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We need your contribution,



1. if you've attended or presented at any workshops / conferences etc.
2. if you've updates regarding 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 personal contributions



... from the Editorial Team

Greetings, everyone. Here we are, meeting again in the 2nd issue for 2021. From here on, there'll be 3 issues published yearly. The editorial board has also expanded with additional members. It is our hope that this expansion will lead towards better content offering in every issue published to cater for your reading pleasure. As always, this issue comes to you with many interesting news and contributions from our department staff who never cease to amaze me in their zeal to always want to write and publish in spite of their never-ending workload and personal commitments. Thank you for that. Last but not least, we wish you 'HAPPY READING' and do continue to contribute to our future issues.



International Workshop, Seminar, and Innovations (IWSI): Japanese Meet Malays – When Languages and Cultures Dance Together

by Dr. Nur Ilianis Adnan

On 27th January 2021, Academy of Language Studies (APB) held a workshop called the *International Workshop, Seminar and Innovations (IWSI): Japanese meet Malays – When languages and cultures dance together*. Due to Covid-19 Movement Restriction Order (MCO), face-to-face events were not allowed but this was not an excuse for us to not reach out to people. Hence, Facebook and Google Meet were used as mediums. This meaningful event which involved 12 committee members, 6 panellists and around 3000 audience (including international audience) was divided into 2 sessions. The first session which was the sharing session by our respected panellists started at 8.30 and went on until 12.30pm. The panellists invited were our Rector, Professor Ts. Dr. Salmiah Kasolang, followed by The Consul General of Penang Japanese Consulate, TYT. Mr. Kanoya Shin-ichiro and a few university lecturers: Ts. Dr. Nik Roselina Nik Roseley from UiTM Shah Alam, Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar from UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang, Prof. Ir. Dr. Syahrullail Samion and Prof. Dr. Kanao Fukuda from UTM. The sharing session was remarkable as all the panellists shared their beautiful thoughts, perceptions, and experiences about Japanese and Malay cultures. We were very lucky to have all the panellists who are very passionate for languages and cultures to be with us during our special event.



After the lunch break, we resumed our event with the

continued on the next page ...

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

... continued from the previous page

second session in the afternoon at 2pm. The second session started off with the demonstration of Japanese traditional attire called 'Yukata' by Ms. Emi Yamazaki, followed by Japanese Calligraphy competition guided by Ms Nur Awatif Zakaria. The final segment which focused on the introduction of Haiku and 'Pantun', was conducted by Miss Seng Hui Zanne. At the end of this segment, the audience were given the opportunity to join a Haiku and 'Pantun' writing competition. The winners were announced before the event ended. We hope to organise more events like this in the future.



Japanese Calligraphy Competition



A group photo while observing social distancing



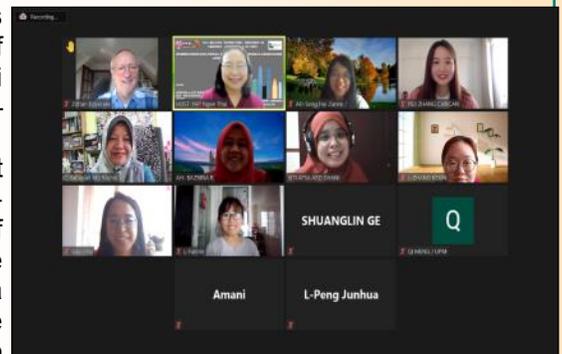
Yukata demonstration



11th Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MICOLLAC2020)

by Seng Hui Zanne

The 11th Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MICOLLAC2020) was organised by the Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia from 23 – 25 March 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference was organised virtually by using the ZOOM platform. Emeritus Professor Dennis Haskell was invited as a keynote speaker at the conference and presented his speech entitled "Form and Formlessness in English Language Poetry" to give insights on the changes of form throughout the history of English language poetry. The keynote and plenary sessions of the conference were also streamed online via their Facebook official page. One of the academics that attended the conference was Seng Hui Zanne from APB UiTM Pulau Pinang, who presented a paper entitled "Moving the boundaries: Reconstruction of stereotyped identities by targets of stereotyping". The presenters were requested to submit their pre-recorded videos and the videos were played in their respective sessions to prevent any internet connection problem caused by the presenter. The Q&A session was conducted synchronously with the presenters answering questions asked in the chat box. The conference was able to attract numerous academics from the field of literature and language to present their studies. Four post-conference workshops were also conducted to discuss the topic of conceptual/theoretical framework, literary criticism, doing discourse analysis, and language and culture.



"Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved."

— Helen Keller —

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

A Meeting between Two Cultures

by Melati Desa

8th January 2021, was a special Friday. The sky was blue, the weather was cool, the environment was excellent and the appointment was made.

Date :8th January 2021 (Friday)

Time : 3:00 pm

Venue : Penang Japanese Consulate

Person to visit : The General Consul Kanoya Shinichiro and assistant, Ms.Sato Teramoto

UiTM CPP staff : Dr. Rofiza, Pn. Noor Laili and Pn. Melati

The first time I met UiTM CPP Prof Rector Dr. Salmiah Kasolang, I was appointed by the APB greenation project group leader to explain our plot and flowers that we had planted. Of course, I started by introducing myself and talked about flowers, fertilizer, sunlight, rain and so on. The session ended with "arigato gozaimasu" from the Rector followed by a short conversation to reply "sama-sama" in Japanese. After a few months, Prof Rector Dr. Salmiah Kasolang requested APB to organise "Japanese Day" and to invite a few Japanese speakers on a webinar. "The Penang Japanese Consulate shall be our guest", said Prof Rector. Based on this responsibility, KPP, KBB and the Ketua Unit Bahasa Asia dan Eropah (The Japanese Language Lecturer) went to visit the Penang Japanese Consulate office. I felt extremely excited to be assigned to meet and talk to the General Consul Mr. Kanoya at Penang Japanese Consulate. Among the three of us, I have the most experience in Japanese culture and language, thus it was my responsibility to initiate the conversation and discussion. Armed with this meager Japanese language ability, I started a casual conversation by saying hello and followed by a simple self-introduction. Mr. Kanoya looked calm and welcomed us warmly. He is also a humble and soft-spoken person. This made me feel more relaxed and confident to throw some ideas and prepare for the responsibilities that I might bear later.

Next, the most important task according to the rector's instruction was to discuss with Mr. Kanoya in order to request the Penang Japanese Consulate for some funds for UiTM CPP's students for a short training in Japan. I tried to convince Mr. Kanoya about our mission but unfortunately, the word "funding" in Japanese did not come to my mind. All eyes and ears of the people involved were focused on me as I struggled to figure out the word and eventually said "NIHON NO PENANG SOURYOU JIKAN KARA OKANE WO KUREMASEN KA?" which literally means "Can we get some money from the Penang Japanese Consulate?". I felt amused as I related the situation to when I was a small kid going from house to house in the kampung to collect money during Hari Raya.

Mr. Kanoya and his assistant laughed and corrected the phrase. He replied that Japan is closing the border to foreigners including students and the budget is tight during the Covid -19 pandemic era. He added that he also has no authority to approve a project which requires money and the decision comes from the headquarters personnel in Kuala Lumpur which is attached to the Japanese Embassy in Tokyo. At that point, I knew that I was not in a qualified position to discuss more regarding project fundings. I suggested that either the KPP or UiTM CPP's Rector take further action on requesting the fundings for future projects.

Globally, Japanese ladies are known to be very feminine just by looking at the way they dress in kimono, the way they talk, their movement, gesture, body language and, their facial expression. One of the ladies was Mr. Kanoya's assistant, named Ms. Teramoto, who was a very soft-spoken person. On top of that, she wore a mask which made her voice hardly heard nor could I understand her words. I have to give my utmost attention and clear my mind by focusing on her eyes to figure out the meaning. Thanks to the Almighty, the conversation with her went smoothly. After about an hour and 30 minutes of discussion, we went back to UiTM CPP and eagerly waited to witness the webinar of 'Japanese Meets Malays, When The Language and Culture Dance Together' that was later on carried out on 27th January 2021.



Yours,
Melati

Special Report – Community Service Project

“PROJEK MINI PERPUSTAKAAN DAN PENYAMPAIAN ILMU, APB PRIHATIN ANAK BANGSA TERPIMPIN” BY ACADEMY OF LANGUAGE STUDIES, UiTM CAWANGAN PULAU PINANG by Marni Jamil



A University Social Responsibility (USR) programme known as *Projek Mini Perpustakaan dan Penyampaian Ilmu*, which carries the theme of *APB Prihatin, Anak Bangsa Terpimpin* was successfully organised by the Academy of Language Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Cawangan Pulau Pinang (UiTMCPP) on 9 April 2021 at Madrasah Maahad Tahfiz Quran Jabal Nur, Semeling, Bedong, Kedah.

