

7th Malaysia International Conference on  
Languages, Literatures, and Cultures  
(MICOLLAC) 2012

# MICOLLAC 2012

**7th Malaysia International Conference on  
Languages, Literatures, and Cultures**

*Research Rigour, Practicality, and Relevance  
in Current Contexts*

**9 -11 JULY 2012**

**PULLMAN PUTRAJAYA LAKESIDE**



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Organised by Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication,  
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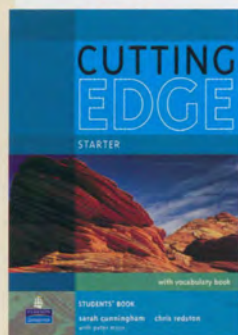
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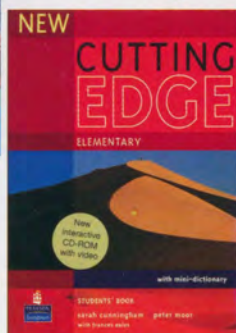
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## MICOLLAC 2012

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**Foreword by  
The Vice Chancellor  
Universiti Putra Malaysia**



Once again I would like to congratulate the MICOLLAC 2012 organising team on their successful convening of yet another Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (MICOLLAC) under the patronage of the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, UPM. The conference is already on its way to become an internationally-reputable academic platform for addressing the ever evolving issues in language, literature and cultural studies. I am glad that the event is in-line with the current aspirations to be a leading institution of research and higher learning on the world stage.

The generation and acquisition of knowledge through R&D activities have always been the way forward to attain any form of progress. We, in UPM, believe that only through such research and practice that we could contribute to the nation and the world at large with advances and innovations in social sciences and humanities to ensure a balanced and sustainable growth in human development in an increasingly material-oriented society. Events such as MICOLLAC are excellent avenues for academics and professionals to share and to exchange views, and subsequently collaborate in research, publications and best practices to address such challenges.

Therefore, it is my hope that MICOLLAC would result in extensive networking among professionals and practitioners in all relevant fields and generate sequels of collaborative research and publications which is the conference's primary goal.

I would like to show my gratitude to the featured speakers for accepting our invitation and all other presenters and participants for making this event a success.

I would also like to thank sponsors, contributors, and the organising committee of MICOLLAC 2012 for making the conference possible.

I wish you a rewarding experience at MICOLLAC 2012.

Thank you.

**“WITH KNOWLEDGE WE SERVE”**

Yours sincerely,



**PROF DATO' IR. DR. RADIN UMAR RADIN SOHADI**  
Vice Chancellor

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## MICOLLAC 2012

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**Foreword by  
The Dean  
Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication  
Universiti Putra Malaysia**



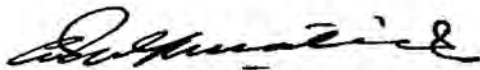
It is with great pleasure that I welcome all of you to the 7<sup>th</sup> Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (MICOLLAC). As the host, it is our ambition at the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, UPM to become one of the highly-sought centres of excellence in language, literature and communication studies. The faculty, thus, aims to actively engage in R&D activities alongside our academic and community services in the relevant areas in accordance with UPM's aspiration to join the ranks of other world-class research universities.

Sustaining progress in research for the advancement of the society is a very challenging goal. Hence, MICOLLAC, which is part of the continuous effort by the Department of English to provide new insights on issues pertaining to language, literature and culture, would bring together local and international academics, educators, planners, and teaching professionals to exchange views on past and current practices in these areas for future innovations. The current conference theme: **Research Rigour, Practicality, and Relevance in Current Contexts** reflects the need to translate research into progress, not only in academia but also in the context of human resource development for the nation. Therefore, it is my ardent hope that MICOLLAC 2012 will continue to be the forum for exchanging ideas, initiating new collaboration and strengthening networking among scholars and professionals.

On a final note, I would like to extend my thanks to the sponsors and congratulate the MICOLLAC organising team for their great effort and strong commitment to continue the tradition of excellence.

I wish you all success in making the conference a fruitful one.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Zamri Ahmad'.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR. ABDUL MUA'TI @ ZAMRI AHMAD**  
Dean  
Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication

**Foreword by  
The Chair of MICOLLAC 2012  
Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication  
Universiti Putra Malaysia**



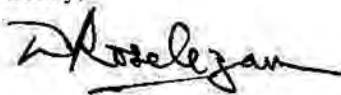
Allow me to begin by welcoming all of you to the gatherings of great minds and individuals, the 7<sup>th</sup> Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures, and Cultures or MICOLLAC 2012. On behalf of the committee members, the Department of English, and the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, I would like to thank you for your participation and contribution to the continuing success of the conference. It is our sincere hope that the conference would provide a conducive environment and opportunities for sharing of ideas and experiences on the latest and reoccurring issues in language, literature and cultural studies.

The conference main theme **Research Rigour, Practicality, and Relevance in Current Contexts** reflects the present worldwide call for a wider role of researchers in developing new ideas and solutions to past and current problems to meet the needs of the present and future society. Unfortunately, research is not always a concept that most practitioners, managers and policy makers see as relevant or crucial. Especially here in the university, too often it is seen as an academic activity conducted by scholars and academicians where the results and significance are confined within the walls of the university or end up as references that only benefit the same scholars and academicians. It is essential that we assess ourselves and the present practice to analyse whether appropriate conduct and measures are already in place to justifying the relevance of research to the everyday citizens we interact with. Thus this conference is important to identify this critical issue among others, and propose legitimate strategies on how to translate findings from studies conducted on languages, literatures and cultures into real concrete progress that would benefit the masses.

MICOLLAC brings together local and international academics, educators, planners, teachers and professionals to exchange views and insights on past and current practices in the areas of language, literature and culture. Attendees will have excellent opportunities to meet colleagues from Malaysia and other parts of the world.

Once again I would like to express my sincere gratitude to generous sponsors, the Department of English, the Faculty, and especially to the MICOLLAC 2012 Organising Team for their dedication and hard work, for without them, this event would not even be possible. Our best wishes for a productive and enjoyable conference.

Sincerely,



**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR. WAN ROSELEZAM WAN YAHYA**  
MICOLLAC 2012 Chair

**MICOLLAC 2012 PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP**  
**VENUE: BILIK SERI AMAR, FACULTY OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND**  
**COMMUNICATION**  
**9 JULY 2012**

| <b>TIME</b>   | <b>PROGRAMME</b>                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00 – 8:30   | Pre-conference Workshop Registration                                                                                                                   |
| 8:30 – 10:30  | <b>Workshop 1</b><br>Analysing Academic and Professional Genres<br>Prof. Dr. Vijay K. Bhatia                                                           |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Tea                                                                                                                                                    |
| 11:00 – 1:00  | <b>Workshop 2</b><br>Research and Academic Writing: To Publish Or Perish?<br>Prof. Dr. Nor Faridah Abdul Manaf                                         |
| 1:00 – 2:30   | Lunch                                                                                                                                                  |
| 2:30 – 4:30   | <b>Workshop 3</b><br>From the 'intercultural' to 'interculturality' – from 'culture' to 'identity'.<br>What research methods?<br>Prof. Dr. Fred Dervin |
| 4:30 – 5:00   | Tea                                                                                                                                                    |

## **Workshop 1**

### **Analysing Academic and Professional Genres**

*Vijay K Bhatia*

Discursive practices in specialised academic and professional contexts are becoming increasingly challenging because of a number of recent developments, including the creative use of new media for information design, the increasing interdisciplinary nature of university academic programmes, and the overwhelming appropriation of generic resources within and across disciplines and domains. As a consequence, the conventional models of discourse and genre analysis are becoming inadequate to meet the challenges of such interdisciplinary and interdiscursive complexities within and across academic and professional discourses. These developments also question some of the practices prevalent in language teaching and learning, which often present language as a monolithic single literacy in second or foreign language. In this workshop, I would like to highlight some of these issues by encouraging the participants to undertake (critical) genre analysis of a selection of texts from specialised contexts in an attempt to create awareness of such complexities and encourage more innovative pedagogic practices.

## **Workshop 2**

### **Research and Academic Writing: To Publish Or Perish?**

*Nor Faridah Abdul Manaf*

No matter how excellent research projects are, they would not get noticed if not written well and published in reputable journals by reputable publishing houses. This 2-hour workshop will highlight upon the importance of publishing early among young researchers, not so much because the academe thrives on research and publication, but also because it is important to share new knowledge to inform and inspire a crooked world. The workshop will examine the dos and don'ts of what makes a publishable article. There will be a hands-on writing session. Please bring a sample of your writing.

### Workshop 3

**From the 'intercultural' to 'interculturality' – from 'culture' to 'identity'.**

**What research methods?**

*Fred Dervin*

This workshop will be of interest to students who are currently working on a topic related to the notion of the 'intercultural'. The lecturer will suggest a move from the 'intercultural' to 'interculturality' in research on otherness and thus substituting the large emphasis on 'culture' in the 'intercultural' with 'identity' in 'interculturality'. The focus will be both on redefining these terms and on research methods. For novice researchers the issue of researching complexity is very challenging and they may find it hard to identify analytical tools that can allow working within complexity, plurality and instability. Different research methods will be discussed and many and varied data will be used to test them. The students will also have an opportunity to work on their own data during the workshop.

## MICOLLAC PROGRAMME

**10-11 JULY 2012**

### Day 1: TUESDAY 10 JULY 2012

| TIME          | PROGRAMME                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | ROOM           |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 7:30 – 9:00   | Registration                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                |
| 9:00 – 9:30   | Parallel Session 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                |
|               | Yong Mei Fung: Using Reflective Journals in Postgraduate Research Methodology Class                                                                                                                                                  | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Belinda Ho: Helping Students Improve the Language of Their Assignments Before Assessment                                                                                                                                             | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Chrysogonus Siddha Malilang: Are We Innocent? : A Post-Structural Critique on Indonesian School of Children's Literature                                                                                                             | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Duangchai Chongthanakorn: Effects of Text Types and English Language Ability Levels on Summary Writing Performance of Thai High School Students                                                                                      | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Mehrak Rahimi & Mahboubeh Hosseini: The Relationship Between Online Information Searching Strategies and EFL Reading Proficiency                                                                                                     | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Jerico Juan Esteron: Linguaging and Ethnifying: The Case of Ilokano Native Speakers in Pangasinan, Philipines                                                                                                                        | Seri Bestari 2 |
| 9:30 – 10:00  | Parallel Session 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                |
|               | Jackie F. K. Lee: Are There Any Changes in Gender Representation in Hong Kong Primary English Textbooks?                                                                                                                             | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Janice Kho-Yar: Teachers' Attitude Towards Computer-Based Teaching and Learning in an Urban Secondary School in Miri District                                                                                                        | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Lalaine F. Yanilla Aquino: Personal and Community Identity as Represented in the Language of Children's Literature                                                                                                                   | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Mairas Abd Rahman: Effective Instructional Approaches in Assisting ESL Learners' Writing Using Blogs                                                                                                                                 | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Noorizah Mohd Noor & Nor Fariza Mohd Nor: Investigating the Reading Practices of International Graduate Students: A Case Study at UKM                                                                                                | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Anne Becker: Formulaic Language: A Comparative Study Between a Japanese Novel and its English Translation                                                                                                                            | Seri Bestari 2 |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Parallel Session 3                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                |
|               | Alice Yin Wa Chan: How Effective Are Monolingual Dictionaries in Helping Advanced Cantonese ESL Learners Determine the Usage of an English Word                                                                                      | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Kamariah Binti Yunus: Malaysian Law Undergraduates' Perception of the Effectives of 'Soft' And 'Hard' DDL Approach in Enhancing the Knowledge of Collocations of Prepositions                                                        | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Nor Azyyati Md Saad & Diane Sima Anak Douglas Telajan: The Effectiveness of Visual Media in Literature-Based Classroom                                                                                                               | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Zarlina Mohd Zamari, Johana Yusof, Rosida Ahmad Junid & Airil Haimi Mohd Adnan: "Publish Or Perish": Challenges in Scholarly Writing and Publishing in Local and International English-Medium Journals among UITM Perak Academicians | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Nurul Izzati Binti Md Fuad: Role Play: Improving Language and Cultural Literacy                                                                                                                                                      | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Ahmad Izadi: Refusals as Preferred Conversational Actions: 'Tæarof' in Persian                                                                                                                                                       | Seri Bestari 2 |

