others are softer and fragile. In my humble experience, those with strong to mild fragrance usually have soft petals while those with strong and hardy petals are with very mild to no fragrance at all. Allah s.w.t is very fair, one plant may not have both at the same time.



Japanese Ramukan  
Rose

Mon Couer Rose

Newly bought rose  
plants

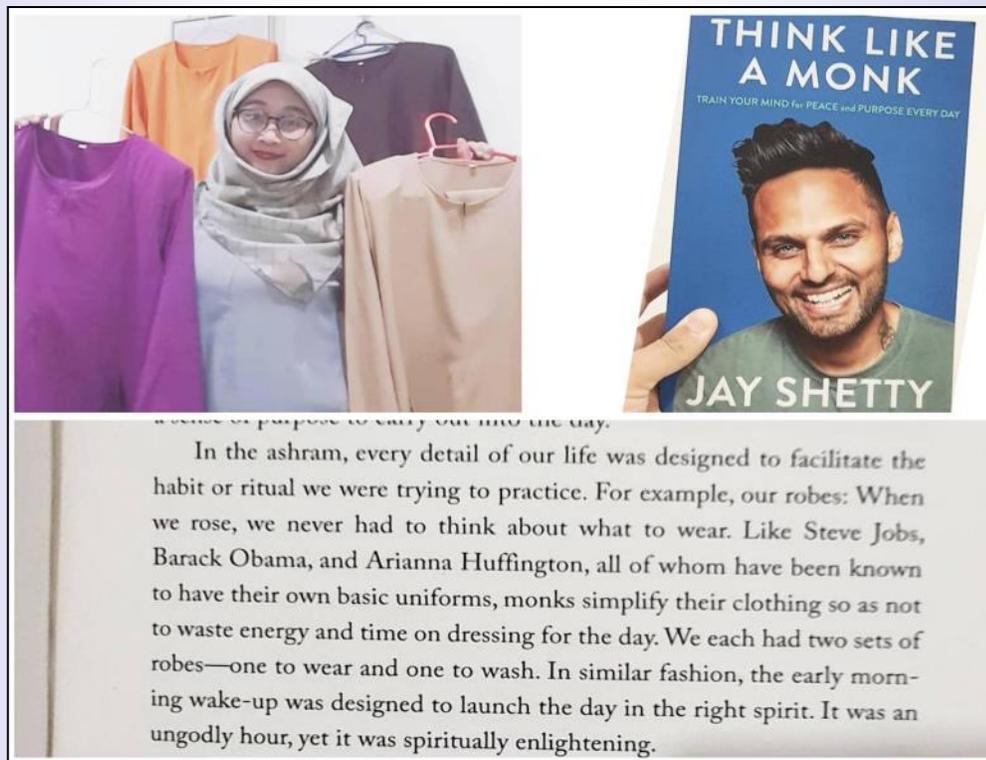
You may be wondering how to pick a good plant when visiting a nursery. Basically, choose the one with big, strong main stem and healthy, robust leaves which are free of diseases and insects. Avoid the one with thin, lanky, weak stems or those with branches falling over. Ignore those with dry leaves as healthy ones should possess adequate level of moisture.

Now that you have bought a new rose plant, how to plant it? Well-drained soil rich in organic matter would be the best home to a newly bought rose plant. In accommodating the roots, planting hole must be dug wide and deep enough. Remove the root gently from the poly beg or pot and loosen it a bit. Grip the plant by the based and not the upper stem. Set the root in the hole and fill the soil. Then, pat down the soil gently over the root area to compact it slightly. Water the plant deeply and place some mulch over the root area to help moisten the soil and prevent it from drying. This is because the rose plant need time to adapt and start growing.





# Simplicity



Those who meet me often would know how much I love dressing up. However, there are days when I know I will be extremely busy and the last thing I want to think about is my outfit. Therefore, on those days, I would wear something simple. When I read 'Think like a monk' book, on page 125, Jay Shetty mentioned something which makes so much sense. He said, when he was in the ashram, he never had to think about what to wear. Monks simplify their clothing so as not to waste energy and time on dressing for the day. The word 'energy' captured my attention. Interestingly, I never knew even simple thing like choosing outfits would affect our energy. To save my 'energy', I then bought sets of baju kurung (Hasnuri), they are not only simple, comfortable but also at reasonable \$\$\$! Great choice for a kedekutist like me 🤔. This concept does not only apply to outfits. Here are some other examples:



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### Black top/pants/shoes

I think it is best for everyone to have at least 2 black tops or pants. Why black? Black is a universal colour which matches with other colours on the spectrum. You do not have to waste time standing in front of your wardrobe, thinking of what colour of blouse would match your pants or hijab. We are all human beings who experience good days, bad days, hectic days, and LAZY days. When the lazy days arrive, you are still good to go! Grab that black outfit, be elegant and rock the day!