The programme officially began on 1 March 2021 with the courtesy visit by Pn. Melati Desa, the Programme Director, Pn. Noor Laili Mohd Yusof, the Deputy Programme Director, and the main committee members, Ms. Marni Jamil and Mr. Noor Azli Effendy Lee to the madrasah for a discussion on the USR programme with Tuan Haji Md Tahir Saad, the madrasah manager and Ustazah Zarina Masri, the *mudirah*.

To ensure the smooth running of the programme, a total of 18 committed APB UiTMCPP lecturers worked steadfastly in the technical and logistics, promotion and publicity, and trees and food teams led by Mr. Noor Azli Effendy Lee, Ms. Seng Hui Zanne and Ms. Emily Jothee Mathai respectively.

In an effort to make the madrasah area greener, varieties of durian, jackfruit, mango, sapodilla, guava, dates and longan trees were contributed to be planted. Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar, the Head of Learning Centre, planted a Durian Musang King tree during the symbolic tree planting ceremony together with the Programme Director, Deputy Programme Director and Hasani Books representatives who also joined in to plant other trees in the designated plots.



Tree planting ceremony

The subsequent event was the officiation ceremony of the mini library by Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar, which marked the highlight of the USR programme. 17 APB UiTMCPP participants arranged the books according to the specifications on the bookshelves in the mini library that houses a collection of English and Malay fiction and non-fiction books as well as academic books donated by the public. Concurrently, 5 students from the UiTMCPP English Club and Japanese Club facilitated 37 madrasah students for a one-hour English knowledge transfer slot to learn the correct pronunciation, syllables, meaning, and context of the English signages around the madrasah premises.



Mini Library

Remarkably, the USR programme has successfully managed to accomplish a humanistic programme at the community level by establishing community relations between the university and the madrasah, which is in line with the mission, vision and philosophy of Universiti Teknologi MARA.



Special Report—Community Service Project

An Interview with Tuan Hj. Md Tahir bin Saad

By Emily Jothee Mathai & Seng Hui Zanne



On 9th April 2021, representatives from the Academy of Language Studies (APB) along with the Head of Department headed for a madrasah in Bedong, Kedah for a social service programme called 'Projek Mini Perpustakaan dan Menyampaikan Maklumat – APB Prihatin Anak Bangsa Terpimpin'. Organized by the Academy of Language Studies, UiTM Penang Branch, the focus of the programme was on setting up a mini library and inculcating a greenery environment. On the same day, an interview was conducted with Tuan Haji Md Tahir bin Saad, the person in-charge of managing the place called Madrasah Maahad Tahfiz Quran Jabal Nur.

E&Z: *Could you share some information about yourself?*

TN. HAJI: Born in Baling, Kedah, I am a 51 years old military retiree. I served under the Malaysian military in the United Nation and embassy. After retirement, I embarked into some business related to design. Nevertheless, my passion was more into involving in charity programmes. So, I got involved in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities in non-governmental organizations (NGOs). I am also the President of Briged Bakti Malaysia, Kedah branch.

The programmes conducted by the NGOs are voluntary based which involves various ethnicities and religions. Simultaneously, I also operate a Preloved Donation Centre (PDC) at this madrasah too. Any one interested in the collected preloved items can own them for free.

E&Z: *How long have you worked here?*

TN. HAJI: I started working here since the Movement Control Order (MCO) last year and it is almost two years now.

E&Z: *How many students and manpower are there in this madrasah?*

TN. HAJI: There is a total of 49 students in which 15 are male and the remainder are female students. As for the manpower, there are three ustazah, one ustaz and four volunteers to help out.

E&Z: *Could you enlighten us further about this madrasah?*

TN. HAJI: The founder is Allahyarham Ustaz Ahmad Lutfhi bin Abu Seman (Pak Ngah) who started to operate Maahad Jabal Nur (MJN) in December 1999. After his demise about five years ago, the work was continued by his wife, Ustazah Pn. Zarina binti Masri (Mak Ngah).

E&Z: *Could you share on your daily routine in this madrasah?*

TN. HAJI: In the morning I start off my day with a prayer. Immediately after sending my children to school, I head to the madrasah to carry out the administrative work. In the afternoon, I would normally visit people in need with 3 or 4 voluntary students from the madrasah or at times my friends would accompany.

My time is usually occupied with helping people in need. Our madrasah serves as a welfare centre to help people in need too. We always receive donations in terms of oil and rice from outsiders. I would help by sending those items to the madrasah and at the same time we share it with others as well. Generally, I am preoccupied with my activities at the madrasah and voluntary work. Without a strong family support, I will not be able to pursue my passion.

E&Z: *Could you describe the daily life of students in this madrasah?*

TN. HAJI: Students wake up as early as 5.30 a.m. After getting ready they would pray in the surau and study Al-Quran until 8:00 a.m. Then they have time for breakfast and to clean their dormitory area by 10.00 am.

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There is also time to rest. Classes commence from 10.00 am to 12:00 pm and it continues again for another two hours from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm. In between they have time for short breaks, naps, and prayers. 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm is their leisure time. This is when a few volunteers will be taken out on a rotation basis to visit people in need. Students here work as a volunteer and help to represent the madrasah as an education and welfare centre. At night, they have classes until 10.00pm. Thursday sessions will be half day and Fridays will be their rest days.

E&Z: *What are the special activities organised in this madrasah?*

TN. HAJI: Students will be involved in the PDC programme as a volunteer. They help by arranging and packing the clothes. Besides that, they are also involved voluntarily in the CSR activities outside. These activities will eventually mould them to be better individuals in the future. Whenever there is a short holiday, they are taken out for short trips in which the cost is borne by family members.

E&Z: *What was your experience that has moulded you to have interest in helping and solving people's problems?*

TN. HAJI: In June 2016, I experienced a heart attack while driving. I was admitted for two weeks and was struggling between life and death. At that point of time, what triggered me was, I was not doing enough social service. I prayed and pleaded for the Almighty to restore and lengthen my life to help people and contribute to charity work for the rest of my life. Upon being discharged, though still in pain, I began to operate the PDC. Besides that, I also started buying food for others including stray animals. Six months later an angiogram procedure was carried out in which there were no traces of negative issues with regards to my heart anymore. That is truly a miracle to me. Up to date, I no longer need any heart medication. So based on my experience, I must say that when you render help to others, good deeds will bestow upon you as in my case – my health. I am not compelling others to follow my traits, but I would encourage others to carry out good acts by helping others.

E&Z: *What do you feel about the program organized by our department today?*

TN. HAJI: I am very excited, enthusiastic, and happy because outsiders from APB UiTM Penang Branch can see the potential of this madrasah and came forward to carry out a beneficial programme to the community and society. I welcome you to come and carry out more programmes with us in future.

E&Z: *Out of the two activities held today, which activity had a profound impact on you? Why?*

TN. HAJI: The setting up of the mini library of course as we never had a library before this. It really gives a great impact as students can now read and widen their knowledge. Besides, we plan to add up more books in the near future.

E&Z: *Regarding the trees, what is the main reason for your preference towards fruit trees than other trees?*

TN. HAJI: Fruit trees are more beneficial than any other trees. Besides nurturing the love towards nature and care for the environment, it can be of great benefit to fellow human beings. This is because when it bears fruits it can be given as charity to others or it could also be sold to earn money for the madrasah. Not only human, the animals can benefit from it too.



E&Z: *If APB, UiTM Penang Branch Campus conducts a continuous programme, what activities are felt necessary in this madrasah?*

TN. HAJI: We welcome any programmes related to languages because APB is a language team. Programmes such as team building, public speaking, basic use of English language and letter writing would serve useful for the students. Furthermore, it is also a good idea to learn some basic vocabulary in foreign languages such as Japanese, French or even German.

E&Z: *Finally, can you share some words of wisdom with us as well as the people out there?*

TN. HAJI: We should be a noble man who can benefit the society and inculcate the love towards animals and the environment. Help should be rendered with a pure heart without self-interest motives. Ultimately, we brought nothing into this world, and we carry nothing out of this world.

eLingua thanks Tuan Haji Md Tahir bin Saad for granting us this interview



'Getting to know you more' Featuring ... **Mr. Liaw Shun Chone**

For this issue, eLingua has decided to interview the just-retired Mr. Liaw Shun Chone, also an outgoing editorial member who had contributed immensely to this bulletin. (Interview prepared and conducted by Dr. Rushita Ismail)

Dr. Rushita: *Mr. Liaw, could you kindly provide some details of yourself? Maybe a bit of your biodata, your involvement before working at UiTM, and also your work philosophy.*

Mr. Liaw: Thanks Dr Rushita for having this interview after my retirement. Hi APBians. Now a bit about myself. I was born and bred in Penang. For most of my childhood and upbringing, I was educated and cocooned on the island. Then when I had my training and posting in Kuantan and Sandakan, Sabah, I saw a different side of Malaysia. I never knew that Penang food was so famous elsewhere. Everywhere I went, there were Penang Laksa, Penang Char Koew Teow and Penang Nasi Kandar. I guess trying to complete all my tasks as quickly as possible has been my work philosophy. But sometimes it does not pay to complete your work fast. There may be last-minute additional requirements that need changes to be updated.