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|               | Posters Session 1                                                                                                                                                                           | Ballroom       |
|               | Farah Ghaderi & Wan Roselezam Wan Yahya: Exoticism in Gertrude Bell's Persian Travel Writing                                                                                                | P1             |
|               | Haslina Omar & Noritah Omar: A Malayan Woman's Life Narrative: World War II                                                                                                                 | P2             |
|               | Aini Andria Shirin Anuarudin, Chan Swee Heng & Ain Nadzimah Abdullah: Exploring Multilingual Acts in Billboard Advertisements: The Linguistics and Code Practices in a Linguistic Landscape | P3             |
|               | Yeganehjoo Masoomeh & Yap Ngee Thai: Idiom Decomposability and the Production of L2 Idiomatic Expressions                                                                                   | P4             |
|               | Forough Barani, Wan Roselezam Wan Yahya, Rosli Bin Talif & Shivani Sivagurunathan: Literary Perspectives on "Dialogical Self": From Theory to Textual Analysis                              | P5             |
|               | Iro Sani, Mardziah Hayati Abdullah, Faiz Sathi Abdullah & Afida Mohamad Ali: Political Cartoons: A Subtle Medium for Political Satire and Public Reorientation                              | P6             |
|               | Zahra Moharrer & Wong Bee Eng: Iranian EFL High School Seniors' Learning Style Preferences in a Web-Based Training Context                                                                  | P7             |
|               | Diana Abu Ujum, Rosli Talif, Arbaayah Ali Termizi & Shivani Sivagurunathan: Social Interactions in Film Adaptations of 'Chick Lit' Novels                                                   | P8             |
|               | R. Lakshmi Priyadarshni, Zalina Mohd Kasim, Afida Mohamad Ali & Mohd Faiz Abdullah: Disease Metaphors in H1N1 News Reports                                                                  | P9             |
|               | Shadi Khojastehrad & Ain Nadzimah Abdullah: The Effect of Context on the Type of Hesitation Strategies Iranian EFL Learners Use in Oral L2 Tests                                            | P10            |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Tea                                                                                                                                                                                         |                |
| 11:00 – 12:00 | Opening Ceremony                                                                                                                                                                            | Ballroom       |
| 12:00 – 1:00  | Keynote Address by Prof. Vijay Bhatia: English in the Changing Context: Issues, Challenges and Opportunities                                                                                | Ballroom       |
| 1:00 – 2:30   | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                       |                |
| 2:30 – 3:00   | Parallel Session 4                                                                                                                                                                          |                |
|               | Revathi Kathir & Jariah Mohd Jan: "Why Don't You Ask Someone Else?": Patterns of Refusal for Request and Invitations Amongst Academics                                                      | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Ideh Akbarpour Tehrani & Wan Fara Adlina Wan Mansor: Developing a Framework for Language Teaching in an Asynchronous Online Environment                                                     | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Aimillia Mohd Ramli : A Comparative Study Between Iqbal's and Browning's Concern With Free-Will Versus Determinism Within the Contexts of Aestheticism and Ethics (Lit)                     | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Lee Geok Imm & Wong Bee Eng: Stance-taking in Argumentative Writing at the Tertiary Level                                                                                                   | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Khairiah Othman & Haslina Mohd Noor: Islamic Terms in English Dictionaries: Are the Definitions Accurate?                                                                                   | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Fatemeh Abdolhamidi: The Strategies Used for Translation of Culture Specific Concepts in Three Persian Translations of 'Pride And Prejudice'                                                | Seri Bestari 2 |
|               | W.S. Kottiwari: The Confluence of Sociological Ideologies and Feminist Literacy Discourses                                                                                                  | Ballroom       |
| 3:00 – 3:30   | Parallel Session 5                                                                                                                                                                          |                |
|               | Yap Ngee Thai: Achieving Research Rigour: Challenges For and Contributions From Linguistic Research in a Multilingual Context among Tertiary ESL Students                                   | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Nadya Supian: Developing Vocabulary Knowledge: The Role of Motivation and Metacognitive Strategy Training                                                                                   | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Hasyimah Binti Mohd Amin: Identity Loss and The Spirit of Nationalism: Exploring James Baldwin's Another Country and Paul Gilroy's The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double-Consciousness   | Seri Perdana 3 |

|             |                                                                                                                                                                                  |                |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|             | Lee Mun Yee, Choy Siew Chee & Daljeet Singh Sedhu: Effects on Paraphrasing Skills When Students Use Culturally and Contextually Familiar Text                                    | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Lalitha Velautham: Investigating The Use of an Online Discussion Tool to Enhance Communication Across Cultures in Postgraduate Supervision                                       | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Muneera Muftah & Wong Bee Eng: English Morphosyntactic Features of Past and Non-Past Tense and Agreement in the Interlanguage of L1 Arabic Speakers                              | Seri Bestari 2 |
|             | Upah, Butari Nahum: Context of Situation in the Use of Jukun Proverbs: A Pragmatic Approach                                                                                      | Ballroom       |
| 3:30 – 4:00 | Parallel Session 6                                                                                                                                                               |                |
|             | Tengku Intan Suzila Tengku Sharif, Mohd Yusri Mohamd Noor & Badli Esham Ahmad: Batek in Motion: Lexicon and Loanwords                                                            | Seri Perdana 1 |
|             | Noorlinda Alang: Speaking Assessment: Raters' Variation in Construing the Rubrics                                                                                                | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Saabdev Kumar Sabapathy: Developing Students' Cultural Awareness through the Use of The Novel 'The Namesake' by Jhumpa Lahiri in the Literature Classroom                        | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Sahar Naderi: The Role of Conjunctions in Cohesion Structuring in Academic Writings of Persian Students in Malaysia                                                              | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Nalini Arumugam & Geraldine De Mello: It Takes Two to Tango: Academic Environment @ Social Skills                                                                                | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Sabariah Md Rashid & Nurul Nadia Muhammad: Animal Metaphors of Malay Domesticated Animals                                                                                        | Seri Bestari 2 |
|             | Poster Session 2                                                                                                                                                                 | Ballroom       |
|             | Abdul Ghani Abu: Analysing Characters in QWERTYUIOP-Taking Cues from Other People's Perspectives                                                                                 | P11            |
|             | Gerard Hearne: Horse Trough Or Bain Linguistique? The Use of English and French For Teaching French at Lancaster University                                                      | P12            |
|             | Nahid Shahbazi Moghadam, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Rosli Talif & Shivani Sivagurunathan: Exploitation of the Grotesque: Queer Eroticism in Ian Mcewan's Selected Short Stories       | P13            |
|             | Chuah Ek Lon, Chan Swee Heng, Ain Nadzimah & Helen Tan: Negotiating Abstract Writing in Technical Papers                                                                         | P14            |
|             | Janaki Ragawan & Yap Ngee Thai: Influence of Native Phonotactic Constraints on the Perception of English Voicing by Malay and Tamil Speakers in Malaysia                         | P15            |
|             | Lam Yik San, Helen Tan, Chan Swee Heng & Ain Nadzimah Abdullah: A Comparative Study of the Rhetorical Moves in Engineering Published Research Articles and Students' Term Papers | P16            |
|             | Mohammadsaleh Sanatifar: Identification and Formulation of Norms in Technical Translation and Applications in Technical Translation Quality Improvement: A DTS-Based Approach    | P17            |
|             | Sorour Karampour Dashti & Wan Roselezam Wan Yahya: Ines of My Soul by Isabel Allende: An Ethnographic Approach                                                                   | P18            |
|             | Sheela Paramasivam & Nursyuhada Md Radzi: Linguistic and Stylistic Features of Airline Slogans                                                                                   | P19            |
|             | Hamid Farahmandian: Miguel Street: Deep Tragedy in The Hearth of Overstated Humor                                                                                                | P20            |
| 4:00 – 5:00 | Plenary Session 1 By Dr. Ain: Why Bother with Sociolinguistics and Sociolinguistics Research?                                                                                    | Ballroom       |
| 5:00 – 5:30 | Parallel Session 7                                                                                                                                                               |                |
|             | Ida Baizura Bahar: Sustaining Diversities Through Understandings of Islam within Malayness: Reflections in Anthony Burgess' The Malayan Trilogy                                  | Seri Perdana 1 |

|             |                                                                                                                                                                 |                |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|             | Khaled Abkar Al-Kodimi: Sonallah Ibrahim the Voice of Resistance: Intertextuality, Symbolism and the Roots of the Revolution                                    | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Zulkifli-bin Mohamad: Staging Inter-Culturalism and Multi-Culturalism in "Terompah Manek"(Beaded Slippers) Theatre Education Project                            | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Wan Fara Adlina Wan Mansor, Hema Rosheny Mustafa & Mohamad Hassan Zakaria: The Use of Literary Works and the Development of Tertiary and Pedagogical Literacies | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Mansour Amini, Noraini Ibrahim-Gonzalez & Leelany Ayob: Quality of Interpreting from Users' Perspectives                                                        | Seri Bestari 1 |
| 5:30 – 6:00 | Tea                                                                                                                                                             |                |