### Food

**“AMERICAN COUPLES SPEND 5.5 DAYS A YEAR DECIDING WHAT TO EAT”**. Yes, you got it right! This was one of the headlines on the online news in November 2017. Now, stop. Re-read the headlines again. **5.5 DAYS A YEAR. 132 HOURS.** At 1 hour a day, you could learn a new skill in 4 months. Wow, what have you missed?

### Workout styles

Based on my experience, I have tried my very best to do workout consistently and most of the time I do it at home by watching Youtube workout videos. As much as I feel motivated to do work out, I also get demotivated very easily when I have body ache the very next day of working out. **VERY OFTEN.** One day, I encountered a Youtube channel called ‘Walk at home’ by Leslie Sansone. All her workout videos are **SIMPLE** and effective. I would call it ‘realistic’. Why ‘realistic’? It is because many people are too ambitious when it comes to having ‘perfect body’ and ‘six packs’. If that is your goal and you are very disciplined, by all means, please carry on **BUT** if you are a busy person and can hardly find time to go to the gym or park then ended up not even doing any workout at the end of the day, this channel might be good for you to subscribe. Remember, there is no fixed exercise programmes to follow, let your body decide.



Mind – **DO NOT OVERTHINK!**

Try solving these riddles:

- Name three consecutive days without using the words Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- If a plane crashes on the border of Malaysia and Thailand, where do you bury the survivors?

**HAPPY TRYING!**

# Students' Contributions

## 'The Lesson I Learnt from My Childhood Experience'

ELC030 (Pre-Diploma English)

Semester Oct 2020 – Feb 2021

Class Lecturer: Wan Noorli Razali

Being a kid was good as you can play without worrying about any problem. But for me, it's hurt as I watched my single mother struggle to raise the four of us. I've seen her staring while we were eating just to make it enough for us. Once, we had been kicked from the house and my mother had to find another house. Some people look down on us by our appearance. She realizes everything on her own. I just want to be like her. She never revenges all that people did to her. She has worked hard for her children. She gives me and my siblings everything we need and want to ensure we do not feel different from the others. She always reminds us not to judge or insult others because we do not know their condition. From what that I have learnt, marriage is not simply love. Marriage needs sacrifice, time, tolerance, understanding and loyalty. We must choose wisely because we have a longer journey ahead of us. I'm so grateful that I have a mother like her and I'm so blessed to be her daughter. I've always prayed that she will be placed in the best heaven because she really deserves it, insyaAllah.

*Siti Maisarah Binti Suhaimi (2020241744)*

My childhood life is not something that I'm going to be proud of. To be really honest, my childhood life was boring. I used to be that quiet girl and I don't have a lot of friends. I'm that girl who is always on her own doing her own business and doesn't really care about others. One thing I learn from my childhood is not to trust someone too much. You see, I used to have a friend, she lived in my neighbourhood. One day, a girl told me about something I did, which I actually don't. I was so confused at that time and I asked her who told her that. I learnt that it was the person I trusted the most. I was so embarrassed that I didn't go to school for 2 weeks. I was shocked and I stopped playing with her after that. Can you imagine how a trusted friend can be spreading rumours about us? Years have passed and we're grown up now. She said 'hi' when she sees me as if nothing has ever happened. Learning the lesson, do not trust anyone no matter how close you are. If you wish to share, do so with God, as He always listens to everything you say.

*Siti Nuralia Binti Mohd Ariffin  
(2020221882)*

When I was in first grade, I was placed in the first class and I liked all the teachers who taught me except my English teacher. My friends and I were always scared every time we had an English subject because our English teacher was a diva and very strict. One day, we had a reading test so everyone was tested for reading by the English teacher. During my turn, I was nervous and suddenly I became blurred. I even lost the word I wanted to say. The word was "vacation". Yes! That word is easy now, but it was hard for me. My teacher raised her voice because I was stuttering. She told me that I did not deserve to be in the first class. I hold my tears at that moment. I was asked to be transferred to the second class because I was not good in English. I felt humiliated and I was determined to prove to her that I can improve myself. In the year-end test, I got a B in English, which may not be excellent but I'm blessed. What I can learn from this experience is, never humiliate or look down on a person as it may be very demotivating. Instead, support and guide the person so that he or she is encouraged to be better.