Dr. Rushita: *And now a bit of your workplace at UiTM. How long have you worked here? How was working life at this campus?*

Mr. Liaw: In 2006, I was given a transfer with consent from school to teach at UiTM Permatang Pauh. At that time, a few teachers like me who had attended the interview at UiTM Shah Alam were posted to APB UiTMPP. Among them were Mr Lim Teck Heng, Mr Gopighantan & Dr Angelina Subrayan (both were posted back to Shah Alam), Pn Aznizah Husin (retired) and myself.

In terms of working life at this campus, I really enjoyed working here at UiTM. However, I am sure most of you would agree that the pace and demands during my last two or three years have changed drastically. We need to face pressures from so many fronts. I do not want to get into the specific details but suffice to say that the pandemic changes the pedagogical mode of F2F teaching and not forgetting the KPI expectations in research writings, innovation, student consultations and innovations.

Dr. Rushita: *What were your memorable moments at the UiTM campus? Specific incidents that you will forever remember for the rest of your life.*

Mr. Liaw: No specific moments. Each has its own ups and downs, but the team spirit and commitment that pulled us through in events such as UPALS colloquium & conferences, khidmat masyarakat and 10000 langkah programmes, IWSI workshops collaboration with Universitas Tanjungpura, Pontianak, ESTEEM journal publications and lastly, Greenation tree planting projects. All these events evoke challenging and pleasant memories of our contributions to APB.

Dr. Rushita: *What have you been up to lately, now that you are retired? Perhaps pursuing other academic pursuits? Maybe visit other countries or reskilling options to use up the free time during post-retirement, and how has the pandemic affected these plans?*

Mr. Liaw: I am sorry to say that I have nothing exciting to share after my retirement on 1 March 2021. You know as well as I do that the Covid 19 pandemic situation has forced everyone to stay put at home. My travelling plans have been put on hold. For the most part of my time, I have been climbing nearby hills, including Penang Hill and reading voraciously. Pn Nazima and Mr Lim TH have also shared with me some interesting novels.

Lately, I have been having sleepless nights when my daughter, who is working in KL, told me that she has been in close contact with a tested Covid 19 positive colleague. This is her tenth day of self-isolation (6th May), and so far, she still has not shown any symptoms. And just yesterday, her boyfriend told her that he was also undergoing self-isolation as his colleague was also tested positive. I just hope that the vaccination drive can be expedited and effective to protect us from the increasing virus variants from all parts of the world and eventually build up herd immunity to keep everyone safe.

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Dr. Rushita: *What do you think and hope UiTM to be in five years? What about wishes for our own department – APB?*

Mr. Liaw: Nobody could predict the future. Few expected the disastrous havoc of the Covid 19 pandemics to last so long. If we recover from it, I believe UiTMPP can rise to greater heights, including our own APB department. I have seen so much potential in all of you, and I am confident that in 5 years, most of you would have obtained your PhDs and would have published many indexed papers.

Dr. Rushita: *One last question, Mr. Liaw. Any advice, hope, comments or suggestions for the improvement of our own department? You may also want to offer your thanks and appreciation to them.*

Mr. Liaw: I do not need to give any advice here. All of you are doing great even though the workload is piling and stress increases. However, if there is a suggestion I can offer will be the same response I gave to our KPP, Dr Rofiza on how to improve this department. We have very experienced APB lecturers, but the other faculties primarily seek our assistance in language and translation only. We need to step up and make ourselves more visible in terms of leading and heading a project. For instance, we started both the ESTEEM journals successfully but ended up giving other faculties to run the journal publications. We need to wrest back what is rightfully ours. We also need to carve a niche area and expertise for ourselves, and I am confident Apbians Boleh! I wish all of you great health and protection from the dreaded virus. I, for one, cannot wait to be vaccinated and eventually feel safe to travel. So best wishes to all, including the upcoming ICMAL 2021 conference in September. At this moment of the interview, it's still the puasa month. I hope it's not too early to wish my Muslim colleagues 'Selamat Hari Raya Maaf Zahir Batin' and to some of you in the department who will soon join me, I wish you 'Happy Retirement'.

Some photos from Mr. Liaw's personal album to cherish.



At Jeju Island, South Korea. When is my next trip abroad?



Ocean Park, Hong Kong. Nowadays I just watch King Kong movies.



Son's marriage registration in Singapore, Dec 2019. Thanks to Covid 19, we are not sure when to have the wedding ceremony in Penang.



Going to miss the whole lot of you.

'HAPPY RETIREMENT', Mr. Liaw
& we wish you a healthy and productive life ahead !!!

Program JLC (Japanese Language Club) UiTM Cawangan Pulau Pinang Sepanjang Tahun 2020

Laporan disediakan oleh Melati Desa

*Kalau pergi ke Sungai Petani
Singgah sebentar di Tasek Gelugor
Inilah kegigihan yang diinginkan
Secara Online ilmu dihulur*

Seperti semua sedia maklum, tahun 2020 merupakan tahun yang amat mencabar kerana negara kita yang tercinta ini tidak terkecuali daripada dilanda pandemik Covid-19. Kerajaan telah pun dan sedang menjalankan beberapa peringkat pencegahan dan pemulihan daripada tersebarnya pandemik tersebut dengan lebih parah lagi. Sebagai salah satu daripada langkah pencegahan penularan pandemic Covid-19, Kementerian Pendidikan Tinggi Malaysia telah mengarahkan kaedah pengajaran dan pembelajaran dilaksanakan secara atas talian. Bermula pada 18hb Mac 2020 Universiti dan kolej diarah dikosongkan. Sehingga tarikh artikel ini ditulis, arahan kaedah pengajaran dan pembelajaran secara atas talian adalah kekal.

Walau bagaimanapun minda muda para pelajar hendaklah terus dibina. Selain daripada penerapan ilmu, aktiviti santai yang diselitkan dengan unsur pendidikan tetap diteruskan dari jarak jauh. Sebarang aktiviti secara berkumpulan adalah dilarang. Atas inisiatif inilah, ahli MT telah mengenal pasti seorang pelajar senior yang mahir berbahasa Jepun dan diberi tugas untuk mengendalikan kelas bahasa Jepun secara atas talian. Setidak-tidaknya JLC tidak mengalah dan berserah kepada serangan pandemic covid-19. Diucapkan jutaan tahniah kepada ahli kelab dan MT yang berusaha keras menyahut saranan pihak UiTM CPP supaya berkreativiti secara maya demi mengekalkan keaktifan kelab. Dengan itu, sebelum menutup tirai 2020, JLC UiTM CPP berjaya merealisasikan projek tersebut secara maya. Projek ini dijalankan sebanyak 3 kali pada setiap minggu seperti berikut:

Tarikh : 6/11/2020

Tarikh : 17/12/2020

Tarikh : 25/12/2020

Masa : 8:00 pm– 9:00 pm

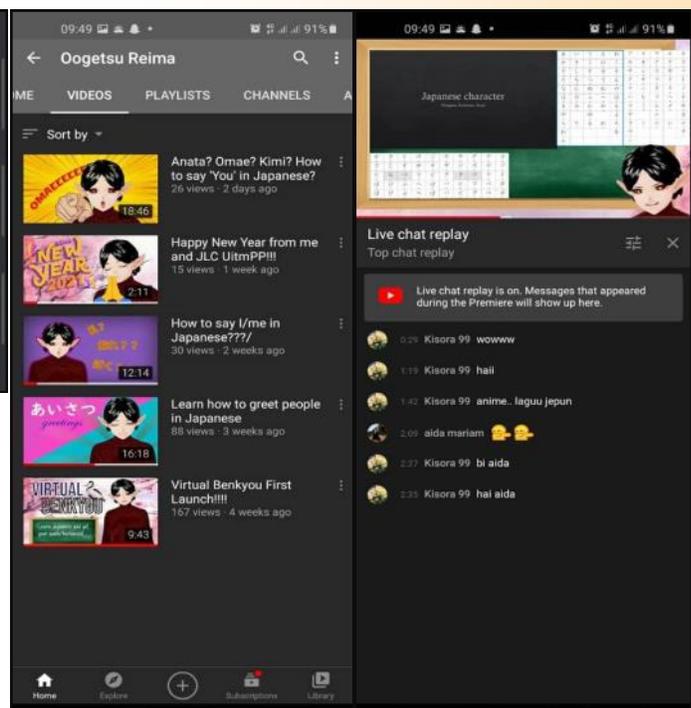
Masa : 8:00pm – 9:00 pm

Masa : 8:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Melalui pautan : <https://www.twitch.tv/oogetsureima>

Disertakan foto aktiviti projek berkenaan:

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21	17/12/2020 10:04:11	11/12/2020	MURIN SARRINA BINTI I	2019909345



PENGGUNAAN KATA GANTI NAMA 'Wǒ', 'Nǐ', 'Tā' DALAM BAHASA MANDARIN

LIM SOO GIAP

Kata ganti nama, 'Wǒ' saya, dan 'Nǐ', awak. Kata ganti nama orang ketiga ialah 'Tā', dia. Kata ganti nama ini, seperti dalam Bahasa Malaysia, ianya boleh digunakan untuk lelaki dan perempuan.