## Day 2: WEDNESDAY 11 JULY 2012

| TIME        | PROGRAMME                                                                                                                                                                                     | ROOM           |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 8:00 – 8:30 | Parallel Session 8                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
|             | Ahmed Khorsheed & Sabariah Md Rashid: Effects of Context on the Computation of Scalar Implicatures by Adult Malay Learners of English                                                         | Seri Perdana 1 |
|             | Mary Siew-Lian Wong: Language Anxiety Coping Strategies of Pre-Service Teachers of English                                                                                                    | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Elham Mohammadi Achachelooei: Saviour As a Uniting Voice of Self and the Other: Octavia Butler's Parable of The Sower                                                                         | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Chanata Somanawattana: An Analysis of English Expressions Used by Sellers at Suanlum Night Bazaar, Bangkok                                                                                    | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Sasigaran Moneyam & Tunku Mohani Tunku Mohtar: Fairness in Assessment                                                                                                                         | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Tay Li Chia, Chan Mei Yuit, Yap Ngee Thai & Wong Bee Eng: The Use of Discourse Particles in Facebook Wall Posts Among Chinese Malaysian Youth                                                 | Seri Bestari 2 |
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Parallel Session 9                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
|             | Emily Abd Rahman, Ganakumaran Subramaniam & Nur Khadirah Abdul Rahman: Perceptions of Varieties of Spoken English                                                                             | Seri Perdana 1 |
|             | Siti Hawa Muhamad & Maryam Hamzah: Barriers in Implementing ICT in the Teaching of Literature in Selangor International Islamic University College Literature Classrooms                      | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Fatemah Saber: Bakhtin's Dialogism In Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Female Speculative Fiction                                                                                                   | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Monirosadat Hosseini & Mohamad Jafre Zainol Abedin: Writing Skill and Content Scores of English Essay Test: Is There Any Relation?                                                            | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Hong-Keun Park: Dependencies In Wh-Interrogatives                                                                                                                                             | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Shamala Paramasivam, Ang Lay Hoon & Noor Aina Dani: Variants to Collectivism Across Cultures in Negotiation Communication                                                                     | Seri Bestari 2 |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | Parallel Session 10                                                                                                                                                                           |                |
|             | Taw Ly Wen, Chan Swee Heng & Yong Mei Fung: Request Strategies Used by Malaysian ESL Learners of Four Proficiency Levels                                                                      | Seri Perdana 1 |
|             | Taher Bahrani & Tam Shu Sim: Exposure to Audiovisual Programmes as Authentic Language Input and Language Learning in Informal Setting                                                         | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Fatma Taher: Hoda Barakat's Tiller of the Waters and The Stone of Laughter: A Reflection on Gender and Sexism in Time of Wars                                                                 | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Nor Azikin Mohd Omar & Jariah Mohd Jan: Humour In Meetings: A Case Study of Power and Solidarity in the Malaysian Academic Context                                                            | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Sholpan Zharkynbekova, Aliya Aimoldina & Damira Akynova: About the Ethnic and Linguistic Identity of Ethnic Groups in Kazakhstan (on the example of the Russian, Polish and Korean Diasporas) | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Bernard Delpeche: Multiculturalism and Academic Transmigration: The Case of African Nova Scotian Scholars                                                                                     | Seri Bestari 2 |

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|               | Shabbir Admed: Testing System At S.S.C Examination and Its Wash Back                                                                                                                                                   | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Hardev Kaur Jujar Singh & Manimangai Mani: Apartheid and the Reconciliation Process in Post-Apartheid South Africa                                                                                                     | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Thusha Rani Rajendra: Multimodality in the Malaysian Literature Classroom: An Analysis of Visual Representation in a Selected Graphic Novel                                                                            | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Suzana Mohammad & Azhar Jasim Al-Zubeidi: The Protagonist /Antagonist Demolished Distinction Line A Critical Analysis of Characterization in the Social Dramas of Henrik Ibsen, George Bernard Shaw, and Arthur Miller | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Swagata Sinha Roy & Kavitha Subaramaniam: Revisiting Identities – “Sambalizing” The Malaysian Persona                                                                                                                  | Seri Bestari 2 |
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|               | Ng Xin Jing, Janaki Ragawan & Yap Ngee Thai: Orthographic and Phonological Influences in a Madarin Lexical Decision Task Among L1 and L2 Chinese Mandarin Learners                                                     | P24            |
|               | Mozhdeh Alizadeh Shirazi & Farhang Koohestanian: Failed Individuation of Modern Man: A Jungian Approach to 1984                                                                                                        | P25            |
|               | Nur Khadirah Ab.Rahman, Ganakumaran Subramaniam & Emily Abd Rahman: Motivation and Attitudes Towards Learning English among Computer Science Students of the National Defense University of Malaysia (NDUM)            | P26            |
|               | Pramita Kaur Sidhu, Chong Seng Tong, Ng Yu Jin & Mohd Ariff Ahmad Tramizi: Tragedy Across Time and Space: A Comparative Analysis of Oedipus Rex and Ibu Mertuaku                                                       | P27            |
|               | Saman Shariati-Rad: The Mechanics of Racial Discrimination in Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun; A New Historicist Study                                                                                        | P28            |
|               | Abeer Z. A. Alhossary: Representations of "Palestinian Prisoners-Shalit Swap" in Selected Arab and Israeli Online News Articles                                                                                        | P29            |
|               | Chiew Fen Ng & Poh Kiat Ng: Enhancing English Proficiency: A Conceptual Framework on Teaching Strategies                                                                                                               | P30            |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Tea                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                |
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| 11:30 – 12:00 | Poster Session 4                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Ballroom       |
|               | Fatemeh Rezaee, Rosli Talif, Wan Roselezam Binti Wan Yahaya & Arbaayah Ali Termizi: Hardy as a Loyal Deputy of the Dominant Group: An Althusserian Analysis of The Return of the Native                                | P31            |
|               | Mehdi Gran Hemat, Chan Swee Heng, Ain Nadzimah Abdullah & Helen Tan: Methodological Issues in the Examination of the Interplay of Language Policy, Ethnic Identity and National Identity                               | P32            |
|               | Susan Taha: Interpreting Melville's Typee: A Victorian Age Journey to Understanding Savage: Civilized Societies                                                                                                        | P33            |
|               | Mohsen Khehri, Seyed Jamal Ebrahimi & Chan Swee Heng: Patterning of Interactive Metadiscourse Markers in Result and Discussion Actions of Academic Research Articles Across Disciplines                                | P34            |
|               | Mona Modarresi, Rosli Bin Talif & Wan Roselezam Wan Yahya: The Status of Identity in Postmodern Society: The Study of Hunter Thompson's Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas                                                 | P35            |
|               | Mostafa Farshbaf Khelejani & Wan Roselezam Wan Yahya: Schopenhauer's Philosophy of Pessimism on George Eliot's Characterization in Silas Marner                                                                        | P36            |
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|               | Saiful Amin Jalun & Faiz Sathi Abdullah: Linguistic Dimensions of Discursive Dynamism in Motions of the University Parliamentary Debate as Speech Genre                                                                                                                        | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Niveen R.M Elshaw & Sana'a Abou Dagga: The Place of Culture in the Palestinian ELT Textbooks in High School Level                                                                                                                                                              | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Rafat Hajizadeh: Simone De Beauvoir's Notions of Transcendence/ Immanence in Forugh Farrokhzad's Poems                                                                                                                                                                         | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Lim Sep Neo & Regis Machart: Adaptation to Addressee in a Second Language: Intentions of Students from East and West Malaysia                                                                                                                                                  | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Jeremiah S. Methuselah: Masculine Women Female Men: A Study of the Construction of Power in Selected Nigerian Plays by Women                                                                                                                                                   | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Thamarai Selvi & Pathuri Madhuri Devi: Daring to Break Convention- The Tragedy of Sylvia Plath                                                                                                                                                                                 | Seri Bestari 2 |
|               | Mohamad Hassan Zakaria: Making Meanings out of Language of Diversity within the Context of a Malaysian University                                                                                                                                                              | Ballroom       |
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|               | Xavier Lin: The Missing Link: The Place of Translation Studies in the Curriculum of Humanities                                                                                                                                                                                 | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Lale Massiha: Feminine Joyce and the Unreadable Finnegans Wake                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Pabiyah Hajimaming@Toklubok, Zalina Mohd Kasim & Kamariah Kamarudin: Islamization of Knowledge in Novels Impuls/Roh and Bimasakti Menari by Sri Rahayu Mohd Yusop                                                                                                              | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Farhang Koohestanian & Noritah Omar: Almayr's Folly: Conrad's Investigation into Modern Man's Unpromising Fate                                                                                                                                                                 | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Shaghayegh Mollarezaei: A Gang Boy in Search of Identity: Billy's Character Development in Doctorow's Billy Bathgate                                                                                                                                                           | Seri Bestari 2 |
|               | Samira Yadollahi & Wan Fara Adlina Wan Mansor: The Factors that Affect Non-Native Students' Tendency to Commit Plagiarism                                                                                                                                                      | Ballroom       |
| 12:30 – 1:00  | Parallel Session 14                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                |
|               | Irish Chan Sioson: "Yah, Kuya, Yeah 'Pre, Yo Bro". Exploring Age-Based Differences in Pinoy Big Brother Teen and Regular Edition                                                                                                                                               | Seri Perdana 1 |
|               | Lim Peng Han: Colonising Mass Vernacular Schools, Language, Literature and Culture During European and Japanese Colonial Rule in British Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies, 1867-1949: The Underdevelopment of Indigenous Printing and Publishing in the Malay Achipalego | Seri Perdana 2 |
|               | Manimangai Mani & Hardev Kaur Juar Singh: Caryl Phillips's Novels: A Reminder of a Forgotten Issue                                                                                                                                                                             | Seri Perdana 3 |
|               | Rohani Binti Embong & Hanita Hassan: Representation of Malay Traditional Culture in Lat's Cartoons                                                                                                                                                                             | Seri Perdana 4 |
|               | Lusia Neti Harwati: Preserving Local Culture in Globalization Era                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Seri Bestari 1 |
|               | Patrick P. S. Yeoh, Arbaayah Ali Termizi & Shivani Sivagurunathan: Making A Case For Sarawakian Literature in English (SLIE): A Personal Viewpoint                                                                                                                             | Seri Bestari 2 |
| 1:00 – 2:30   | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                |
| 2:30 – 3:00   | Poster Session 5                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                |
|               | Zarlina Mohd Zamari, Shantie Supramaniam & Airil Haimi Mohd Adnan: "Definitely English, Never Tamil": Language Choices of Young University Educated Indian Learners in Perak                                                                                                   | P41            |
|               | Zanyar Kareem Abdul & Rohimmi Noor: Parental Relationship and the Language of Roddy Doyle's Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha                                                                                                                                                              | P42            |
|               | Zahra Shahsavari & Tan Bee Hoon: Applying Socratic Questioning on Blog: Does It Enhance Students' Critical Thinking?                                                                                                                                                           | P43            |

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|             | Seyed Foad Abrahimi & Chan Swee Heng: Manifestations of the Theme as point of Departure in the Result and Discussion Section of Academic Research Articles | P44            |
|             | Tengku Intan Suzila Tengku Sharif, Mohd Yusri Mohamd Noor & Badli Esham Ahmad: Language Change or Preference: The Batek Aslian Names                       | P45            |
|             | Parallel Session 15                                                                                                                                        |                |
|             | Alireza Jalilifar & Yousef Savaedi: The Attitudinal Language of Presidential Campaign Speeches                                                             | Seri Perdana 1 |
|             | Sudharani Subramanian: Teaching Language and Beyond                                                                                                        | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Mi-Kyoung Jeon: The Life and Career Choices of Gentry Sons in Jane Austen's Novels                                                                         | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Masoud Sharififar & Fateme Zand: Translation of a Woman Writer's Language and Perspectives by Male and Female Translators                                  | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | I Nyoman Aryawibawa: The Way We Think: What Does Shape It?                                                                                                 | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Michelle Kim: The Duality of Discrimination in Lorraine Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun                                                                    | Seri Bestari 2 |
|             | Parallel Session 16                                                                                                                                        |                |
|             | Jun-Min Kuo: Using Multimodal Texts to Implement a Critical Literacy Activity for College Freshman in Taiwan                                               | Seri Perdana 1 |
|             | Ummul Khair Bt Ahmad & Maryam Mehrjooseresht: Evaluative Language in Engineering Research Thesis Abstracts                                                 | Seri Perdana 2 |
|             | Norzie Diana Baharum: Third World Feminism and Che Husna Azhari's Tales: Consciousness, Identity (Es) and Politics                                         | Seri Perdana 3 |
|             | Zaidah Zainal & Ladan Javdan Faghat: Reading Strategies of Iranian Students                                                                                | Seri Perdana 4 |
|             | Yahya Hassan Al-Wadhaf: A Modern Yemeni Short Story                                                                                                        | Seri Bestari 1 |
|             | Park, Eunhyung: Hysteria Blurring The Boundary of Empire: On Bram Stoker's Dracula                                                                         | Seri Bestari 2 |
| 3:00 – 3:30 | Plenary Session 3 By Prof. Fred Dervin: Beyond the Fantasy of Unicity: Research Rigour in the Use of Linguistics for Working on the 'Intellectual'         | Ballroom       |
| 4:30 – 5:30 | Closing Forum By Prof. Dr. Chan Swee Heng                                                                                                                  | Ballroom       |
| 5:30 – 6:00 | Tea                                                                                                                                                        |                |