*Nur Amanina Binti Osman (2020200974)*

My name is Umairah and I lived with my mom and my siblings. My childhood is the same as the others. I have a very beautiful family. My dad works as an engineer and my mom as a financial administrative assistant. We spent most of our time laughing together at our silly jokes, watching television, going for a family trip, shopping almost every weekend and much more. But everything changed one night, when I was 4 years old. I woke up that night due to a loud scream and a crying sound. I felt shocked and scared because I thought it was a ghost. I decided to go to my parent's room. When I opened the door, I saw my dad was beating my mom so badly. I felt so sorry for my mom. My tears fell off my eyes. My brother woke up, he came to me and calmed me down. He wiped my tears and told me to not cry because he is here with me. Since then I knew that my mom is actually suffering but she never tells anyone. One day, I asked her what happened. She just said that there was nothing to be worried about. After 3 years, my mom and dad divorced when I was 7 years old and at that time I have a baby brother, Rayyan and he was a year old at that time. Yes, life is hard but I don't mind as long as my mom is happy. Since then, my mom has taken care of us all by herself. I am so proud of her. She is a strong, independent, hard working woman. She was always mad at me and I got beaten almost every day. But instead of being mad too, I decided to force myself to be more matured. I tried to understand that she is tired, she got a lot of work to do and bills to pay. Now that I'm 18, I've learned to be more patient, stronger, more matured and understanding. All credit goes to my mom because she is the star in this story. Now, I am going to continue to be that star, shining bright and achieve all my dreams and goals. All of that because of my beautiful and strong mom. Thank you, ummi!

*Umairah Nur Syifa' Binti Mohd Nasir (2020205142)*

Everyone has their own childhood experience, my story started when I was 7 years old. I went to Kuala Lumpur to visit my father's siblings. We stopped at a restaurant to eat. At that time, I was the type who likes to waste food, often causing my father to reprimand me. On our way there, I saw a homeless man lying by the road side while holding his stomach to hold back his hunger. My father took out 10 ringgits and told me to give it to the homeless man. He smiled happily and thanked us. The lesson I learned was that we need to be grateful for what we have because there are people whose lives are more difficult than ours.

*Islah Imran Bin Ismail (2020847724)*

To forgive each other is my childhood story. One day, my friends and I went to the field as usual and we played football. We divided ourselves into 2 teams and we played while laughing and having fun. Suddenly, I accidentally stumbled upon my best friend. He got mad and punched me in the face. I was angry so I punched him back till he cried and went back home. At dinner time, I told my father what happened on the football field. He told me to forgive my friend because to him 'why hold a grudge if you can forgive'. I realised what I did to him is wrong. The next day, I went to his home and apologized. In the afternoon we played football as usual. I learnt that no matter how angry we are; we should have a forgiving heart as that is what makes us human.

*Ahmed Erfan Qatimy Bin Rosdi (2020864426)*

# Lecturer's Contribution #1

## French in Linguistic Landscape

by Seng Hui Zanne



Linguistic landscape (LL) is a multi-disciplinary field to study the use of language in the public sphere. Languages are used everywhere surrounding us. We can see languages in any public space such as commercial advertisements, notice boards, street signs, shops and menus. By studying LL, the social, cultural and economic phenomena of a society can be reflected, such as linguistic diversity, historical changes of language use, the status of languages and social or national identities of people (Abramova, 2016).

Due to globalisation and the economic growth in Malaysia, more foreign languages (Japanese, Korean and some European languages) appear in the public sphere other than the Malay, English, Chinese and Tamil. French is one of the foreign languages that appear in the business field frequently, especially in the shopping mall. Four types of stores with a French name can be seen: (1) French enterprise (2) Local restaurants or cafe specialising in French food/dessert/pastry (3) Local companies dealing with fashion/food (4) Non-French companies from the other countries. Interestingly, local companies which are not related to French cuisine or French fashion use French words as the company name. For example, La Mode Coiffure is a local hairdressing salon situated in Mid Valley – a shopping mall in Kuala

Lumpur. The idea of using the word 'la mode' might come from the French word 'à la mode' which means 'in fashion'. Furthermore, some non-French companies from the other countries also use French word/pronunciation as the shop name. For instance, Châteraisé is a famous Japanese pastry and cake shop situated in Gurney Plaza, Penang and Suria KLCC, Kuala Lumpur. 'Châteraisé' is a word created by the company without any meaning, but it has the element of French diacritic that makes the word looks 'French'.