'Wǒ', 'Nǐ', 'Tā' ketiga-tiga kata ganti nama ini juga boleh jadi majmuk (plural) dengan menambahkan perkataan 'men' di belakang 'Wǒ', 'Nǐ', 'Tā'.

	<u>Maksud</u>		<u>Maksud</u>
Wǒ	saya	Wǒmen	kita atau kami
Nǐ	awak	Nǐmen	kamu
Tā	dia	Tāmen	mereka

'men' juga boleh sambung dengan kata nama tertentu untuk menunjukkan ramai orang.

Contoh:

rén	orang	rénmen	orang ramai
xuésheng	murid	xuéshengmen	murid-murid
lǎoshī	guru	lǎoshīmen	guru-guru

Penggunaan 'men' adalah sangat terhad untuk menunjukkan keadaan majmuk dan ia digunakan untuk orang sahaja. Biasanya sesuatu kata bilangan dan penjodoh bilangan yang sesuai digunakan untuk tujuan ini.

sān ge rén.	(Bukan 'sān ge rénmen')
liǎng ge xuésheng.	(Bukan 'liǎng ge xuéshengmen')
wǔ běn zìdiǎn.	(Bukan 'wǔ běn zìdiǎnmen')

Wǒ	yǒu	qìchē
Nǐ	yǒu	diànshìjī
Tā	yǒu	bàozhǐ

Wǒmen	zài	kàn diànshì
Nǐmen	zài	chī shuǐguǒ
Tāmen	zài	kàn shū

Closing Ceremony of ASiD Innovation and Creative Day 2021 (AICD 2021)

By Farhana Haji Shukor (UiTM Kampus Dengkil)

ASiD Innovation and Creative Day (AICD 2021) Closing Ceremony was conducted on 10th April 2021 on Saturday at 11.00 a.m.-12.45 p.m. and can be viewed via Pusat Asasi UiTM Official YouTube Channel. With the theme 'Unleashing Creativity & Humanizing Innovation', the event was divided into these two categories; Category A: Science & Technology Innovation and Category B: Social Science Innovation. Students of UiTM Dengkil were given the option of choosing their category to take part in for this competition. The competition is aimed at preparing the students to develop projects that they are passionate about. The ability to solve real-life problems becomes a part of their learning journey that nurtures their life skills. The best part about this competition was that no participation fee was required and they were most welcome to submit as many innovation projects as they wanted.

The competition started with students' registration from 1st March 2021 to 21st March 2021. It was then followed by the submission of their innovation project videos of about 5 to 8 minutes length via YouTube from 21st March 2021 to 30th March 2021. It was also compulsory for them to include an abstract which describes their innovation product in not more than 300 words. It was up to the students whether to submit their work individually, or to work in a group of five (maximum number of group members) with or without the supervision of their supervisor. The judging process was carried out by 38 experienced juries between 1st April 2021 to 7th April 2021.

The event started with the Master of Ceremony, Ms. Melissa Malik, welcoming the participants, juries and viewers to the Closing Ceremony of AICD 2021. Doa was then recited by Ustaz Ahmad Jamil Jaafar before the Closing Remark from the Director at the Centre of Foundation Studies, Professor Dr. Saifollah Hj Abdullah. There were also greetings given by some of the lecturers, Dr Ikhwan Naim Md Nawi, Ms Norlizayati Ramlan and Ms Ts Najwa Rawaida Ahmad @ Ahmad Fauzi. It was then followed by sharing from some of the Alumni members; Adam Haiqal Mohd Jeffri, Humaira Zafeera Zainudin, Muhammad Al-Fateh Azmi, Hafsa Fakhru Anuar and Juvita Julius. They claimed that this competition is a beneficial program that can improve students' skills especially in terms of their time management skill. Overall, they agreed that this event was a suitable platform to showcase their talent in innovation and many positive experiences will also be gained that could benefit the students in the future.

There were a total of 60 innovation groups from 257 participants and the competition witnessed 20 recipients of Bronze Award, 25 recipients of Silver Award and 15 recipients of Gold Award. There were three special awards for this year's innovation competition, which were 'Most-Liked Video'. For Science and Technology Category, AQUAPHR VI was chosen as the winner with more than 4000 views and 1900 likes whereas for Social Science Category, the winner was ENGSY/INZI/ENGLISH MADE EASY: A LANGUAGE LEARNING BOARD GAME with more than 1500 views and 500 likes. Both groups received RM100 cash prizes respectively.



Most-Liked Video Category A



Most-Liked Video Category B

As for the 'Best Video Award', all 38 juries have made their decision based on originality, content and creativity and the recipients were given RM150 cash prize for both categories. For Category A: Science and Technology, the winning spot went to LIFE POCKET Innovation and for Category B: Social Science, it went to HORMONE IN ACTION Innovation. The final special award for this competition is the 'Best Innovator' award and winners for both categories received RM200 cash prize each. The winners were chosen based on the innovativeness, product novelty and significance of the innovation towards society. For Category Science & Technology, SMART DONATION BOX KIT was announced the winner whereas HORMONE IN ACTION received this award for Social Science Category.

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Best Video Category A



Best Video Category B



Best Innovator Category A



Best Innovator Category B

It is hoped that the participants in this Innovation Competition will continue with their efforts to produce more creative and innovative work in the future. By actively participating in such competitions, students will surely be able to cultivate new ideas, enhance creativity, take part in more collaboration and promote inclusion and diversity. Once they start working, they will be able to meet clients/market needs per design requirements more effectively. Last but not least, it could also create a sense of awareness socially, economically and environmentally.

e-SULAM INNOVATE 2021 (IDEATION, INVENTION AND INNOVATION CHALLENGE)

By Farhana Haji Shukor (UiTM Kampus Dengkil)

e-SULAM INNOVATE 2021 is an electronic form of SULAM, described as a course-based, credit-bearing educational experience in which students participate in a structured service activity that meets identified community needs, reflects on the service activity and experiences to achieve desired learning outcomes (<http://jpt.mohe.gov.my>). It is aimed to demonstrate social communication and responsibility when engaging with selected crafted verbal and written texts on contemporary issues besides gaining deeper understanding of course content, a broader appreciation of the discipline, enhanced sense of personal values and civic responsibility.

Some of the benefits of e-SULAM are to expand access to a broad array of SULAM experiences in the community without geographical constraints or during pandemic such as COVID-19, ensuring diversity of experiences, get access to various community partners – disabled, rural population, shy or introverted individuals. Moreover, it helps to enhance the potential to standardize SULAM experiences across the curriculum and assist in efficient use of lecturer resources to create, monitor, and evaluate SULAM courses.

Students' videos and posters were delivered via online platforms and other forms of digital technologies. Some of the platforms which were utilized to share their work include Facebook, Instagram, YouTube. As for teleconferences, we used Zoom, Google Meet and Cisco Webex. These online platforms are made available for students, lecturers, community partners and other parties to collaborate from a distance in an organized, focused and experiential SULAM activity.

This competition was divided into three categories which are; Best e-SULAM Project, Best e-SULAM Concept Project, and the highest number of Higher Education Institute participation. For the Best e-SULAM Project category, they won RM 1500.00, trophy and certificate for the first prize, RM 1100.00, trophy and certificate for the second prize and RM 700.00, trophy as well as certificate for the third prize. Meanwhile, for the Best e-SULAM Concept Project, RM500.00, trophy and certificate were to be given away for the first prize, RM400.00, trophy and certificate for the second prize and RM300.00, trophy as well as certificate for the third prize. For the highest number of Higher Education In-

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stitute participation, the winner will receive RM1000.00 cash prize, trophy and certificate.

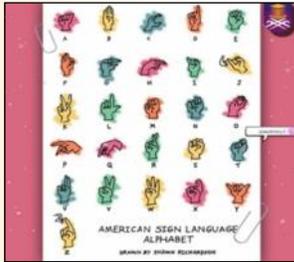
In March 2021, there were 2810 second semester students from Centre for Foundation Studies at Dengkil Campus coming from 96 classes; 60 classes from Science field and 36 from Engineering field submitted their work under the supervision of 19 English Lecturers. Out of almost 600 videos submitted, 235 videos were chosen by their respective lecturers to take part in this competition. These videos were assessed in terms of their originality of the project and idea, creativity and innovation, potential to be commercialized, collaboration with the industry, agency and NGOs, positive impact on students' learning (knowledge, skill and attitude) and benefits of the project to the community.

