



FACULTY OF MUSIC
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

PROBLEMS FACED DURING PRACTICES AMONG
FLUTE STUDENTS IN FACULTY OF MUSIC UiTM
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ACADEMIC PROJECT

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to identify the problems faced by flute students during practice as well as to identify the techniques used among students from the Faculty of Music in UiTM Shah Alam. The findings of the study hope to benefit the students and educators at large and also to reduce the problems that occur during practice. Additionally, students can also enhance their knowledge towards understanding the existing techniques. This study employed a qualitative research design where interviews were conducted on six flute players who faced with problems while embarking on the Degree in Music Education and Degree in Music Performance at the time this study was conducted.

The findings of the study revealed numerous findings in terms of the problems encounter by the students. This includes difficulties in tuning, tempo, breathing, fingering, dynamics and other related problems. From this research, it was also found that there were a number of techniques employed by the students to tackle the problems which includes more training, practices according to etude books, arpeggios and also scales. Students also need proper guidelines from lecturers, supplementary tools such as metronome as well as convenient surrounding and training area. Self discipline and focus during practice are seen as important aspects that help to develop the quality of training and to work on weak areas so as not to repeat the same mistakes over and over again.

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INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Music contains a number of musical elements which includes musicality towards music played as well as music that is to be heard by listeners around us. The internal skills may produce individuals who possess a sense of musicality such as listening to different kinds of music, creating, composing performances, learning musical theories and continuous learning in music. According to Reimer (2004), student excellence and ability can be realized through appropriate education. Apart from that, students need assistance during practise session such as experienced trainers, suitable locations, self discipline, proper schedule, appropriate ways and techniques, as well as metronome for tempo or piano as a tuning tool for a particular instrument in order to learn music or any musical instrument.

With this in mind, Galeano, David and Lely (2009) also mentioned that the lack of musical instrument may lead to the complexity or difficulty for many students who are in the process of learning music. In addition to that, they do not have a facilitator or an instructor who can motivate and assist them to train properly. As a result, music training activity appears to be difficult and challenging for students due to the lack of well-functioned musical instruments, those borrowed from the faculty and the lack of supplementary tools.

Engaging an individual to play musical instrument or being involved with music allows a person to possess more sense of musicality. This includes playing with dynamicity, listening well and also composing a song into a more interesting piece and at the same time, maintains the originality of the music. Based on a research conducted by Jaffurs (2004), a person with a sense