Most of the shops using the French/pseudo-French word are related to fashion, design and food. Not all Malaysians understand French language, but the use of French word creates a sense of exoticism and provoke the positive ideas associated to France such as "high" culture, good sense of fashion, sophisticated and upper-class lifestyle

Although not of a particular language, the salient use of Roman scripts and accent marks and apostrophes conveys a sense of "European, possibly French, chic prestige" that is distinctive from vogue English [...] these bidirectional indexicals point to both a globalized world of fashion and European cosmopolitanness ... (Curtin, 2009, p.229)

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# Lecturer's Contribution #2

## Conquering the Mount Kinabalu - My personal account (19.02.2020 – 23.02.2020)

by Prof. Madya Dr. Hoe Foo Terng

In a person's life, there are several goals to be achieved, called life goals. One of my goals in life is to climb the Mount Kinabalu of Sabah.

The last-minute determined trip date 19-23.02.2020, was the only date that I could go, and I couldn't even return a day later because the following day I had to get back to work.

February 10, 2020 was the briefing before departure. Everyone gathered at Tiantianyu Restaurant to listen to the briefing given by the trip leader, Tony Teh. The team leader not only talked, but also brought all the equipment to display.

We boarded AirAsia to Kota Kinabalu, Sabah at 8:30 a.m. on February 19, 2020. At 9:37 a.m. on February 20, 2020, we started the first stage 6-kilometer mountain hiking from the entrance of Timpohon. Later, had lunch at the 4th kilometer around 1 p.m. On the way, we met the climbers who descended the mountain. They smiled and wished us 'good luck', and we responded a 'thank you' with a smile. We arrived at Panalaban's quarters at 3:30 in the afternoon and dined in the restaurant at 4 p.m. At 6 o'clock in the evening, everyone went to bed.

We woke up at 1 a.m. on February 21, 2020, ate breakfast at 2 a.m., and started conquering the mountain at 2:45 a.m. The second stage of the climbing route is 2.85 kilometers long. The registration office at the 7<sup>th</sup> kilometer must be passed by at 5:30 in the morning, otherwise we will not be allowed to continue climbing. I arrived there at about 5 in the morning.

After the registration office at 7th kilometer, all the way was a hill stone road. At this time, the mountain wind was violent and the air was thin, making me breathless just walking a few steps. The mountain wind made people difficult to stand or walk in a stable condition. At 6 o'clock, the east began to light up. The sun did not emerge from behind the mountains, but slowly rose in the sea of clouds, because the altitude here was more than 4,000 meters, and the clouds were higher than many mountain peaks. At 6:15 a.m., after numerous stops and rest, I finally reached the peak - 4095.2 meters of Mount Kinabalu to take a historical picture.

The Beaufort Kayaking on February 22, 2020 was also one of the highlights of the Sabah trip. This waterway is about 10 kilometers and has 10 rapids. We took one and an half hours to complete.

We flew back to Penang on February 23, 2020.



First stage hiking track entrance, Timpohon Gate.



A historical picture at 4095.2 meters of Mount Kinabalu.



Reached Panalaban's quarters after 6 hours trekking.



Kayaking on February 22, 2020.

# Lecturer's Contribution #3

## PELAJARAN MAMPU MENGUBAH MASA DEPAN KYOIKU WA MIRAI WO HENKOU SURU KOTO

oleh Melati Desa

1996 : Aku melahirkan seorang anak hasil perkongsian hidup dengan orang luar, bukan warganegara, iaitu pemastautin di Malaysia kelulusan passport. ID foreigner kalau kat Jepun dipanggil *Allien registration*.

2000 : Aku lahirkan lagi adik kepada kakak yang lahir pada tahun 1996 tadi. Wah! Dah 2 orang anak hasil perkongsian hidup dengan *Allien* yang Allah beri padaku.

Seperti ibu-ibu dan anak-anak yang lain, kami lalui jadual seharian di rumah dan di sekolah seperti biasa. Prestasi pelajaran ok ok la...top 10 you, sekali lagi top 10, tapi di sekolah dia jer lah. Kalau masukkan seluruh daerah tah tah top 100 J. Nak dijadikan cerita, selepas tamat UPSR anak Y2K nak cuba nasib memohon masuk ke sekolah berasrama. (pada aku bahasa Melayu ni sukar la, salah letak konsonen, asrama dah jadi asmara, haishh). Berbekalkan keputusan UPSR 5A (maksimum 5A ketika itu), anak dan ibu mereka (aku lah tu) mohon berjumpa dan berbincang dengan Guru BESAR Sekolah Kebangsaan Father Barre, Jalan kolam Air, Sungai Petani (poskod lupa lah pula).