In the following section, there are a few snapshots taken from a group of students who created an Instagram account sharing several posters about deaf and mute. They aimed to spread awareness to the public on how to treat the people with these types of disabilities besides learning some sign language in order to communicate with them well.

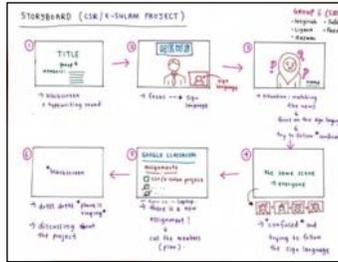
It is hoped that after participating in this competition, students will be able to improve their learning by integrating theory with practice in the real world, increase soft skills and civic engagement and also to meet the needs of the community. Not only that, students can create a collaborative environment between students, lecturers and communities as well as grabbing the golden opportunities to work together with agencies, corporate and NGOs for the betterment of the community.



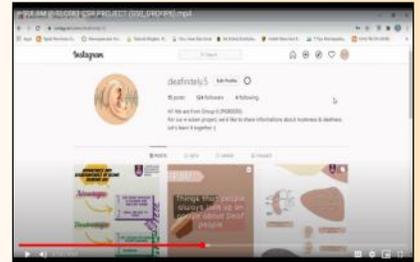
Poster about Deaf and Mute



American Sign Language



Storyboard of their video



Snapshot of their video

At the point of time that this article is written, the result of the winners for this competition is yet to be known. Regardless of the results, these students, who spent most of their effort and time completing their work are actually the real winners as they managed to get a lot of beautiful experiences while sharpening their soft skills. Kudos everyone!

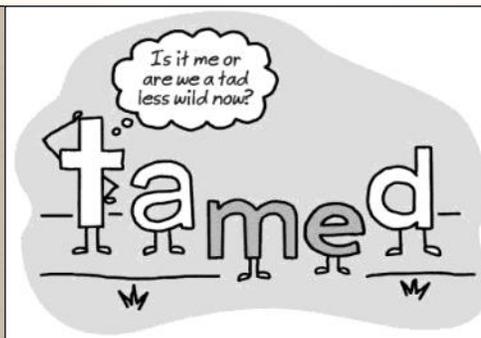
Language
Humour

1



Language
Humour

2



Language
Humour

3





Malay confinement: Myths and Current Practices



Childbirth for most women can take many hours and be a painful episode. Due to this fact, after delivery, a woman is encouraged to complete a series of treatments and follow some restrictions during her post-partum confinement. Maternity confinement is a period in which a woman who has just given birth to a baby restores her good health and bodily functions through some treatments, practices and restrictions. A Malay, traditional confinement period can be 40 to 44 days. Mothers are expected to observe some postnatal practices that have been a tradition passed from one generation to another. The practices can include eating and avoiding certain food as well as using certain things for the purpose of maintaining good health of the mothers.

Food has always been a subject of misconception when it comes to postpartum confinement. Vegetables and fruits such as water spinach, eggplant, cucumber and watermelon are considered “cold” and should not be taken by mothers in confinement. It is also thought that by taking “cold” food, it can slow down the recovery process. In addition, “cold” food also causes bloating, muscle cramps and body aches. Another myth is that postnatal mothers should not drink a lot of water because it is believed that it can cause swelling of veins apart from bloating. Mothers in confinement especially those who have just undergone a caesarean section are prohibited from eating eggs due to the misconception about eggs being the cause of wounds developing pus. Another myth is chickens being considered “unhealthy” food that are able to delay the healing of maternity wounds or cause bleeding to the mothers. Apart from chickens, oily food should be avoided too. Besides, using a fan or an air-conditioner is not recommended as these can cause wind to enter the mothers’ bodies especially their blood vessels and veins. Women during their maternity confinement are not advised to go about their days not wearing socks as wind is believed will find its way to enter the women’s bodies through their feet.

The truth is according to Metro IVF Fertility and Gynecology Specialist, Dr. Pravin Peraba, (cited by Ithnin, 2020), if breastfeeding, the mothers are advised to eat healthy food such as vegetables and fruits adequately. Also Dr. Pravin Peraba (cited by Ithnin, 2020) emphasizes that for the health of new mothers and breastfeeding, these mothers need to drink enough water, that is between two to three liters a day, and not to restrict their health needs. Regarding wind entering mothers’ blood vessels and veins, the fact is, according to Dr. Pravin Peraba (cited by Ithnin, 2020), there is no wind in the blood vessels and there is no wind in the veins, thus this fact contradicts the common belief about wind going into the blood vessels and veins of postpartum mothers.

Women who have just given birth are usually taken care of by their family members like their mothers, sisters or grandmothers. However, taking care of a woman in confinement has now become a business and this could be a very profitable service especially during the pandemic, Covid-19 where birth rate has increased, and interstate crossing is minimal for women to invite their family members home as their caregivers.

Due to many demands of this service, a woman who wishes to get it needs to book it months before her expected delivery date. Based on the writer’s experience, looking for an available slot of confinement service at the end of 2020 was not a piece of cake as most companies or businesses offering this service were fully



Writer having hot compress session

continued on the next page ...

booked. After a few booking attempts, a slot was finally able to be booked in December 2020 and the service required was arranged. The company of choice that went by the name, Dr. Bidan Confinement Care sent one of its midwives or usually known as confinement ladies to provide maternity confinement services. These included preparing breakfast, cooking lunch, cleaning the house as well as doing laundry apart from postpartum treatments for the new mother. Besides midwifery treatments provided, the confinement lady also took care of the writer's newborn and this service included bathing the baby, feeding him, putting him to sleep and massaging him as daily routines as well as doing "tuam" (baby hot compress) when necessary. The postnatal treatments included in the selected package were "tungku" (hot compress), body massage, "param" (body scrub), sauna, herbal bath, "tapel", "bengkung"/ "barut" (body wrap), "pilis" and herbal concoction.

The treatments started with hot compress on the belly in order to flatten the belly and tighten the flabby skin. Next, the whole body was massaged for good blood circulation and relaxing the muscles. Then, the body was scrubbed using "param" to remove dead skin and for skin rejuvenation. "Param" is a type of scrubbing paste applied to the whole body, except the breasts and belly. Basically, "param" contains rice that is soaked and mixed with ingredients such as aromatic ginger, betel leaves, sandalwood, garlic, turmeric, kaffir lime peel and several other herbs. "Param" is used to help improve blood circulation, prevent "wind" from entering the body, to make the body warm and maintain good skin. After that, being in the sauna for about 15 minutes was the next thing done before a herbal bath. Herbal bath could help eliminate tiredness and lethargy, relax tightened nerves, restore energy and reduce stress. "Tapel" was a paste applied to the abdomen before wearing a "bengkung". The ingredients that are often used to make "tapel" paste are rice flour, "kapur sirih" (calcium carbonate), lemon juice, aromatic ginger and cinnamon. "Tapel" is used to help the process of burning fat under the skin and flattening the stomach as well as tightening the flabby skin of the abdomen, a skin problem usually faced by women post-delivery. Next, "pilis" which was a special herbal mixture was applied on the writer's forehead. The basic ingredients are rice flour mixed with herbal ingredients such as aromatic ginger, turmeric, mint leaves and lime juice. "Pilis" was used to relieve dizziness, improve blood circulation and soothe the nerves in the forehead. Lastly, the writer was given a herbal concoction drink to help regain energy and detox the body.

Giving birth and having a confinement lady during the first 30 days post-delivery were both new experiences for the writer and the memories of handling a newborn for the first time will always be treasured. Despite the advent of modern confinement practices, traditional ones are still favored today and confinement care businesses offering conventional methods of postdelivery health restoration are thriving.



The writer being in a sauna



Tungku being heated for hot compress



Herbs being boiled for herbal bath

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Head over Meals

by Nazima Versay Kudus

The Evolution of the Nasi Kandar



Nothing beats a plate of mouth-watering Nasi Kandar when you are in the northern state of Penang

When Indonesia declared rendang as its national dish and Singapore, the popiah - these two nations had tread on the wrong path. Very quickly fellow Malaysians jumped to defend them as rightfully ours. Every now and then such claims provoke food wars and culinary disputes among nations. This is inevitable because people bring along their food culture and habits during migrations across South East Asia.

A food that is uniquely Malaysian or for that matter unique to Penang is none other than Nasi Kandar. The difference with other kinds of rice such as Nasi Briyani, Nasi Lemak or Nasi Lemuni is in the rice itself. To make the Nasi Briyani, we need spices such as fennel seeds, nutmeg seed, candlenuts, cardamom, cinnamon, star anise, clove and other herbs and vegetables or simply the ready-to-use briyani masala powder from the supermarket shelves. It is a must to include coconut milk in Nasi Lemak. The Nasi Lemuni is a variation of nasi lemak added with *lemuni* (or its scientific term *Vitex trifolia*) leaves juice. Unlike the others, Nasi Kandar is mainly plain steamed rice. What differentiates is the curry eaten with it.

