



LANGUAGE GAMES - A MOTIVATIONAL TECHNIQUE IN
TEACHING WRITING. A STUDY ON THE YEAR 5B
STUDENTS OF SEKOLAH KEBANGSAAN SIOL KANAN,
KUCHING.

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APRIL 2006

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A B S T R A C T

Writing ability is crucial to a child's ability to learn. Year 5B students usually feel bored in writing lessons because they have not changed their learning habits, such as writing words on paper, trying to learn by heart or passively memorize through the teacher's explanations. To help students find language classes, especially writing lessons more interesting, and to achieve more from games, the researcher conducted this study to unravel if language games could help students learn writing effectively. The analysis gathered reflected the students' weakness in mastering the target language that could lead to their disinterest in writing. Classroom observations, comments from class teachers and information drawn from questionnaires distributed to the students provide the evidence. Despite the low proficiency level in English, the students cooperated in the study and completed the task given. The use of various techniques designed to improve their ability to write are also described. The justification for using games in the classroom has been well demonstrated as benefiting students in a variety of ways. These benefits range from cognitive aspects of language learning to more cooperative group dynamics. Implications of the study are also highlighted and several recommendations with regard to the writing was proposed.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

**1.0 Language games - a motivational technique to teach writing in
English**

It has been pointed out that students who are not motivated in school works find plenty of motivation in playing games. Learning experience should provide as much fun as possible. Consideration that learning tasks like learning definition, grammar, vocabulary are boring perhaps reflects the emotional state and experience of the learner. As for the educator, energetic teaching is a motivating factor in itself by adding ideas to further enhance learning and commitment to the ideas. This study will endeavor and examine the theoretical analyses and empirical results on the use of language games to motivate students in their quest to master the art of writing.

CHAPTER 2

2.0 REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The review takes consideration on the approaches, theories and literature relevant to the topic under investigation in the present study and researches done previously in relation to the working title.

2.1 English Language, its importance

English, once regarded as the language of colonialism, is now regarded as the passport to success in the modern world. 'We should not be shy to say English is a Malaysian language. English may have been the language of the colonial masters, but it was also the language which our founding fathers acquired, took to London, and returned as masters of their own land" Datuk Hishammuddin Hussein, Education Minister Malaysia.

The frenzy to catch up with English is more than just palpable. In her (Malaysia) quest to be a competitive knowledge-based economy with a world-class force, the government decision to take the drastic step in 2003 to teach technical subjects in a non-mother tongue with the pursuit