Kata Guru BESAR ketika itu, "Puan boleh cuba MRSM, SBP dan lain-lain institusi, kelulusan anak puan layak tapi harapan tipis...bla..bla" cantik susunan ayat, dan lantunan kata serta buah fikiran cikgu tu (aku kagum kerana selama sebelas tahun di industri, hampir pupus aturan bahasa baku bahasa ibundaku). Maka dengan itu, adalah dimaklumkan kerana, bahawasanya atas dasar anak Y2K ingin meraih pengalaman, maka hadirilah adik sebagai salah seorang calon untuk menghadiri sesi temuduga di salah sebuah SBP. Seperti pencalon-pencalon lain, adik Y2K mula mengumpul sijil kokurikulum, siapkan dokumen prestasi, sahkan salinan, tak ubah seperti kita siapkan ATP, Ironinya, apa yang berlaku di sesi temuduga tersebut, teruskan membaca wahai pembaca yang setia, jeng-jeng-jeng.



Guru penemuduga : kelulusan dan kokurikulum, jawatan di sekolah, sijil penglibatan, semua ok adik, tapi susahla...

Tambah guru penemuduga : comelnya adik ni, ada berapa beradik?

Pelajar yang ditemuduga : 2 beradik, kakak

Guru penemuduga : selalu gaduh tak dengan kakak

Pelajar yang ditemuduga : kadang-kadang

Dengan berlangsungnya sesi bicara santai tersebut maka tamatlah giliran anak Y2K dalam proses penemudugaan tersebut. Amat menDUGAkan.

Anak Y2K cool, katanya, "ma, tak dapatlah sekolah berasrama (taip sambal baca ulang kali) penuh, cikgu ajak bual kosong, tak tengok fail sangat pun"

Ibu anak Y2K, "ok lah tu, berbalik pada niat, kan nak raih pengalaman".

Maka hiduplah kami anak beranak seperti biasa, si anak menjalani hidupan sebagai pelajar sekolah menengah harian biasa, manakala si ibu pula mengajar di UiTM Pulau Pinang (kata cawangan belum dikuatkuasakan). Ibunya pensyarah yang mengajar bahasa Jepun tu lah. 5 tahun berlalu, keputusan SPM ditunggu. Claps! Congrats! Thumbs up! Diringkaskan cerita, adik Y2K diterima mengikuti kursus International Baccalaureate (IB) selama 2 tahun. Semasa PKPP sedang berlangsung, iaitu pada 17hb July 2020, keputusan IB diumumkan. Alhamdulillah adik Y2K berjaya dengan cemerlang. Dipendekkan cerita lagi,

Visa – done

Accommodation – done

TB test – done, result NIL

Flight ticket – received, 19hb September, KUL – DOH - MAN

Allowance – received

Manchester University!! Kau Tunggu Aku Datang, azam si anak.

Manchester City!! Kau Tunggu Aku Datang, azam si ibu, huhuhu.

Habis dah baca Tuan Tuan dan Puan Puan, maaf lah yer tajuk cliché abeesss.



# Lecturer's Contribution #4

## **“KERJA OH KERJA”**

oleh Jamal Othman\*

Jabatan Sains Komputer dan Matematik (JSKM) UiTM CPP



*Kerja banyak bertimbun  
Banyaknye seluas 10 hektar kebun  
Sampai dah tak tersusun  
Tenaga ada pun tak terpulun  
Kononnya, nak jadi macam orang Jepun  
Kerja penuh santun dan tekun  
Last-last jadi tukun  
Kerja dipantau menggunakan drone  
Prestasi kerja tak boleh turun  
Nanti markah SKT dalam red zone atau dok di cerun  
Bos mau hasil kerja mesti cun dan gerun  
Kalau tidak SKT bos kena hayun  
KPI jabatan mai berduyun  
Awal tahun buat tak kisah pun  
Bila dah hujung tahun  
kalut cari data macam harta karun  
Tak kisah walaupun data dah berkurun  
walaupun hasil kerja macam melaun  
tak wangi macam sabun  
asalkan nama naik ditunen  
Kerja oh kerja bukan sebarang pantun  
Walau banyak mana kerja pun  
Keutamaan kerja perlu disusun  
bukan selesaikan pakai balun  
pastikan jiwa happy meruntun  
mampu hidup hingga berkurun  
semoga akhir hayat kita terampun  
bukan dalam golongan firaun dan qorun.*

*\*Editor's Note: eLingua wishes to congratulate En. Jamal Othman for being the first staff from outside APB to contribute to this publication.*

# Lecturer's Contribution #5

## CARA HIDUP

oleh Farhana Haji Shukor (UiTM Kampus Dengkil)\*



*Hidupnya virus COVID-19 mencecah setahun umurnya  
Mengubah cara mendepani rutin kesekian kalinya  
Manusia mengorak langkah dalam batasan dan sekatan  
Memberi kejutan buat masyarakat segenap lapisan*