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**Dr. Vijay Bhatia** is a Visiting Professor in the Department of English. Some of his recent research projects include *Analyzing Genre-bending in Corporate Disclosure Documents*, and *International Arbitration Practice: A Discourse Analytical Study*, in which he leads research teams from more than 20 countries. His research interests are: Genre Analysis of academic and professional discourses in legal, business, newspaper, advertising contexts; simplification of legal and other public documents; cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary variations in professional genres. His publications include journal articles, books chapters, edited volumes, and individually written books. Two of his books *Analyzing Genre: Language Use in Professional Settings* and *Worlds of Written Discourse: A Genre-based View*, are widely used by researchers in genre theory and practice. He is also the founding President of the *LSP and Professional Communication Association* for the Pacific Rim.

### English in the changing contexts: Issues, challenges and opportunities

Most of the traditional models of teaching English have become somewhat inadequate in a number of ways to meet the challenges of the current interdisciplinary and intercultural demands and practices of the academy and the workplace. These challenges have emerged as a result of several developments, some of which include, the increasing use of English as the lingua franca of the business world, the growing tensions between the world of work and that of the academy, the complexities of the modern multi-media, encouraging creative forms of information design and presentation, the increasing interdisciplinary nature of most university academic programmes, and the overwhelming colonization and appropriation of generic resources across disciplinary and intercultural boundaries. These developments seriously question some of the models and practices prevalent in English language teaching. However, recent research in discourse and genre analysis clearly favours a model of specialised language teaching and learning which focuses on the acquisition of specialist competence, which is not only distinct, but also complex and dynamic. Drawing on recent research in genre analysis, especially 'interdiscursivity', I would like to discuss some of these issues, arguing for a shift in the teaching and learning of English relevant to the current changing context, which characterises significant variations in the socio-political, multilingual and multicultural patterns of communication in increasingly global contexts.

## PLENARY SPEAKER 1



**Professor Dr. Nor Faridah Abdul Manaf** received her degrees in English from University of Waikato, New Zealand (BA Hons), University of Liverpool, United Kingdom (MA) and The Flinders University of South Australia (PhD). She was also a Fulbright Scholar at Cornell University, New York in 2007. Prof. Faridah teaches English Literature at the Department of English Language and Literature at the International Islamic University Malaysia and has published numerous articles on women's writing, Malaysian Literature and English Renaissance Literature in local and international journals. She is also author of two books *The Islamic Interpretation of 'Tragic Hero' in Shakespearean Tragedies*,

(2001, 2<sup>nd</sup> rep. 2004) and *Colonial to Global: Malaysian Women's Writing in English, 1940s – 1990s* (co-authored with M. Quayum, 2001, 2<sup>nd</sup> rep. 2003) as well as co-editor of two other books, *Writing A Nation: Essays on Malaysian Literature* (2008) and *Imagined Communities Revisited: Critical Essays on Asia-Pacific Literatures and Cultures* (2011). Prof. Faridah is also a published creative writer and short stories appeared in anthologies both in Malaysia and abroad. Her collection of poems entitled *In the Art of naming: A Muslim Woman's Journey* was published in 2006.

### Making Literature Classes Fun and Relevant: Research Tips and Beyond

One wonders if the world would be any different today if there were more Literature courses offered or more Literature graduates employed or more politicians and leaders of literary background were elected. History has shown that poet leaders helped transform societies (no matter how controversial some would be): Leopold Sedar Senghor, Iqbal, Mao Tse-tung, Vaclav Havel and Sheikh Mohammad Maktoum (to name a few). School and university curriculum developers often overlook the importance of literature to mental and emotional development of young people, future leaders of organisations, societies and nations. However, Harvard Business School has been offering a course on "The Moral Leader" for over two decades, integrating studies on literature in teaching and exploring decision-making and leadership. This paper addresses the need to acknowledge the importance of literature in a highly digitalized world and offers tips on how to make literature classes fun and relevant. To sustain interest and enthusiasm, much will rely on new discoveries and ways of teaching and learning the subject. However, the paper also argues that one has to go beyond this and celebrate the essence of living and being. To celebrate life and its pitfalls, leave research projects for the university ranking craze.

## PLENARY SPEAKER 2



**Fred Dervin** was recently appointed Professor of Multicultural Education at the Faculty of Behavioural Sciences of the University of Helsinki (Finland). He holds a PhD in linguistics from the University of Turku (Finland) and a *Doctorat ès Lettres* in language and intercultural education from the Sorbonne (Paris, France). Dervin also took a PGCE (Modern languages) at Canterbury Christ Church University College (England, UK). He specialises in language and intercultural education, the sociology of multiculturalism and linguistics for intercultural education and communication. He has examined the following research contexts

(amongst others): language learning and teaching in higher education, academic mobility and migration, intercultural couplehood, the Intercultural Body and the Pygmalion effect in intercultural encounters. Fred Dervin has published extensively on these matters in several languages (English, French and Finnish). His most recent book is a co-edited volume entitled *Politics of Interculturality* (with A. Lavanchy & A. Gajardo, Cambridge Scholars, 2011).

### Beyond the fantasy of unicity:

#### Research rigour in the use of linguistics for working on the ‘intercultural’

In a 2004 article, the Swiss linguist, Patrick Sériot, shared his astonishment at the use of linguistics to justify stereotypes such as the Scots are mean or Corsican people are lazy in research on the ‘intercultural’. In this plenary talk, I would like to discuss the ‘intercultural’ through the notion of *politics of interculturality*, which moves beyond the Hofstedian legacy – where culture is the explanation for everything – and concentrates on the “political” rather than the illusory “structural”, on intersectionality/complex identity rather than culture, on complexity rather than the fantasy of unicity. How can linguistics help us to look at intercultural encounters from this perspective? I will argue that various subfields of linguistics can help us to tackle the ‘intercultural’ in a dynamic, co-constructivist and “complex” fashion by allowing us to go beyond the surface of discourse. This is often lacking in analyses identified in other fields working on the ‘intercultural’ as most researchers rely on uncritical and static methods to examine e.g. their interviewees’ discourses.

### PLENARY SPEAKER 3



**Ain Nadzimah Abdullah** researches into the area of sociolinguistics with special interests in bilingualism, language choice and language planning and policy. Educated at the University of Northern Iowa, California State University, Fresno, and University of Malaya, she taught at the Mara Junior Science College for five years, until joining Universiti Putra Malaysia in 1991. She is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of English at the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication.

#### **Why bother with sociolinguistics and sociolinguistic research?**

I have always wondered how we can make people understand that sociolinguistics IS relevant and make them see why it could be useful. Perhaps, part of this comes from the frustration I feel when I tell people I'm a sociolinguist, only to be told 'Oh really? What's that? In the past, being a sociolinguist is a relatively uncommon career goal, but when language is implicated in all that we do and who we are is so closely bound up with language, it seems a shame to me that more people don't know what it is we do and why we do what we do. In my paper, I will discuss the main goals of Sociolinguistics - the social as well as the linguistic, socially realistic linguistics and socially constituted linguistics. I hope that at the end of my presentation, I would have imparted that sociolinguistics is indispensable to understanding the historical development and contemporary state of a language in a given society, and the role of the individual within that society. Also, sociolinguistics, or the study of connections between society and language, can provide fertile ground for researchers.

## ABSTRACTS OF PAPER PRESENTATIONS

(in alphabetical order by name of the first author)

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### **Analysing characters in QWERTYUIOP: Taking cues from other people's perspectives**

One of the objectives of the literature component in the syllabus of the Malaysian schools is to broaden students' outlook and perspectives. This objective can be achieved through reading about perspectives, cultures and worldviews of other people (Edmondson, 1995). The aim is to help develop a positive and a stronger character and personality. The paper discusses the characters in QWERTYUIOP by Vivien Alcock, one of the stories selected for the secondary school students. In analysing the characters, this paper will also take into account some elements of the theory of functionalism which views a society as a unit with interconnected distinctive parts (Haralambos, 1980). The changes that happened to the characters especially to the main character can be something that students can utilise to help develop a more positive outlook and an optimistic personality.

**AHMAD IZADI**

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### **Refusals as Preferred Conversational Actions: 'Tæarof' in Persian**

Refusals have often been known as 'dispreferred' actions in conversation (Schegloff, Jefferson & Sacks, 1977; Heritage, 1984). Moreover, they are overwhelmingly characterized as 'face threatening' in pragmatics research (Beebe, Takahashi & Uliss-Weltz, 1990; Felix-Brasdefer, 2006). However, this study focuses on one type of refusal which is not only a preferred conversational action but also indexes politeness, which in turn has positive impact on face achievement. These kinds of refusals are generally refusals to ostensible acts of invitations, suggestions and offers, known as 'tæarof' in Persian (Koutlaki, 2002). The insincerity of such ostensible acts, however, is not inherited in the linguistic coding of refusals, but interactionally achieved between the participants in the discourse. Taking ethnographic approach to communication and conversation analytical approach, the present study analyzes 100 sequences of offer-refusal, invitation-refusal and suggestion-refusal which are extracted from naturally occurring interactions in different social settings in Iran. It is demonstrated how these refusals are interactionally achieved as preferred actions. Also, it is shown that Iranian people practice (ritual) 'politeness' (Locher & Watts, 2005) and maintain 'face' (Goffman, 1967) in these 'tæarof' acts of refusals.

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**Effects of Context on the Computation of Scalar Implicatures  
by Adult Malay Learners of English**

Currently there is a consensus in generative second language acquisition (SLA) on the notion that pragmatics presents persisting challenges to second Language (L2) learners. In this light, L2 learners are claimed to have greater difficulty than native speakers in computing scalar implicatures. This study investigated the ability of Malay English as a Second Language (ESL) learners to compute scalar implicatures based on a range of quantifiers, ordered in terms of informational strength, *some*, *most*, and *all* under two experimental conditions. In experiment 1, non-contextualised scalar sentences were presented to Malay L2 undergraduates in both English and Malay while in experiment 2, contextualised statements in a story were presented with accompanied pictures and texts to a similar group of students. The findings of the study indicated that L2 learners relatively derived scalar implicatures in their L2 in the same way as they did in their native language. It was also observed that the implicature derivation in both L1 and L2 dropped simultaneously in the contextualised condition. These results were interpreted in light of two influential accounts of scalar implicature computation, which suggest that L2 learners did not seem to have any problem with pragmatics, and the linguistic principles applied to computing scalar implicatures were identical in both L1 and L2.

