



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**TEACHERS AWARENESS ON DYSLEXIA AMONG
PUPILS OF SK GAYU, PADAWAN**

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April 2008

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) defined literacy as "...the ability to identify, understand, interpret, create, communicate and compute, using printed and written materials associated with varying contexts. Literacy involves a continuum of learning to enable an individual to achieve his or her goals, to develop his or her knowledge and potential, and to participate fully in the wider society."

In 1993 the World Education Report revealed that Malaysia had the lowest literacy rate (78.4%) as compared to other Southeast Asian neighbours, namely, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines (Halimah Badioze Zaman, 1998). However, by the year 2005 the rate had increased to 88.7% as reported in the 2007/2008 Human Development Report. Although there has been an increase in the number of literacy, it does not mean that the remaining 11.3% illiterates should be ignored. Kofi Annan states that "literacy is the prerequisite for a healthy, just and prosperous world". It is a tool for development to raise economic productivity, which is why we send our children to school.

Several contributing factors had been identified as to why some Malaysians are still illiterate and one of it is due to Dyslexia. Contrary to some of the negative perceptions people have on Dyslexia, according to The Chambers Pocket 20th Century Dictionary

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter begins by looking at the various definitions of Dyslexia, then the causes and characteristics of Dyslexia, followed by the effects of Dyslexia, and finally, the possible factors preventing the teachers of SK Gayu, Padawan from overcoming Dyslexia.

2.1 Definitions of Dyslexia

The word 'Dyslexia' comes from the Greek words 'dys' (impaired) and 'lexis' (word) and was coined by Rudolf Berlin in 1887.

Dyslexia has been defined in several ways. Below are just some of the definitions given by several groups of researchers;

According to the Wikipedia dictionary Dyslexia is, "a specific learning disability that manifests primarily as a difficulty with written language, particularly with reading and spelling." Similarly the Columbia Electronic Encyclopaedia states that in psychology, Dyslexia is a developmental disability in reading or spelling, generally becoming evident in early schooling.

Crombie (2002) defines it as "...a difficulty with literacy which results in a person requiring a set of accommodations to be made to enable them to demonstrate their abilities."

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the research methodology describing the sample and the instrument used for the data collection. Data collection and data analysis procedures are also mentioned. The primary data was obtained through qualitative method, while the secondary data was obtained through literature review of various websites, books and journals.

3.1 Population and Sampling

The target group for this study are the teachers from SK Gayu, Padawan, Sarawak. There are 13 samples for the study.

The purpose of the study is to determine Dyslexia awareness among teachers of SK Gayu, Padawan, Sarawak, and it is hoped that the outcome of the study will benefit the teachers who are faced with the responsibility of handling Dyslexic pupils.