*Kesihatan penduduk dunia amat dititiberatkan  
Kepada yang sakit dibawa bagi menerima rawatan  
Kembali bersama keluarga untuk kebanyakan mereka  
Namun kepada yang kecundang diratapi pemergiannya*

*Arus permodenan berlayar seiring dengan teknologi  
Impak besar bagi penuntut ilmu juga pencari rezeki  
Ketersediaan capaian menjadi pemangkin utama  
Menjadi keluhan buat sesetengah umat manusia  
Balik kampung sambut raya kini tiada lagi  
Alat teknologi pengganti sumber komunikasi  
Kiriman wang juga khabar berita dari kejauhan  
Pengubat bagi pemilik hati yang dalam kerinduan*

*Cara hidup asing menjadi norma kehidupan  
Kini diterima tetapi dengan penuh harapan  
Menanti saat perginya virus dibenci  
Agar ianya tidak akan pernah kembali*



*\*Editor's Note: Thank you Miss Farhana, for still contributing to eLingua despite leaving us for UiTM Kampus Dengkil.*

# Lecturer's Contribution #6

## The Race

(a poem dedicated to my son, Elis)

by Noraziah Mohd Amin



*Humans are destined to be fighters  
Among millions of others  
Even before they see the world  
They were already in a battle  
Only those that withstand  
Will stay and make way to the end  
Only the best  
Will beat and defeat the rest  
Only the undefeated  
Will be invited to be united  
With the winning 'prize'  
And together, they grow in size.*

*He's an Olympic swimmer  
He's the winner  
As he's the strongest, the toughest  
the fastest and the quickest  
Among all his competitors  
Of all his challengers  
In the race that he won  
His life has just begun.*

*It's the first human race  
That everyone has to face  
He's the chosen one by his Creator  
Through the natural order  
And here, he is, from God's grace  
My beloved son, who won the race...*

# Lecturer's Contribution #7

**Hak yang Tidak Berhak**  
oleh Che Nooryohana Zulkifli

*Kadang menjengah di fikiran,  
berhakkah aku untuk memilih?  
Tika tidurku terganggu,  
Aku menghalusi hak itu yang tidak pernah menjadi milikku.*

*Masa mataku menyusuri maksud kata di dalam kitab suciku,  
Semakin aku yakin yang aku tidak pernah berhak untuk memilih.  
Begitu banyak syarat dan perintah Dia turunkan,  
Begitu juga banyaknya syaratku untuk menurut,  
Di mana hakku?*

*Tidak pernah berhak!*

*Tunaikan solatmu,  
Jawapku, nanti saja.  
Tutup auratmu,  
Masih belum mahu, seru juga belum tiba.  
Tuturkan kebaikan,  
Ahh, ini perasaanku, lantangkan saja!  
Bahagikan hartamu,  
Cukup untuk sendiri pun tidak pernah!  
Rendahkan hatimu,  
Ini kejayaanku, satu semesta perlu tahu!*

*Tapi aku perlu sedar, bila mana aku tadah tanganku memohon doa,  
Berjuta permintaanku pada Yang Maha Esa,  
Aku mahukan segalanya!  
Aku mahu Dia dengar kesemuanya,  
Dan Dia masih di situ,  
Kerana Dia Tuhanku.*

*Akan tapi,  
Ketika Dia letakkan kanun ke atasku,  
Aku pulangkan syarat kepadaNya,  
Alasan tidak bersedia, hidayah juga tiada.*

*Dan bila mana aku bangun dari tidur,  
Aku soal lagi,  
Berhakkah aku?*

*Siapa Tuhan, siapa hamba?  
Yang azalinya, aku tidak pernah berhak untuk berkata tidak.*

# Lecturer's Contribution #8

## Burning Lantern

by Che Nooryohana Zulkifli

*So I sit and yearn,  
Laconic or prolix,  
It seems truthful every time.  
I give my heart, there goes my love,  
A true soul is all I ask for.*

*I sit again, yes I can cry,  
Too much trust but too much pain,  
Shall I walk away or I just stay?*

*The broken heart now falls into pieces,  
Inconsolable, as I wish.  
You say it's true, and I believe you,  
But the path is bumpy, tortuous I know,  
And I keep on walking, for you to know that I must go.*

*Then I drag my feet,  
Dancing to the rhythm of your fiddle,  
Giving up, but I'm still here,  
Smiling and continue watching.*

*This space is shrinking,  
And there's no more you and I, pal!  
If you think this is easy,  
Haha, again that's a lie!*