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**A Comparative Study between Iqbal's and Browning's Concern with Free-Will Versus  
Determinism within the Contexts of Aestheticism and Ethics**

The great Muslim poet-philosopher Muhammad Iqbal was perhaps full of admiration for the Victorian poet Robert Browning when, in *Stray Reflections*, he mentioned that the latter "turns the impossibility [of absolute knowledge] to ethical use by a very ingenious argument. The uncertainty of human knowledge, teaches the poet, is a necessary condition of moral growth; since complete knowledge will destroy the liberty of human choice." Yet stark contrasts exist between the two men's conception of "human choice" or free-will. This is partly because the attention to man's struggles with his own Self in order to know the world and his active reaction to it in Browning's poem is often bereft of any guiding principle, leading his protagonists sometimes to experience moral depravity and, at other times, disillusionment. Iqbal's concept of Free-will, however, sees it as a divine gift that is to be used with balance, amongst other things, in order to serve Allah (S.W.T.). This paper argues that this provides a solution to traditional opposition between aestheticism and ethics, since for a character to assert his free-will does not ultimately mean he is essentially "immoral" and the literary work lacks aesthetic value.

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### **How Effective Are Monolingual Dictionaries in Helping Advanced Cantonese ESL Learners Determine the Usage of an English Word**

This paper reports on the results of a research study which investigated the use of different monolingual dictionaries by advanced Cantonese ESL learners for determining the meaning and usage of an English word. A group of 31 students majoring in English participated in two language production tasks including a sentence completion task with incomplete English sentences and Chinese contexts, as well as a sentence construction task with only English prompts. Different monolingual dictionaries were used in the tasks by different sub-groups of the participants, namely Collins COBUILD Advanced Dictionary 6th edition (COBUILD6), Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English 5th edition (LDOCE5), and Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary 3rd edition (CALD3). The participants' performance in the two tasks was examined, their opinions about the usefulness of the dictionaries were collected, and the difficulties they encountered were uncovered. The results show that learners rely mostly on dictionary examples and definitions for encoding purposes. Other special features such as boldface, use of abbreviations and symbols, etc. are not frequently attended to. Although a monolingual dictionary is useful in helping learners determine the usage of a word, learners' dictionary consultation may be affected by their making of inappropriate generalizations from dictionary examples.

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### **The Attitudinal Language of Presidential Campaign Speeches: A Cross-Linguistic Study**

It is a common belief that when candidates stand for election with the intention of becoming the next president in their country, their political agendas should help them win round the audience and the voters' votes. To reach this goal the candidate should seem convincing to the public. In electoral discourse, and especially in the run for the presidency, what is crucial is the fact that the presidential candidate has to convince his/her electorate of her/his abilities to be the president. Thus, the candidate adopts a variety of linguistic strategies in his/her speeches to connect with the audience. To name one, appraisal, as a system of interpersonal meaning, is concerned with evaluation whose resources are used for negotiating social relationships. Despite their significance in shaping text, there have hardly been any extensive inventories of appraisal tools contrasting electoral speeches. The current study examined the evaluative strategies that were used by presidential candidates during the American 2008 and Iranian 2009 national polls. To do so, qualitative and quantitative analyses were applied, and the results recorded significant differences among the winners and losers of each group. While affect and judgment as appraisal markers were substantially utilized by the winners in both American and Iranian contexts, appreciation resources seemed to be context sensitive. The study revealed no significant cross-linguistic differences in using attitudinal expressions quantitatively, but the difference existed in the kind and nature of attitudinal markers which could reveal their different political, social, economic and international status at that time.

**ANNE BECKER**

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**Formulaic Language: A Comparative Study Between A Japanese Novel  
and Its English Translation**

This research is a comparative study of the English translation of Banana Yoshimoto's novel 'Kitchen' and its original text, with a focus on the interpretation and manifestation of Japanese formulaic expressions. Japanese discourse will be examined in an effort to understand formulaic/expressive functions of Japanese language which contribute to harmonious relationships. In order to understand Japanese culture on a deeper level it is useful to examine formulaic expressions as these expressions aid in maintaining and developing respectful and harmonious relationships with known others and strangers alike. The central research question of this study is how formulaic language is interpreted and manifested differently in Japanese and English and what the implications are for cross-cultural understandings and communication. The research will identify the pattern of expressions of 'empathy' used in source text (ST), and to then examine how the linguistic and cultural choices made in the target text (TT) reflect critically on meaning that may have been gained or lost based on that choice. The research findings will reveal the linguistic and cultural aspects of the way in which interpretations of empathy are manifested in the source and target texts. Some of the anticipated outcomes of this research include revealing the ways in which (cross-linguistic and cross-cultural communication is effective or 'lost' through the theoretic lens of Skopostheorie (Vermeer, 1989a) and the comparative analysis between ST and TT). The different interpretations of formulaic language have implications to bridge gaps between the two cultures, in terms of issues such as the sense of self and others, and empathic attitude. This research can add an important dimension to the study of translation and formulaic language as it will also foster cross-cultural sensitivity.

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**Helping Students Improve the Language of Their Assignments Before Assessment**

In a university in Hong Kong, a Language Clinic was set up to help the students with the English language used in their assignments before the assignments were submitted. It was found that even after help had been sought from the Language Clinic, the assignments submitted by the students still contained a lot of grammatical mistakes which were often recurrent. In this project, an attempt was made to investigate through a questionnaire and interviews why 30 students consistently made certain kinds of grammatical mistakes in their writing, their opinions on the effectiveness of the kind of help that they obtained from the Language Clinic and their suggestions about the most effective way to help them with their use of language in their assignments. The results will be reported and pedagogical implications will be discussed.

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### **Multiculturalism and Academic Transmigration: The Case of African Nova Scotian Scholars**

The African presence in Canada extends back over four hundred years of Canadian history. Some African groups already lived in the Atlantic regions before the formation of the Canadian Confederation. The dilemma of African communities lies beyond their historical sites in the complexity of their integration to the current policies of Canadian Multiculturalism. Historically, Canadian colonizers established a social system of divisions between different black communities. Statistical data proved that the cultural disparity between different African groups was the fundamental obstacle to all anti racist movements in America. For instance, African scholars in Nova Scotia tend to study in the biggest universities of Montreal , Toronto and Vancouver while their home towns/villages remain a virtual place of resistance for Black communities in Canada. In an epistemological perspective, it seems to have a lack of ideology among Afro Nova Scotian scholars in comparison with the thinkers of Harlem Renaissance which attempted to demonstrate scientifically the uniqueness of the Black soul. While African Nova Scotians tried to be recognized as the first African community in Canada, the migrant African Nova Scotians are exposed to assimilation in their own country. At this point, the struggles African Canadians in Nova Scotia become a dichotomy of being Canadian and being African . For instance, George Elliott Clarke's literary works seem to be a metaphor of this cultural dilemma: African Canadians have an eternal status of immigrants. Dany Laferrière's works, for instance, tend to focus on this cultural segmentation that is mainly based on the different ethnic groups in Canada. This proves that the Canadian concept of multiculturalism tends to evacuate the cultural legacy of the << Slave routes>> that extended from Brazil to Canada from the middle of 16<sup>th</sup> century until to the official abolition of slavery in 1849. The prime concerns of Canadian scholars are to localize various cultural vestiges within a historical context in order to understand the mechanism by which they are perpetuated among the African Canadian communities.

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### **The Role of the First Language in Early Second Language Acquisition: Data from Chinese Children Learning English**

This study examines the role of mother tongue in English learning by Chinese children who were studying in an English-speaking American kindergarten in Hong Kong. The children used English in the kindergarten and Cantonese, their native language, at home. Two age groups of children were involved in the study, the younger group aged 3 to 4 having received education in the kindergarten for one year, and the older group, 4 to 5 years old, for two years. They were asked to do four oral tasks in English, which required them to tell short and long stories with the pictures provided, and to repeat a story after watching a video. Their speech data show that: (1) More developmental errors than transfer errors were made by both two groups; (2) Fewer interference errors were produced by the older group than by the younger group; (3) The children in both two groups were aware of the separation of the two languages, and therefore code-mixing or code-switching of Cantonese and English seldom occurred; (4) The dominant language of the older

children appeared to be English. The results of the study indicate that the native language does not play a very important role in early second language acquisition. Early bilingualism is possible with school support.

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**An Analysis of English Expressions Used by Sellers  
at Suanlum Night Bazaar, Bangkok**

The purpose of this study was to analyse the English expressions used by sellers at Suanlum Night Bazaar, Bangkok while they were selling their products to the foreign buyers. Data for the study was obtained by observing the sellers in each stall. When foreign tourists negotiated with the sellers, the researcher would visit that shop and record the conversation and negotiation occurred in accordance with Interlanguage Communication Strategy by Faerch & Kasper (1992) as an analysis framework of English expression used by sellers. The population was only from Soi Ayudhaya 1 – 9 and T-shirt sellers, souvenir sellers, imitate product sellers, shoes sellers, scarf sellers and decorate furniture sellers participated in this research. The findings revealed that the sellers used 12 types of Interlanguage Communication.

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**Are We Innocent?: A Post-Structural Critique on Indonesian School Children's Literature**

Children's literature has not garnered significant critical attention of equal measure to that of adult-centred literature. For centuries, the celebration of childhood's innocence had caused the lack of attention to children's literature. The idealisation of childhood's innocence had in turn caused colonisation towards children (Nodelman, 1992; McGillis, 1997). The colonisation could be clearly seen in a form of voiceless children's character, as Hunt (2001) explains that until 19<sup>th</sup> century, children were considered as silent characters without voices of their own. It was not until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, along with the new surge of research in children's literature around the European and American schools, that literature for children was deemed worthy of critical value. Despite the liberation movement of children's literature, the situation in Indonesia mirrors that of 19<sup>th</sup> century. Innocence is still becoming the idealisation, in which children are barred from reading things that can lead them outside the idealised states. This perception is reflected in a relatively small number of publications on children's literature in Indonesia (Sarumpaet, 1979; Ampera, 2010; Kurniawan, 2009). Considering the existence of colonisation over children, this paper aims to critique the existing theories and perspective on children's literature from Indonesian school. The critique is done by examining the basic root of literary concept in Indonesia –through historical study of the underlying principles – and post-structural analysis of the theory by using Lacanian framework. Comparison and contrast with the theories from European and American schools are also conducted, providing a shadowing prediction of the possible theoretical development.

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**Effects of Text Types and English Language Ability Levels on Summary Writing Performance of Thai High School Students**

The purpose of the study was to investigate Thai high school students' summary writing skill. The researcher investigated the effects of reading text types and the students' English language ability on their summary writing performance. The subjects were 90 Thai 12<sup>th</sup> grade high school students divided into three different levels of English language ability: high; average and low. Each of them was asked to write two summaries of texts in different text types: description and problem-solution. The research instruments included two reading passages and a rubric scoring scheme for evaluating summary writing performance in the criteria of (1) completeness of idea units (2) accuracy of idea units (3) paraphrase skill and (4) total quality of summary. The research data were analyzed by Two-Way ANOVA. The findings of the study were as follows. First, it revealed that there was not a significant difference between students' summary writing performance in terms of text types. Second, the mean score of the students with low language ability was different from the mean score of those with average and high language ability. Obviously, it was found that students in high language ability group possessed more effective summary skill than those in average and low language ability groups. Third, there was not a significant interaction effect between text types and language ability levels. Lastly, the students' summary writing performance was analyzed in detail according to the scoring scheme. The implications of the findings were discussed to support the need of instructional practice for summary skill which would enhance students' reading and writing abilities in their academic future.