Historically, Nasi Kandar is the food of the poor. In the late 19th century many coolies of South Indian origin were hired to work at the dock in Penang. Most of the men came alone - they were either single or if married left their wives in India. These men depended on the Indian Muslim hawkers for their cheap yet filling meals at work who would sell rice and curry in pots hung on a bamboo pole carried on the shoulders. *Kandar* is a Malay word for yoking their fare on their shoulders. Their task to deliver food then can be likened to Grab Food or Foodpanda that we have today. The menu would be the basics of rice, okras, hard boiled eggs, fish or beef curries, nothing like the rows of selections that we have today like fish roe, prawn *sambals*, *telur sotong*, fried chicken, lamb or mutton. The secret of a delicious Nasi Kandar relies on the correct combination of curries. As such Nasi Kandar can never be self-service. Every plate should be served by the curry connoisseur a.k.a. the *mamak*. Only he knows which curries mix well with which dish and what is suitable for the customers' palates.

Nasi Kandar is no longer sold in a peddling manner. There are many stalls and restaurants across the country that provide Nasi Kandar - some replicating the Maju branding - hence, Masyur Maju, Sinar Maju etc. It is an all-day-food - can be taken at breakfast, lunch or dinner. Nasi Kandar addicts would not mind travelling to Penang just for their Nasi Kandar fix. When the Covid-19 lockdown was eased up, local tourists from other states rushed to Penang and formed long queues in the hot sun, lining up to buy Nasi Kandar just to fill up their cravings. Those who were afraid of being infected with Covid 19 resorted to Nasi Kandar services from Penang to Selangor and Kuala Lumpur such as Nasi Kandaq Transporter or Penang Food Delivery. Due to its popularity, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism should quickly declare Nasi Kandar as the national dish, before India does so!



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 GANI PASEMBUR
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Penang Nasi Kandar Delivery Service



My Mum's Chocolate Chip Cookies recipe

By Farhana Haji Shukor (UiTM Kampus Dengkil)

I remembered the time when I travelled a lot on weekends from Penang to Kuala Lumpur, starting from the year 2014 until 2019, I would never miss buying myself a packet of 100gm Famous Amos cookies. I just loved having something to munch while waiting to depart. It was not only me who loved eating those cookies, but my husband too! We couldn't just share a packet of 100gm chocolate chips cookies and ended up buying one packet each! I realized that I could have baked those cookies myself.

I tried baking using some recipes available on the internet and asking from my close friends too. My husband and I were not happy with the results. As desperate as I could be at that time, I called my mother and shared about my frustration of being unable to bake cookies that we both like. She just laughed and said "Don't you want to try baking cookies using my recipe?"

As her cookies are the ones that are light and cakey, I just knew that this is what I want to bake. From that moment, I never changed the recipe, not even a bit and continue baking using that recipe for any festive seasons for my family and friends. So, as we are just one month away to celebrate Hari Raya Aidilfitri, it would be worth sharing my mum's Chocolate Chip Cookies recipe with everyone. Happy baking!



Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients for Chocolate Chip cookies

- 1 cup butter, softened*
- ½ cup white sugar*
- ½ cup packed brown sugar*
- 2 large eggs*
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract*
- 3 cups all-purpose flour*
- 1 teaspoon baking soda*
- 2 teaspoons hot water*
- 1/2 teaspoon salt*
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips*
- 1 cup chopped almond*

Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven 350°F (175°C) for about 10 minutes.*
- 2. Cream the butter, white sugar & brown sugar until smooth.*
- 3. Beat eggs.*
- 4. Stir vanilla.*
- 5. Dissolve baking soda in hot water.*
- 6. Batter along with salt.*
- 7. Stir in flour, chocolate chip and almond.*
- 8. Spoonful unto ungreased pans.*
- 9. Bake for 10 minutes.*

Lecturer's Contribution #1

Lead by Example

by Hanani Ahmad Zubir

Adults influence the lives of children through many ways. Children tend to observe and copy behaviours that are learned either with or without intention through adults' influence, especially their parents. Since children are trying to form their identity when they are still young, children are likely to be influenced by the adults around them. Most of the time, children observe the adults to determine appropriate behaviour and also to choose their role models. Adults' behaviour can be positive or negative. Some adults may have more influence than the others depending on who the children adore. In my opinion, children learn best by observing the behaviour of adults and copying it because they observe their family members, they are influenced by the school's context, and they adopt many habits from the society.

The first reason is children eye their family members. Children are very observant. They often imitate behaviour they witness. Children look at how their family members handle stress, treat other people, and deal with feelings. Family members provide children with examples. Modeling appropriate behaviour is an important part of discipline. For example, some children are affected by the violence in their homes. The children may not be the victim of physical abuse, but witnessing their mother being battered is already a terrifying experience. As they learn from adults' behaviour, some children may act out and may be viewed as antisocial, while the rest may work very hard to excel in an attempt to keep the family peace (Sable House, 2011).

Secondly, children are inclined to follow the example of teachers and other aspects of school. Children spend a lot of time in school, so school plays a vital role in their behaviour. If teachers make an effort to treat those around them with respect and

understanding, get their work done on time and follow through on what they say they will do, children will do the same (Rutter, 1980). Since school is an institution for educating children, they highly respect teachers. Teachers do not only pass on knowledge, but also values to children through their behaviour and are the main contributors to good education.

Finally, children acquire many habits from the society itself, especially through the media. The influence of the media affects how children see what is acceptable and not acceptable in the society at large. The portrayal of violence, sex, and drugs or alcohol by adults in the media has been known to adversely affect the behaviour of children (Earles, Alexander, Johnson, Liverpool, & McGhee, 2002). Smoking is an example. When adults are portrayed smoking on the media either on television, in magazines or newspapers, it appears to be a normal and acceptable behaviour. The effect of the media is very strong. Images on media are repeated a few times even in just a short advertisement, which can influence how one should look and behave.

In conclusion, imitating the adults' good behaviours while the children go through their day will educate the children and help them in developing their identity. Children learn best from the adults they admire. The children may trust you the most if they look up on you. I strongly believe that children learn well when they observe and copy the right behaviours of the adults. Adults who connect with their children understand that the early years are the most critical time. Adults do not have to be with the children throughout the day or spend money on getting expensive toys and travelling, the most crucial part is just being there for them when they need you the most.

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Lecturer's Contribution #2

What if you do not know English?

by Dr. Nur Ilianis Adnan

What is 'hell'?

Becoming a language trainer allows me to meet people from all walks of life. In 2012, while I was in the midst of doing my master's degree, with no teaching experience, I was blessed to be accepted by one of the language centres in Penang to teach there. To my surprise, I was given the task of teaching English to foreign adults mainly from the Middle East and Asia. For a start, the Principal of the centre honoured me with the opportunity to teach level 1. When I entered the classroom, I saw 10 Muslim men aged between 20 to 50 years old. Some from Saudi Arabia and some from Libya. At first, I did not know how to start but I pushed myself through and we did the icebreaker session. During the session, I realised that all of them were very weak in English and they speak nothing else but Arabic. Knowing that, I instantly knew the upcoming lessons were going to be very challenging as I will not be able to use English translation in my class. I was relieved looking at the books provided. MOSTLY WITH PICTURES. I felt as if a tiny burden was removed from my shoulder. After days of teaching, I became more comfortable and confident as they were all very hardworking, determined, and respectful. One day, I had to teach them parts of building. As usual, I used the book with labelled pictures. Everything went smoothly until they encountered the word 'hall'. I tried explaining the meaning of hall and I even pointed to the hall at our centre to make them understand and lucky me, they did. Only one problem. They mispronounced the word 'hall'. Instead, they pronounced it as 'hell'. I said, "it's not hell, but hall" trying to correct them. Then, one of them asked, "So, what is hell?". Forgetting they were all beginners, I answered, "Hell is a place where all the bad people go after they die". All looking puzzled. They could not understand my answer. I tried explaining again. This time with lots of gestures. Same thing. They still gave me a perplexed look. Without giving up, I used my quick-thinking skill. At that moment, my goal was to make them understand what 'hell' is. With my little knowledge in Arabic, I said, "**Hell is Jahanam**" (*Jahanam means hell in Arabic*). *The moment they heard the word 'Jahanam', all of them raised their both hands in the air (act of making du'a) with serious faces and recited loudly, "Astaghfirullah al-azim" which in the literal sense means, 'I seek forgiveness from Allah'. It is a short prayer of redemption. For a second, I felt like I had done a sinful act.*

Thai funeral

Fast forward to the time I was doing my PhD in USM Penang, I had the chance to teach English to students and lecturers from Thailand schools and universities in various programs organised by School of Educational Studies, USM. Back in 2017, there were around 20 lecturers from Thailand who came to USM joining our Spoken English Course. I was one of the facilitators involved. I would describe myself as a people person and xenophile. I love meeting new people and learning about different cultures. To strike up friendship, I began each session by asking lots of questions about Thailand's cultures and traditions. One of the questions I remember asking was, "How is the funeral in Thailand?". They gave me nothing but silence and confused faces. One of them stood and said, "Miss, we will get back to you shortly". Then, I heard a buzzing sound (*their discussion, in Thai, of course*). *After a few minutes, the same person stood up again and answered, "Miss, we barbecue the dead body". I tried my very best to stay serious, I swear. It was hard. I walked to the board, I wrote the word, 'cremate'. I explained, "You can only barbecue food, not humans. For humans, in funerals, you use the word cremation or cremate. Without any delay, all of them grabbed their pens and quickly jotted the word from the board into their notebook. I was amazed looking at how determined they were in learning English. Without being afraid of making mistakes, they tried.*

continued on the next page ...