*You can hear me hiss,  
So here is my goodbye kiss,  
Never I let you mould me, and no way you can touch my heart again!*

*Go and breathe in your bubble of lies,  
I let the big eyes up there watch you by,  
Before your own medicine drown you in,  
You must know that tables can turn,  
Just don't let the fire in your lantern burn you down*

# Lecturer's Contribution #9

## ACHEH: 15 TAHUN SELEPAS TSUNAMI KRISMAS\*

oleh Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar

Dunia dilanda dengan pelbagai ujian seperti gempa bumi, banjir besar, ribut taufan termasuklah wabak seperti Selesema Sepanyol, MERS-CoV dan yang terbaru pastinya COVID19. Namun penulis terpanggil untuk menulis tentang Aceh dan Tsunami Krismas memandangkan ianya memberikan suatu kenangan abadi yang tidak mungkin terlupakan kerana ianya berlaku betul-betul pada tarikh perkahwinan penulis.

Tanggal 26 Disember, 2019 genaplah lima belas tahun berlakunya peristiwa gempa bumi dahsyat dan tsunami yang melanda empat belas negara: Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand, Somalia, Maldives, Myanmar, Tanzania, Seychelles, Bangladesh, Yaman, Afrika Selatan, Kenya termasuk Malaysia. Aceh yang terletak di wilayah paling barat di negara Indonesia dan paling hujung di utara pulau Sumatera adalah kawasan pertama dan amat teruk dilanda tsunami yang berlaku akibat gempa bumi Sumatera-Andaman yang dikenali sebagai gegaran tujuh mega dalam Lautan Hindi berskala Richter 9.1 sehingga 9.3.

Dianggarkan di Aceh sahaja, lebih daripada 167 000 rakyatnya telah terkorban manakala 500 000 yang lain telah kehilangan tempat tinggal. Secara keseluruhannya, tsunami pada 2004 yang mendapat jolokan pelbagai nama seperti Tsunami Krismas, Tsunami Lautan Hindi 2004, Tsunami Asia Selatan dan Tsunami Indonesia telah mengorbankan kira-kira 230 000 sehingga 280 000 jiwa yang berada berhampiran dengan kawasan pantai dan sekitarnya dengan gelombang yang mencecah 30 meter tinggi dan 7 kilometer menyusur ke atas darat dengan kelajuan 360 kilometer sejam. Sudah pasti, mangsa yang terselamat berasakan kepedihan yang mendalam akibat kehilangan sama ada

Penulis memilih berada di bumi Aceh pada tarikh genapnya lima belas tahun sesudah Tsunami Krismas 2004 berlaku. Mengembara dengan motosikal, penulis sempat menemuramah beberapa mangsa yang terselamat daripada tragedi ini serta meninjau aktiviti-aktiviti harian penduduk-penduduk lain bagi meneruskan kelangsungan hidup. Tetapi untuk e-Lingua ini, penulis memfokuskan kepada Ibu Daryati sahaja.

### Ibu Daryati

Ibu Daryati bekerja menjual minuman dan makanan di puncak Gunung Geurutee yang berada di wilayah barat Tanah Rencong, Aceh Jaya, Aceh. Untuk sampai ke sini, penulis terpaksa melalui jalan berliku dengan cerun yang tajam dengan bukit-bukau yang menjulang tinggi di sebelah kiri serta jurang yang di bawahnya laut nan membiru di sebelah kanan. Perjalanan untuk sampai ke puncak ini memakan masa kira-kira dua jam dengan motosikal dari Banda Aceh



Gambar penulis bersama ibu Daryati dan suaminya yang terselamat dari Tsunami Krismas 2004 kerana kebetulan berada di warung di atas gunung ini bekerja menjaja makanan.

serta perlu melewati dua lagi gunung iaitu Gunung Paro dan Gunung Kulu. Sepanjang-panjang perjalanan, dapat disaksikan penanda 'Jalur Evakuasi' iaitu jalan khas yang dibina untuk mengarahkan penduduk ke kawasan berkumpul yang selamat sekiranya berlaku gempa bumi atau tsunami.