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**Saviour as a Uniting Voice of Self and the Other:  
Octavia Butler's Parable of the Sower**

*Parable of The Sower* is a dystopian novel set in an imaginary future. Written by a black female science fiction writer, the book seems susceptible to reveal the racial considerations of a thinker who carries the personal and communal experiences of living as the member of minority. The considerations about the realms of selfhood and otherness have attracted a lot of attention in various literary debates, specially coming to flourish during the postmodern era. Science fiction manifests deep entanglement with the concept through focusing on the depiction of aliens, strangers, outcasts, or outsiders who function as the reconceptualized presentations of new assumptions of difference, offering inclusive multiplicity of identity as a reciprocal interaction of self and other which goes beyond the pre-established defining boundaries of social acknowledgment. *Parable of The Sower* is set in an apocalyptic atmosphere. Envisioning the frustrated humanitarian attempts of restoring order and harmony in a world gone mad, the book goes through introducing new frames of thought in dealing with socio-spiritual catastrophe affecting current world. The new frame appears as the trace of hope for a humanity which is searching meaning, serenity, and security via resorting to a promised land, that is going to replace the traditional Heavenly expected ones. The aim of this paper is to investigate the characterization of the protagonist, Lauren Olamina, under the feminist theological assumptions to see whether the

racial heritage of the author has had any tenable influence on delineating a heroine as a savior whose vision is to reunite the scattered human communities through reconciliation between concept of self and the other or not. In this respect, the writer would have a sensitive attention on the mytho-cultural backgrounds of the archetype of saviour as an efficacious factor in paving the way for the emergence of unity within multiplicity.

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**Perceptions of Varieties of Spoken English Among Tertiary ESL Students**

Not many studies had been done on students' preference and intelligibility on English accent or the pronunciation of the language. A study by Fraser (2006) in Japan shows that Japanese students prefer native-like accent as compared to local varieties. Although Japanese English is easier to understand, the students wish to be taught NS pronunciation because they associate it with high standard. This present study is an attempt to replicate Fraser's study to investigate Malaysian students' preference of varieties of English. Data was collected using questionnaires, a comprehension task, and a semi-structured interview from 90 participants in the National Defence University of Malaysia. The possible findings point towards Malaysian students' preference for the local dialect, which is opposite to the result of the original research. The preference may due to students' feeling of comfort and confidence with speakers using local varieties. Apart from that, the results may also indicate that students do not feel the need to have native speakers' dialect for them to function in their studies and society at large.

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**Hysteria Blurring the Boundary of Empire: On Bram Stoker's Dracula**

Bram Stoker's *Dracula* deals with the racial problem in its historical context of late 19<sup>th</sup> century London. Critic Arata had already pointed out that Count Dracula is a representation of "foreign invader" into British Empire. This research attempted to advance this previous criticism by analyzing the novel concerning gender problem. Specifically, the novel depicts two kinds of typical Victorian women characters as Lucy and Mina. While Lucy appears as a traditional hysteric woman who sleep-walks expressing her own sexual desire, Mina emerges as modern woman who "communicates" with Count Dracula through her typewriting and hypnotism. In this sense, Mina is revealed as a complicated body of British empire through which various kinds of power cross over. While male characters such as Van Helsing, Dr. Seward and Jonathan Harker are trying to keep her from a foreign invasion, they also depend on her ability of typewriting and psychotic communication with Dracula. As such, Mina becomes "vessel" through which British male and foreign invader fight each other. This research also remarked the significant importance of technology in metropolis which finally enabled the communication of Mina and Dracula. London as a late 19<sup>th</sup> century metropolis became irreversibly full of the foreigners, and the technology of media and transportation in metropolis made the minorities be able to fully communicate each other forming counter-power block blurring the boundary of empire.

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**Exoticism in Gertrude Bell's Persian Travel writing**

The closing decades of the nineteenth century, as the height of British imperialism, saw a tremendous increase in the number of British travellers to Persia. The main reason had to do with the emergence of Persia as a political entity in the 'Great Game' played between the imperial powers of Russia and Britain to win supremacy in the region. Accordingly, there appeared an outpouring of British travel writing on Persia mapping the social and natural milieus. Recent scholarship contends that colonial-era travel writing played a key role in endorsing imperialistic imperatives by depicting the colonial worlds as exotic in need of British benign tutelage. Through a textual scrutiny of Gertrude Bell's *Persian Pictures*, this study explores the exoticist images of Persian peoples and their mores and manners. Looking at the effect of the travelling subject's gender over the text, this research intends to move away from the pejorative colonial conceptualisation of exoticism by highlighting the non-axiological representations of the Persian milieu in Bell's travel writing. It argues that the heterogeneous portrayals of Persia while at times subscribes to British agendas in the country, at others subverts the very ends. This unstable positionality in Bird's travel book is attributed to Victorian gender ideology according to which women travellers identified both with the colonizer and the colonized.

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**The Strategies Used for Translation of Culture Specific Concepts in Three Persian Translations of "Pride and Prejudice"**

Translators are permanently faced with the problem of how to treat the cultural aspects implicit in a source text and of finding the most appropriate technique of successfully conveying these aspects in the target language. Because of the differences in cultures, there will be some concepts in the source language which do not have lexical equivalents in the receptor language. Here the researcher's focus is especially on translation of culture specific concepts in literary texts. Recent researches indicate that one of the greatest problems of translators in translating literature is that how to translate the culture-specific notions. If translators should retain the original words mentioned in the source language when translating or use other words or concepts that are recognizable to the readers in the target language? This paper aims at finding different strategies used in three Persian translations of English culture specific concepts in Jane Austen's "pride and prejudice". It contains 164 culture-specific words and notions whose implications for translation merit attention. They are classified in 5 categories of culture specific concepts based on Newmark's attitudes. Three translations are compared with each other to know whether all translators use the same strategies or different ones and which strategy is the most frequently used. The findings reveal that the most frequently used translation strategies here are: transference at 49.18%, couplet or the combination of two or more strategies at 15.71%, and componential analysis at 13.87%. There is an inseparable relationship between culture, language and translation. Translation= language + culture. Depending on different situations, this formula may have different forms. Language and culture may thus be seen as being closely related and both aspects must be considered for translation especially in literary texts.

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### **Bakhtin's Dialogism in Charlotte Perkins Gilman's Female Speculative Fiction**

Mikhail Bakhtin(1895-1975), Russian philosopher and literary critic, inspired many scholars working in a number of different disciplines. Although he did not consider gender issues in his theories, his ideas can be applied to analyze the literary works that write about women as well. The American woman writer and social activist, Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1860-1935), in her speculative fiction including *Moving the Mountain* (1911), *Herland* (1915), *With Her in Our Land*(1916), makes use of special techniques that are similar to Bakhtin's theories. Actually Bakhtin and Gilman both had an interest in sociological issues and a hope of making a reform in society; so both indicate their ideas throughout their works. The purpose of this paper is to show that we can apply Bakhtin's theories regarding women's works and issues and can have a feminist dialogics including both male and female as equal, rejecting the monologic patriarchal ideology dominant in society. Bakhtin's concepts of dialogism, heteroglossia, polyphony, grotesque and carnivalesque are to be analyzed and applied to the female speculative fiction of Gilman. Gilman as a female writer makes use of fantasy and grotesque creating a female utopia in her novels rather than writing a realistic novel. Thus though Bakhtin is considered misogynist by some feminists, his theories are explored and developed by Gilman's speculative novels; Bakhtin's aim of making the reader rethink and consider the new possibilities in society can be for any minority group as well as for women.

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### **Hoda Barakat's Tiller of the Waters and The Stone of Laughter: A Reflection on gender and sexism in Time of Wars**

This paper aims at examining Hoda Barakat's exploration of the civil war in Lebanon and its effect on the memory, and masculinity of the common man. Unlike War Literature, neither of the two novels at hand examines the sectarian division, or who to blame; it is rather the drama of the individual that shapes the two books. War here is shown to affect man's acceptance and understanding of himself, as much as of his country. The intellectual's obligation as Edward Said defines it is "to insist on standards of truth about human misery and oppression regardless to party or national background." A definition that forms the milestone of Barakat's works where she willingly estranges herself and her protagonist to delve deep into the past and scrutinize the marginalized self. The different perspective, the new tone as well as the wisdom gained through years of exposure to dangers enable Barakat to probe into the disturbed self of the protagonist where she tries to replicate his suffering and sense of loss. Essentially written in Arabic, the two novels reveal Barakat's, as much as, many Arab intellectuals' cherishing of their identity. On the other hand, the desolate condition of the protagonist and the city is a microcosm of the devastating state of the Arabs; peoples and countries. The emasculated protagonist stands both as a reflection of the defenseless, powerless, unmotivated Arabs, and an opposition to the over masculinized, enraged and therefore aggressive Arabs who want a change of the status quo, no matter how destructive, or even how efficient. Hence the paper discusses issues that are "routinely forgotten and swept under the rug", an examination that highlights the Arab intellectuals' apprehension with all the tribulations of their communities.

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### **Apartheid and the Reconciliation Process in Post-Apartheid South Africa**

At the present moment in history, there is a renewed interest in defining and redefining nationhood in the processes of dealing with past and reconciliation. Discourses of past and reconciliation have emerged in recent years in nations struggling with the legacies of colonialism. These would include the injustices and oppression inflicted on those natives who could not defend their motherland from oppressors. One such country, South Africa faced forty-six years of atrocious colonization known as apartheid or racial segregation where the blacks and coloured were suppressed by the white colonial masters. Despite apartheid being abolished in 1994, Democratic South Africa is still plagued with social ills and there is still a widespread of racial discrimination between the whites and the blacks. The Truth and Reconciliation Committee was set up right after apartheid was abolished, to help facilitate a truth recovery process. Forgiveness has been forwarded yet redemption and reconciliation are somewhat elusive, as discrimination and instability still exists due to the stigma apartheid has left. This research paper "Apartheid and the Reconciliation Process in Post-Apartheid South Africa" looks into the novel written by Zakes Mda titled "The Madonna of Excelsior" which deals with the issues of the process of reconciliation between the present and the past. In this paper, I will investigate if the masses are willing to forget the past in order to create a better future for the new generation of the new South Africa.