Lecturer's Contribution #2

... continued from the previous page

How do you pronounce and spell “diarrhoea”?

Anyone who loves watching K-Dramas would know how expressive Koreans can be. I have always known that fact, but I never knew they are also very creative. Once, I had to teach a 40-year-old Korean lady who only knew basic English. She was telling me about her food poisoning experience in Malaysia. Well, all of us know what food poisoning is like, yes? She said, “I was very sick. I vomited and had **waterpoo**.” I could not believe my ears. So, I asked her again, “You vomited and what?”. She said, “Waterpoo”. Trying hard to understand her statement using contextual clues, I assumed she meant ‘diarrhoea’. So, I quickly took my phone and used google translate from English to Korean. I typed ‘diarrhoea’ and showed it to her the Korean translation (*just to make sure I got it right*). She said, “Yes, that one!”. I said it out loud, “In English, we say diarrhoea”. She instantly took her pen and notebook, and asked, “How do you pronounce and spell it?”.

Some of the beautiful people I met along my teaching journey



Lecturer's Contribution #3

A Brief Encounter with the World Games G.O.A.T

By Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar

Who doesn't know Nicol David? The Malaysian legend who hails from Penang was crowned the World Games Greatest Athlete of All Time (G. O. A. T) in a poll conducted by the International World Games Association in early February, 2021. The eight-time World Champion triumphed against 23 other athletes after capturing over 300,000 of the 1,200,000 votes to win the prestigious title. I must admit that I was among the thousands who had voted for her.

My brief encounter with her brought me such a pleasant experience. It was on the 25th of March, 2021. She was sitting with her manager at a breakfast table in the Feringgi Grill at Shangri-La's Rasa Sayang Resort and Spa. Couldn't believe my eyes at first. But how could one ever miss her smiles!

I braved myself and went up to her, asking if she would mind lending her beautiful self who was clad in the Adidas shirt to be photographed with the super-excited me. I bet she has experienced similar situations millions of times before with her admirers and fans. So, she took my 'proposal' very professionally and even suggested better spots for the photos to turn out well.

In our short conversation, she asked me where I resided and upon knowing I am stationed in Bukit Mertajam, she told me her mom was a teacher in one of the schools there and that her parents now live in Butterworth. She shared her gratitude to be able to fly home after being in Colombia for some time because of the Covid-19 pandemic. I didn't want to take too much of her time but her congeniality made me wish for a longer chat.



The writer with Nicol David

She added that though she officially hung up her squash racquet, she is now busy with her Nicol David Foundation through which she aims to empower youth to become significant in the community via the values of sports, to communicate well, to celebrate the differences of cultures, and many more.

Having completed the Positive Psychology course and believing that it is the low time which could actually carve one to be stronger and achieve greater success, Nicol is now active doing motivational talks. She wants to reach to as many as possible to share her experiences with.

It then quickly came to my mind what I read in one of her FB posts: "So many times we rapidly say – 'No, that can't be done', 'Why try if you won't get it' and the list continues. We need to build together a place where we give more space for positivity."

That's Nicol David! The ever-smiling darling who is full of positivity. The encounter, though brief, was sublimed by her spirit.

Lecturer's Contribution #4

PELAJARAN MAMPU MENGUBAH MASA DEPAN ANGAH KYOIKU WA ANGAH NO MIRAI WO HENKOU SURU KOTO

by 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 *Alien registration*.

Hari tu aku bercerita tentang anak Y2K, kali ini izinkan aku bercerita tentang anak Pre-Y2K tu pula, walaupun bukan tahun 1996 tapi aku sebut pre Y2K sebab berkongsi tajuk yang hampir sama dengan anak Y2K e-buletin terbitan Jan 2021. Kalau yang membaca penulisan santai aku, dia faham lah.

1996 : Tahun kelahiran.

2003 : Tahun 1 Sek. Ren. Keb. Convent Father Barre, Sungai Petani.

2009 : Tingkatan 1 Sek.Men.Kebangsaan Ibrahim, Sungai Petani.

2016 : Tahun pertama di universiti.

2021 : Berijazah dalam perubatan....zass!!! nak ceriter hal sekolah nanti pembaca lena pula ☺



Ma!!! Buaya atas jalan ma!!!Ma hujung minggu pergi Kampong budaya, Ma midin sedap tau. Ma mee kolok ummmph!!Ma kami ditempatkan di Kolej Chempaka, (ada perkataan-perkataan yang membuatkan pembaca dapat agak dah dimana latar kejadian aa). Ma jangan risau ada makanan, café buka, Ma!! ok boleh absorb jer tak susah pun...Ma! kelas tak der aircond. Ma! penat berkejar Samarahan - Kuching – Samarahan, tak sempat makan. Ma! Banjir air masuk enjin kereta, lucky boleh jalan juga kereta, (selang seminggu) Ma! banjir lagi but luckily I parked my car at the higher spot (tetiba penulis berbahasa Inggeris, anak pre-Y2K bolehlah Englishnya, tapi tak lah searas para pembaca budiman yang berbahasa Inggeris tu semudah mengunyah kacang) tapi anak pre Y2K ni pun so so lah.. tahap better to express herself in English than Malay (cewahhh sila pembaca angankan gaya artis kita buat statement gempar suatu ketika dulu – jangan kecam penulis ☺). Ma, gastric and migraine..tak cukup tidur, tak sempat makan, tak, tak,tak....bla-bla. Nada anak pre Y2K dah berlainan berbanding tahun 1,2,3 pada mulanya. Banyak cabaran berepisod dan bersiri-siri.



Kalau tulis panjang pun editor potong juga jadi kita skip ke tahun akhir Januari 2020 ye (sebenarnya mama dah lost track bila tahun akhir bermula, mana ada editornya, so supaya senang untuk dibayangkan pembaca, kita andaikan bermula pada Jan 2020). Dari tahun 3 lagi dah dipindahkan ke **City Campus** di Kuching, kalau di Universiti Malaya seperti **Kolej Ibnu Sina** lah kan, kalau bagi contoh **Saga Daigaku ii Ngakubu** (Faculty of Medicine) rasanya penulis jer yang boleh bayangkan...cewah no 2, ibu kepada anak pre Y2K ni pula lulusan dari Jepun, rakan-rakan korang lah, staf APB juga, yang mengajar bahasa Jepun kat UiTM CPP, (maaf yer... sambung lah

baca).

bersambung di halaman berikut ...

Ikut jadual akademik UNIMAS, anak pre Y2K akan bergraduasi pada Ogos 2021, tapi aku pasti bukanlah pada tanggal 31 bulan 8, 57 (baca nada lagu Sudirman). So bak kata orang sekarang, pulun, maka anak pre Y2K pun pulun lah untuk bergraduasi seperti yang senat tulis dalam kalendar akademik. Seperti biasa, belajar, belajar dan belajar. 19 Feb 2021 aku berKARISTA di UiTM Samarahan Sarawak. So jumpalah lah dengan anak di hari tanpa kuliah. Ketika itu kami para peserta KARISTA dah pakai mask di Sarawak (kira a step ahead daripada semenanjung tau). Dah dengar WOOOHANNN, dah dengar pandemik, dah dengar kluster petaling/tabligh... walau bagaimanapun bola boling tetap dibaling walaupun sasaran pin bowling tak terpelanting!!! Masih di fiesta tetiba dengar ada 2 kematian dah di Malaysia.

KARISTA tahun 2020 aku pulang tanpa apa-apa kejayaan (tahun-tahun selepasnya gitu juga tapi sekurang-kurangnya dapat juga ke level pro-game –dalam kalangan peserta UiTM ja lah). 18 Mar 2020 kerajaan isytihar PKP seluruh negara, maka berdongong lah para pelajar dihantar pulang termasuk anak pre Y2K. Tinggal sekeluarga hingga Jun 2020 dipanggil semula pulang ke kampus. Hanya pelajar jurusan perubatan (kalau UiTM CPP macam students hotel dan lab engineering). Sudah tentu jadual bergraduasi berubah, dari Ogos ke Disember. Dalam pada sedang ikuti kelas, kes covid meningkat, Dean buat keputusan semua pelajar perubatan dilarang memasuki hospital. Tergendala lagi, ini bererti jadual juga turut dianjak. Selepas 2 minggu dibenarkan semula untuk menjalankan kuliah dan sesi memeriksa pesakit. Begitulah jadual tergendala, dibenarkan semula, tergendala, dipanggil semula beberapa kali.