Sebaik sahaja penulis memberhentikan motosikal dan meletaknya di tepi warung milik Ibu Daryati, beliau berteriak, "Piyuk, piyuk!" memanggil agar penulis masuk ke warungnya. Mungkin itu teriakan yang bermakna "Silakan" di dalam Bahasa Melayu. Teh panas dipesan beserta mee Aceh yang berkuah pedas bercili padi dan dipecahkan telur sebagai penambah selera. Lokasi warungnya betul-betul mengadap tiga pulau: Pulau Keluang, Pulau Suden dan Pulau Kemiga. Pemandangan dari atas kedai begitu mempesonakan dengan air laut biru-hijau yang jernih bersempadan dengan Lautan Hindi serta pasir pantai yang putih bersih



Penulis bermotosikal ke puncak Gunung Geurutee. Perjalanan memakan masa dua jam dari Banda Aceh dengan liku-liku berbukit-bukau di kiri dan jurang di kanan.

anak, suami, isteri, ibu, ayah mahupun jiran tetangga. Namun, seiring masa yang terus berputar tanpa henti, kehidupan yang dianugerahkan Tuhan mesti diteruskan.

*continued on the next page ...*

... continued from the previous page



Pemandangan dari atas puncak Gunung Geurutee yang diambil pada 26 Disember 2019. Terlihat di sebelah kiri ialah Pulau Kemiga, di tengah ialah Pulau Suden dan di sebelah kanan Pulau Keluang. Jalan yang menghubungkan Pulau Kemiga dan Pulau Suden didakwa terputus akibat Tsunami Indonesia 2004.

ditambah dengan bayu segar meniup wajah.

Ibu Daryati, wanita berusia awal 60-an, amat sibuk memanggil-manggil pelanggan tetapi masih meluangkan masa melayani beberapa soalan penulis tentang pengalamannya tentang tsunami. Menurutnya, Pulau Kemiga dahulunya sebelum Tsunami Krismas 2004 bersambung dengan Pulau Suden. Kenderaan seperti kereta dan motosikal boleh melalui jalan yang menyambungkan kedua-dua pulau itu. Namun, setelah terjadinya tsunami, kedua-dua pulau itu



Gambar fotokopi puncak Gunung Geurutee sebelum Tsunami Krismas 2004. Ketika ini, kelihatan pulau ini masih bersambung dengan daratan.

terpisah. Beliau menunjukkan gambar fotokopi usang yang dilekatkan di dinding warungnya yang menggambarkan fenomena tersebut.



Gambar yang ditangkap oleh penulis dari puncak Gunung Geurutee selepas Tsunami Krismas. Gambar ini diambil pada 26 Disember 2019. Gunung ini sudah tidak bersambung dengan mana-mana daratan akibat dibantai ombak tsunami.

Dianggarkan kira-kira 25 buah keluarga yang mendiami Pulau Suden terkorban di dalam musibah itu. Beliau beserta suaminya terselamat kerana keluar dari rumah mereka sejak awal pagi dan berada di puncak Gunung Geurutee untuk bersiap-siap membuka warung. "Hari itu hari Minggu, saya udah keluar awal kerna bersiap-siap mahu jualan. Ya kan... hari itu hari Minggu, cuti. Orang kampung masih ramai yang ada di rumah, tidak keluar ke mana-mana," ujarnya sambil mengenang kembali apa yang berlaku. "Pagi itu kiranya pukul delapan, ada bunyi kuat, air laut beberapa menit kemudiannya langsung menghantam rumah-rumah. Orang kampung, hewan semuanya mati. Tidak ada lagi yang tinggal di Pulau Suden selepas itu. Hanya jadi tempat persinggahan nelayan. Di Pulau Keluang itu ada gua walet." Walet adalah kelawar di dalam Bahasa Melayu. Khabarnya, gua kelawar di situ sudah berusia ratusan tahun.

Ujarnya lagi, lapan keluarga terdekatnya meninggal dunia akibat tsunami itu namun enggan menjelaskan siapa mereka. Mungkin beliau terlalu sedih mengenangkan tragedi itu. Diajak bergambar, beliau dan suaminya tidak menolak. Ditanya apakah pengharapannya selepas ini, beliau berharap tidak berlaku lagi tsunami selepas ini dan agar perniagaannya yang menyelamatkan dirinya dan suaminya di atas puncak Gunung Geurutee pada hari kejadian Tsunami Indonesia 2004 itu boleh terus berjalan demi kelangsungan hidup mereka.

26 Disember ditabalkan sebagai hari cuti bagi membolehkan rakyat setempat bersolat, berdoa dan mendengar tazkirah di merata-rata masjid. Di ingatan mangsa-mangsa yang terselamat, tidak mungkin terlupakan mangsa-mangsa yang pergi yang merupakan anak, isteri, suami, ibu, bapa, rakan atau kenalan. Namun kesedihan makin termampir seiring perjalanan masa. Hidup ini mesti diteruskan, dan diteruskan dengan penuh rasa kesyukuran. Wallahu'alam.

*\*Editor's Note: This is the full version of the article that appeared in the previous issue.*