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### **Identity Loss and Nationalism in the "Promised Land": Exploring James Baldwin's *Another Country* and Paul Gilroy's *The Black Atlantic***

The idea of "the promised land" is problematic, more so in the light of the "Middle Passage" of slaves across the Atlantic before their arrival on American soil. Early post-emancipation narratives on identity highlighted the many negative consequences of slavery, segregation and racism. The question of nationalism is one of the issues problematized by a more recent generation of scholars in their search for answers on the problem of identity. Paul Gilroy, in his highly thought-provoking *The Black Atlantic*, contests the idea of nationalism in dealing with the problem of identity loss faced by dispersed Africans on the grounds that it could have led them to emulate the white superiority attitude and racism. Instead, he offers the idea of "internationalism" as a notion which brought the people of Africa to come together with their white counterparts. While the spirit of black nationalism and solidarity in the United States has been vital in their fight for equal citizenship and freedom, Gilroy thinks that nationalism and ethnic pride might be the factors that hindered the progress and dynamics of internationalization in the creation of literary canon for the African American communities. Studies, however, show that this approach that Gilroy suggests has possibly weakened the strength of the African community in America, resulting in their assimilation into white culture. This paper thus aims to examine the success, failure and perhaps even confusion of Gilroy's idea of "internationalism" by looking at its prevalence in the work of novelist and essayist James Baldwin. It will read Baldwin's works in the light of scholarly critiques of Gilroy. It is hoped that this paper will provide new insights on the study of ethnicity and identity in the United States.

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### **Dependencies in *Wh*-Interrogatives**

The aim of this paper is to investigate types of dependencies in *wh*-interrogatives and explore how they are to be captured. A *wh*-interrogative containing a (universal) quantificational phrase (QP) (QP/WH) or an additional *wh*-phrase (WH<sub>1</sub>/WH<sub>2</sub>) are assumed to yield more than one representation, hence 'single constituent' or 'multiple pair' answers for the former and 'single pair' or 'pair-list' answers for the latter. What I will argue or endorse for an explanation of different representations/interpretations in *wh*-interrogatives, are the following two things. First, I suggest, following the proposal by Aoun and Li (2003), that two types of dependency, viz., scopal dependency (SD) and functional dependency (FD), should be distinguished from each other, contra the other popular analysis (cf. Hornstein 1995) which attempts to reduce one dependency from the other. The distinction between SD and FD will be justified by different properties involved in each dependency and interpretive asymmetries found in QP/WH and WH<sub>1</sub>/WH<sub>2</sub>. Second, I claim in accordance with the 'LF as a unique locus for interpretive conditions' thesis (Chomsky 2001; 2005) that structural configurations for SD and FD are provided by *reconstruction* at LF and that reconstruction applies when it is forced to. To be specific, reconstruction effects in case of SD follow from scope-shifting considerations, whereas those in the case of FD result from the c-command requirement of bound variable anaphora. To wit, reconstruction is not so unconstrained as to pick up any copy for interpretation, nor is it subject to the same set of constraints governing movement (cf. Park & Kang 2007). The distinction between SD and FD is shown to account for various differences in QP/WH and WH<sub>1</sub>/WH<sub>2</sub> (roughly, the former being more restrictive than the latter) and to give interesting predictions about the nature of *wh*-phrases themselves and the exact path of *wh*-movement.

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### **Sustaining Diversities Through Understandings Of Islam Within Malayness: Reflections In Anthony Burgess' *The Malayan Trilogy***

This paper is a study on the paradigm of Malayness in literature, taking as its point of departure the understanding of Malayness in Malaysia. A prominent Malaysian social anthropologist, Shamsul Amri Baharuddin (Shamsul A. B.), has outlined a contemporary understanding of Malayness in Malaysia based on an authority-defined social reality: the three pillars of Malayness comprising *bahasa*/language (Malay), *agama*/religion (Islam) and *raja*/monarchy (the Malay rulers). The focus of this paper centres on an exploration of the paradigm of Malayness in an English literary work on the Malay World, namely *The Malayan Trilogy* by Anthony Burgess. The understandings of Islam as one of the paradigms of Malayness is employed as a conceptual framework, based on a close textual analysis approach. It is through this approach that I hope to present understandings of Islam within Malayness in the novel as a conceptual tool in order to reflect depictions by the author on the theme of sustaining diversities among ethnicities. This paper has determined that diversities can indeed be sustained through understandings of a prominent religious faith within a particular diverse society, in this example, of Islam as one of the paradigms of Malayness in a multi-ethnic and multi-religious society such as Malaysia.

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### **Developing a Framework for Language Teaching in an Asynchronous Online Environment**

Online learning environments have brought about many changes in educational context with their specific teacher-learner interaction type. The text-based, asynchronous nature of teacher-learner interaction, as opposed to face-to-face interaction, has brought about special features to online learning environments. One of these features is changes in the role of teachers and students as compared to face-to-face conventional classrooms. The role of the teachers has changed due to eliminating teachers' physical presence, body language, and on the spot feedback, which have resulted in new strategies applied by the teachers to guide, control, and supervise students' learning. Although there is a large body of literature on the face-to-face teaching methodologies and frameworks, it seems that the literature on online teaching framework is still sparse due to its broadness and vastness of application in various educational fields. Thus this study is focused on various features of online teaching to create an ESL framework for second language teachers. To identify these features and to establish this framework 200 online discussion threads were studied as part of a compulsory online ESL course in Universiti Teknologi Malaysia. Content analysis of the discussion threads revealed some patterns across them as compared with face-to-face conventional classrooms.

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### **The Way We Think: What does Shape It?**

Li and Gleitman (2002) criticized the conclusion that language has any effects to spatial reasoning or language affects thought (Levinson, 2003, Whorf 1941, 1946). Instead, they hypothesized that it could be that "cultural differences in modes of thought render certain linguistic usages handier than others, and thus influence their prominence and frequency of use" (Li and Gleitman, 2002: 268). This study was conducted for two main objectives; (1) to examine if the language affects our way of thinking especially in using frames of reference (FoR) such as relative, intrinsic, and absolute FoRs, and (2) to point out the implication of current results to previous studies on spatial orientations. My study examined the use of FoR in Rongga, Balinese, and Indonesian. I employed monolingual speakers of the languages. The techniques used included both linguistic and non-linguistic tasks. The results of linguistic tasks (e.g. object rotation and asking direction tasks) showed that the absolute FoR was dominantly used by subjects in Balinese and Rongga in responding the tasks, while the relative FoR was used prominently by Indonesian subjects. More interestingly, the results of non-linguistic tasks (e.g. reordering featured and non-featured objects) indicated that the absolute FoR was also consistently used by subjects in Balinese and Rongga in solving the tasks. The Indonesian subjects, nevertheless, employed the relative FoR exclusively. In short, the results of my study confirmed that language does influence our way of thinking (i.e. in using spatial orientations) as previously pointed out by Levinson (2003). The implication of these findings is that the claim that the relative FoR is universal is not confirmed.

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**“Yah, Kuya, Yeah ‘Pre, Yo Bro”. Exploring Age-Based Differences in Pinoy Big Brother  
Teen and Regular Edition**

This study aimed to identify the different slang expressions and the expletives, boulomaic and hedges stance categories in the regular (adult) and teen editions of the reality show “Pinoy Big Brother” and to determine if there is a statistically significant difference in the use of slang expressions and stance of the two groups. Results show that the teens used slang expressions, expletives and boulomaics more frequently while adults used more varied slang expressions. Moreover, it was found that only the action-related, friendly subcategories of the address terms of slang expressions and expletives yielded a statistically significant difference between the two groups. Based on the results of this study, that although there was only a 6-year average age difference between teens and adults, certain differences in the types and use of slang expressions and stance could be seen, depending on a number of factors. The study further demonstrated that speaker choices are based on their purpose, relationship, and topic. Moreover, while slang expressions are commonly perceived as a characteristic of informal talk, the data in this study also showed that they could serve a facilitative role especially in conflict management, specifically, through the use of friendly and filial terms of address as mitigating or pacifying devices. Finally, this study showed that adolescent and young adulthood stages are distinct, yet similar in some ways as reflected in their language use; the different stages in Erikson’s psychosocial theory of development may then be related to their linguistic choices. Furthermore, the absence of an expression in a particular group does not necessarily make it ‘archaic’ or “outdated” especially considering the limited amount of data considered in the study. The study then lends support to notion that “language acquisition...is not copying, but a reconstruction of a system which overlaps with the previous generation’s system but never completely duplicates it (Coulmas, 2005, p. 65).

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**Are There Any Changes in Gender Representation in Hong Kong Primary  
English Textbooks?**

This paper seeks to investigate whether the improved status of women in Hong Kong through the various efforts to promote equal opportunity concepts in recent decades are reflected in patterns of gender representation in Hong Kong English textbooks. A comparison of a popular series of primary English language textbooks which was published in 2005 with the same series published in 1988 revealed some enlightening improvement towards gender equity, including more appearances of women, more depiction of women in various social roles and more use of gender-neutral vocabulary. Nevertheless it was also found that some stereotyped images of women and men continue to perpetuate. The “male-first” phenomenon and the visual and textual under-representation of women are still prevalent in contemporary textbooks.

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### **Teachers' Attitude Towards Computer-Based Teaching and Learning in an Urban Secondary School in Miri District**

This study attempts to evaluate the attitudes towards usage of computers among science teachers. This study aimed to look at how Science teachers at SMK Dato Permaisuri, Miri perceive the use of computer technology in the usage of the second language, English in their daily teaching and learning. This is also at the same time to view how the effectiveness of using the computer technology resources, in particular the courseware, provided for them in teaching their subjects. This study is relevant to my choice of theme which is Second Language Acquisition because it explores the factors that affect teachers' use or non-use of the courseware for teaching purposes. The study finally examined whether and to what extent opportunities, facilities, and training provided to teachers contribute to their acceptance and use of these resources. The data was collected through questionnaires distributed to 60 teachers in an urban secondary school in Miri district. Based on the results of the questionnaires, a stratified sample of a teacher was selected for follow-up interview. The questionnaire results revealed statistically significant differences between teachers who have undergone computer technology training and those who have not in terms of their attitudes toward computers and the use of computer technology resources in the teaching area. Follow-up interviews were used to determine whether positive attitudes or interests led people to undergo training or the reverse. The results also showed that simply introducing computer technology resources does not guarantee teachers' use of these in practice. The provision of training is seen as a key factor in both changing attitudes and encouraging teachers in incorporating technology in to their instruction.

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### **Masculine Women Female Men: A Study of the Construction of Power in Selected Nigerian Plays by Women**

The word Masculine is traditionally associated with a manly character. In its original sense, it projects the idea of ruggedness, courage and physical strength. In ancient patriarchal societies, masculine images project a male dominated work environment in which the man is a farmer, hunter and soldier or engaged in any other daunting task that masculinity entails. Within the Nigerian drama tradition, which by the way has been dominated by men for a very long time, the construction of power and the signification of characters has always entailed the projection of men as rugged and masculine while women are on the other hand imaged as weak and feminine. Even the titanic heroes in Nigeria's accomplished plays of Wole Soyinka, J. P. Clark Bekederemo and Ola Rotimi are manly and so masculine. The construction of female characters by these playwrights tends towards femininity which in itself connotes weakness and pliability. However, the word masculine has come to be associated recently not just with men. This has become very evident in emergent works of women playwrights who have imbued their female characters with masculine features. These female characters exhibit strong aggressive attitudes. They are no more the weak and feminine projections as earlier plays indicated. On the contrary they are rugged and fearless. This paper explores these masculine projections of women in selected Nigerian drama especially by women.