Hatta di minggu peperiksaan pun, pelajar sedang menduduki beberapa sesi peperiksaan, tiba-tiba jumlah kes di Kuching bertambah dan peperiksaan serta merta ditangguh. Dah jadi macam universiti ikut arahan covid ☺. Yang nak aku ceritakan kan di sini, bayangkan kalau kita dah pulun study tetiba tunda seminggu, tak ker stress, jadi berdongong-dongong lagi para pelajar yang stress ni terperap di hostel. Walau bagaimanapun, dengan kebijaksanaan Ketua Menteri Sarawak yang mengambil pendekatan tegas, melaksanakan kuarantin 2 minggu, sekatan jalanraya dan larangan rentas daerah/negeri, maka dengan izin Allah jua, jumlah kes didapati menurun. Maka dengan itu, dipendekkan cerita, anak pre Y2K dapat menduduki professional exam (final exam lah kut, medical terms bunyi gitu agaknya). Dengan kehendak Allah jua lah setelah PELBAGAI rintangan diberinya, akhirnya kejayaan pun turut diberikannya.

12hb Mar 2021, aku berada di tapak lokasi USR peringkat APB iaitu di Madrasah Tahfiz Jabal Nur di Sungai Petani, aku menerima berita daripada anak pre-Y2K yang menyatakan bahawa dirinya sudah lulus dalam pembelajaran di bidang perubatan.

[09:50, 3/14/2021] Angah: Hi anyone who wants to work at Hospital Seberang Jaya as research officer can pm me.

[09:50, 3/14/2021] Hospital Seberang Jaya:

Hi yes , can you tell me brief info, name where and when you graduated from, how long can you work. What you want to know. Can send me ur resume

[09:50, 3/14/2021] Angah: Woooo ada potential part time job already for me, haha. So, mostly I help there.

So, kita tunggu dan lihat naaa... sekian rakan-rakan, terima kasih sudi baca.



Wear a Mask

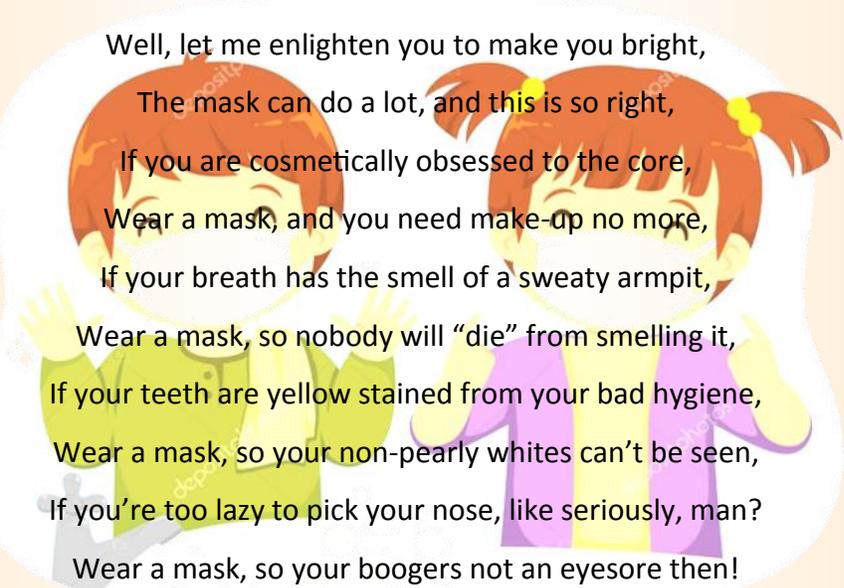
by Noraziah Mohd Amin



Okay, so you're as stubborn as a mule,
And you think wearing a mask isn't cool,
That it does little to stop Covid-19 spread,
Well, perhaps you're not the sharpest tool in the shed!
Just a simple task, but you have much to ask,

“Why do we need to wear a mask?”

Well, let me enlighten you to make you bright,
The mask can do a lot, and this is so right,
If you are cosmetically obsessed to the core,
Wear a mask, and you need make-up no more,
If your breath has the smell of a sweaty armpit,
Wear a mask, so nobody will “die” from smelling it,
If your teeth are yellow stained from your bad hygiene,
Wear a mask, so your non-pearly whites can't be seen,
If you're too lazy to pick your nose, like seriously, man?
Wear a mask, so your boogers not an eyesore then!



If you are not friendly and rarely smile,
Wear a mask, so no one will call you hostile,
If you talk loudly and your voice is annoying,
Wear a mask, so no one's ear drum is hurting,
Now think about all these, if not Covid-19 virus,
As wearing a mask can do much for all of us,
So, what are you still waiting for?

Get a mask and wear it, not like before!



Semboyan Kemerdekaan

oleh Che Nooryohana Zulkifli



Begitulah setiap kali
Sorakan demi sorakan,
Bergema, bertempik di pelosok negara,
Melaungkan "Merdeka, merdeka!"



31 Ogos itu amat berharga,
Statusnya mahal tidak wajar dijaja murah,
Kelak hari yang bermakna menjadi biasa,
Ayuh kita selami sedalamnya,
"Apakah itu kemerdekaan negara?"

Mereka berkata inilah cinta,
Mereka yang tidak mengerti mampu tertawa dan bersorak ria,
Manakan tidak?

Penghayatan jiwa diganti percuma,
Jari-jemari bebas di papan kunci semata,
"Selamat Hari Kemerdekaan Rakyat Malaysia!"



Kita perlukan lebih dari itu,
Bukan sekadar semboyan,
Jauh sekali laungan "Merdeka" semata!



Ketika tanah ini dicemari darah,
Ketika belukar belum jua ditarah,
Kita mampu bangkit berjuang sehingga parah jiwa digasak!
Namun kini setelah kemakmuran dalam genggaman,
Berita dunia sekelip mata tiba di telinga,
Iktisad negara menjana juta,
Kealpaan juga semakin berkuasa,
Membawa pergi jiwa kesyukuran dengan jayanya!

Jiwa kita perlukan longgokan cinta,
Membela bangsa dan maruah dari binasa!
Ayuh bangkitlah, rakyat Malaysia!
Bersihkan jiwa, hapuskan sengketa,
Belum tentu lama kita di dunia,
Buktikan kita bangsa yang mulia,
Lenyapkan noda, kurangkan dosa.



Penghayatan bukan sekadar semboyan,
Bukan jua temasya perbarisan di setiap sempadan,
Hati yang bongkak perlu ditundukkan,
Luhurkan jiwa dengan kesyukuran dan kejujuran,
Demi sebuah jatidiri, ibu pertiwi yang tercinta!



Benarkan Kebenaran

oleh Che Nooryohana Zulkifli

*Tuturlah dengan bibirmu,
Anugerah Tuhan yang tiada galang gantinya,
Usah bejatkan maksudmu dengan jarimu.
Aku di sini masih menanti,
Tutur katamu yang bisa menyentuh hati.*

*Aku kira kau suka begitu,
Pandanganmu ditundukkan dan aku rasa dipulaukan.
Ceritaku tidak lagi memukau,
Kerana di jarimu itu kelihatan lebih menawan.*

*Aku tidak mampu bangkit tanpa pandanganmu,
Tatapanmu seperti santapan yang mengenyangkan jiwaku.
Aku perlukan kau di sisiku,
Untuk terus harukan hatiku dengan kasihmu.*

*Ayah, bisakah kau tegur aku ketika aku salah pertimbangan?
Ibu, nampakkah dikau pemberontakan ini disengajakan?
Adakah aku keterlaluan sekiranya aku hanya minta suaramu di telingaku?
Sekiranya mahal, sudikah dikau khabarkan harga yang kumampu?*

*Sambutlah tanganku ketika hanya sebelah kakiku yang tersepit,
Janganlah kau biarkan tanah yang padu ini terus menyedut tubuhku.
Panggillah namaku ketika arahku masih benar,
Kerana selainmu, kebenaran jiwa ini mampu ditumpaskan.*



LIMA

by Dr. Rofiza Aboo Bakar

SATU

*Mulut membungkam
Hati mencengkam
Jiwa suram
Bahagia terpadam*

1

DUA

*Syukurlah diberi nyawa
136 000 denyutan jantung sehari
Syukur bisa mendengar derai tawa
Mampu juga tegak berdiri*

2

TIGA

*Peringatan untuk diriku
Rebutlah lima sebelum lima
Mujahadah selalu
Kerna aku aslama*

3

EMPAT

*Fajar dan Asar
Usah tersasar
Jika melangkah ke surau
Jiwa sukar kacau*

4

LIMA

*Berikanku kekuatan
Berfikir dalam kewarasan
Bertugas penuh keikhlasan
Bepergian dengan aman*

5