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**Languaging and Ethnifying: The Case of Ilokano Native Speakers  
in Pangasinan, Philippines**

As globalization continues to reach a greater height of development and influence among societies, all the more that the issue of identity becomes complicated. Language identity is no longer associated solely on an individual's L1 but also to his/her L2. Likewise, there is no one-to-one correspondence between language dimension and ethnicity because linguistic identity is dynamic and so is the issue of ethnic identity, given the globalized society we have now. A language is not a fixed constitutive of ethnic identity, therefore it is neutral. Ethnic identity is attributed to any of various factors: mother tongue, second language(s), lineage, shared values/practices, birthplace, etc. Although an individual can assert ethnic identity based on different criteria, his/her ethnic identity is still unstable. In the case of the Ilokano Native Speakers in Pangasinan, Philippines, they use Ilokano as their native language, and accordingly assert their Ilokanoness. They undergo a complex process. Although they are in a province where Ilokano is not the native language, they may adhere to their Ilokano identity for they possess either of the factors mentioned above. Likewise, the Ilokano Native Speakers in Pangasinan (INSP) may carry their Pangasinan identity under certain factors like residence or place of birth, ability to use the Pangasinan language, etc. Like other provinces in the Philippines, Pangasinan is a heterogeneous society in terms of linguistic profile. As such, issues of language use and identity also arise especially for the Ilokano native speakers in the province. This paper explores the factors that make Ilokano native speakers, living in a Pangasinan language-dominant community, assert their ethnic identity vis-à-vis their language identity. Its significance lies in its concern with current issues on language and society due to multilingualism and cultural plurality. Not only can it contribute novel ideas but it can also help explain similar phenomena occurring in other Asian societies.

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**Using Multimodal Texts to Implement a Critical Literacy Activity for  
College Freshman in Taiwan**

The purpose of the present study is to help researchers/educators become more familiar with awareness of gender and other issues through various modes of expression. This study describes and investigates a 6-week English learning activity conducted in Taiwan during the 2009 fall semester. It was designed from a critical literacy perspective using multimodal texts (e.g., the picture book *William's Doll*, role-playing, reflective discussions, the film *Billy Elliot*, and a pair writing exercise to enable 34 college freshmen to interact critically with a theme-based activity. Two research questions were formulated during the project and the present study focuses on how students related the critical literacy activity to their lived experience. Data included students' discussion sheets, group writing assignments, reflection papers, and interviews. Grounded theory was used to analyze these qualitative data in order to explain the classroom phenomena and to seek recurring themes. This study shows that students considered the explored activity meaningful when the topics brought up in the classroom were related to their lives outside the classroom. Students' responses to the multiple texts that focused on gender stereotypes confirm Kramsch's (1993)

notion that language in use is related to ideology and culture. Specifically, language learning in the activity became a social practice in which students were constantly exposed to theme-based modes of expression and were helped to analyse their perceptions of male and female teenagers in Taiwan. Finally, the study indicates that critical literacy recognizing the importance of different modes of communication should be emphasised in contemporary foreign language instruction.

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### **Sonallah Ibrahim the Voice of Resistance: Intertextuality, Symbolism and the Roots of the Revolution**

This paper examines Sonallah Ibrahim as a “revolutionary stimulant” whose ideas in his novel *Dhat* point out the seeds of the current Egyptian revolution that took place at the turn of the first decade of the 21st century, and which has influenced the Arabic region as well. His resistant voice and the revolutionary ideas raised by him and many other Egyptian authors have very much influenced the public opinion that finally revolted against the regime, which was ultimately toppled in January 2011. However, the question is what are the narrative techniques that Ibrahim used to express his views? And to what extent such views touch upon the social reality of Egypt. The paper argues that Ibrahim has primarily employed intertextuality and symbolism as satirical devices of ridicule to disseminate his social ideas. The discussion mainly focuses on the use of these critical methods through which Ibrahim was able to present a panoramic view of social injustice and to provoke people’s social consciousness. It concludes with the view that Ibrahim’s critical skills seem to have played a central role in cultivating the public opinion of the necessity of the change and social reformation.

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### **Islamic Terms in English Dictionaries: Are the Definitions Accurate?**

Many Arabic Islamic words have become part of the English language. Since Arabic language is closely related to Islam, the words are infused with Islamic thoughts and values. The study aimed to investigate whether the definitions provided by English dictionaries are in line with the Islamic worldview. Document analyses were conducted on three established dictionaries namely: Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (OALD, 2005), Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners (Macmillan, 2007) and Cambridge Advanced Learner’s Dictionary (CALD, 2008). The findings revealed that in the OALD (2005), 34 of 49 terms were accurately defined, nine of the terms were inadequately defined and six of them were inaccurately defined. Twenty two of 42 items in the Macmillan (2007) were accurately defined, 11 words were inadequately defined and nine terms were inaccurately defined. In the CALD (2008), 15 of 32 items were accurately defined, 10 terms were inadequately defined while seven terms were inaccurately defined. In an effort to avoid confusion and misunderstanding among dictionary users who wish to understand Islam, it is imperative that Islamic terms are defined in line with the Islamic worldview.

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**Personal and Community Identity as Represented in the Language of Children's Literature**

It is in the light of children's literature being both a repository of culture and a means of constructing a "cultured individual" that this paper explores the concept of identity as it is represented in the language of seven selected stories for Filipino children. The seven stories were chosen based on the following criteria: (1) they were all written by Filipino writers for Filipino children; (2) they have a main character belonging to a particular community; (3) this main character is explicitly or implicitly compared to other members of the community; and (4) the main character experiences a conflict related to her/his identity. Using stylistics, this paper aims to (1) explore how identity is represented in and constructed through the language of stories for children, (2) determine how the representation of personal identity in these stories is related to the representation of communal identity, (3) describe how conflicts concerning identity are resolved in children's literature, and (4) examine the ideology represented in children's stories dealing with identity-conflicts.

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**Feminine Joyce and the Unreadable *Finnegans Wake***

According to Lacan, James Joyce was a rare man who could achieve Real *jouissance* which would normally only be accessible to women. The purpose of this study was to ascertain how a male author could obtain feminine *jouissance*. To achieve this purpose the sexual structure of Joyce was identified according to Lacan's definition of sexualization. Femininity and masculinity are two positions in language that are available to both male and female subjects, equally. Since the paternal function determines the sexual structure of the subject, the function of phallic authority has been explored in this study through Joyce's Real father, John Joyce, the Imaginary father, Humphrey Chimpden Earwicker, and the Symbolic father(s) such as the Church. Joyce's Father Foreclosure due to the absence of a strong paternal figure and his refusal of the Law results in the feminine structure of his mind that enables him to write *Finnegans Wake*, to obtain feminine *jouissance* and to achieve the end of the analysis. The text of *Finnegans Wake* is used in this thesis to indicate the feminine qualities of the mind of Joyce such as infinity, a Phallus less nature and the Real. According to Lacan, it is the feminine qualities that make a biological woman ever so slightly mad. However they function differently in Joyce who selected this sexual position knowingly, and this makes him a genius rather than a psychotic. Whereas critics mostly focus on the obscure text of *Finnegans Wake* and fruitlessly attempt to decode it, this study attempts to indicate the reason for the obscurity of the text and the fact that the text is a representation of Joyce's individual way of enjoyment rather than just simply writing an unanalyzable text.

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### **Investigating the Use of an Online Discussion Tool to Enhance Communication Across Cultures in Postgraduate Supervision**

With the increasing demand for international education, the current postgraduate student profile is a reflection of the multicultural academy. Hence, there has been much discussion on the challenges faced by international postgraduate students in a new research culture (Bullen, 2003; Adams, 2004; Leong, 2010). One such challenge is the negotiation of expectations between international postgraduate students and their supervisors. While previous research has consisted largely of perspective studies on the issue, the use of new media to manage expectations in supervision has remained relatively unexplored. This study investigated the use of an online discussion tool to communicate expectations in supervision between international postgraduate students and their supervisors at an Australian university. The clarification of student and supervisor expectations is important for all postgraduate students but can prove especially challenging to international postgraduate students from collectivist cultures. In these cultures, researchers have observed a strong adherence towards fostering and maintaining large power distances with authority figures (Gales, 2008; Jenner, 2008; Smith-Jackson, 2010). As this student cohort transitions into a research culture that encourages self-expression and collaborative interaction, effective communication of expectations with their supervisors is essential in order to avoid miscommunication. To this end, an online discussion tool was utilised in a bridging programme for international postgraduate students to clarify expectations between students and supervisors. Upon using the tool, the students reported that they were better able to express their views to their supervisors without feeling anxious. Other perceived benefits included ease of access to their supervisor's responses, interactive communication and a sense of community with other users. Although the online discussion tool had the potential to empower the students, this study also discovered that it was equally important to provide sufficient training and guidance on the use of the tool in order to overcome student resistance to new media.

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### **Stance-taking in Argumentative Writing at the Tertiary Level**

Argumentative writing is an important skill expected of all tertiary students from the institutions of higher learning. It is often the case that the tertiary students are required to state their opinions and put forth their arguments in their written essays, assignments, and projects. As Mizusawa (2010) pointed out students are required to write in order to fulfill their academic course requirements and to assess students' understanding. In addition, the importance of writing which involves interactions between writers and readers has been emphasized (Hyland, 2006). The ways that the writers express their opinions to the readers are very much related to the choice of language use. Therefore, this present study, which is a part from a larger research study, is designed to explore how undergraduate writers state their stance in English argumentative essays. Data for this study are obtained from argumentative essays of thirty undergraduate writers from a public university in Malaysia. The findings of this study can provide an in-depth understanding of how stance can be identified through the use of particular linguistic features in argumentative writing by the ESL

Malaysian undergraduate writers. The description of the use of linguistic features in English for stating stance can help undergraduate writers improve their ability to write better in English for academic purposes, specifically in argumentative writing. This could better prepare them for the workplace too.

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### **Effects on Paraphrasing Skills When Students Use Culturally and Contextually Familiar Text**

This study examines the influence of cultural and contextual settings of passages on students' summary writing skills. Forty-one students enrolled in a diploma programme were used in the study. Summary writing is a difficult skill to master even by native English speakers. Studies have shown that students' ability to understand comprehension of passages is influenced by cultural as well as contextual settings. In paraphrasing tasks students are often taught a set of skills which is aimed at getting students to perform summary writing tasks that is removed from context as well as cultural settings. With students speaking English as a second language this skill proves even more difficult to learn. The aim of this study would be to determine the role played by teachers in setting the context for students and the cultural setting of the passages to be summarised as aids for students to acquire the summary writing skills. The data obtained from the student interviews were analysed using the interpretive approach. Student perception of themselves as learners was measured using the *Myself as a Learner (MALS)* Test. This method of collection and analysis of data was found to be the most appropriate given that the data expressed the perceptions of the students which were personal as well as subjective. The results showed that students' performance on paraphrasing skills improved after the skills were taught. However, it is questionable whether a culturally and contextually relevant passage would actually enhance the acquisition of paraphrasing skills albeit, it may only have caused students to have an interest in the passage.

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### **Colonizing Mass Vernacular Schools, Language, Literature and Culture During European and Japanese Colonial Rule in British Malaya and the Netherlands East Indies, 1867-1949: The Underdevelopment of Indigenous Printing and Publishing in the Malay Archipelago**

Prior to the coming of the Europeans into the Malay archipelago, the oral and manuscripts persisted among its indigenous communities. The colonization of the Netherlands East Indies (NEI) and the Malay Peninsula was followed by missionaries who introduced printing in Malay during the first half of the nineteenth century. In order to communicate with the indigenous people the Dutch introduced a standardised Malay of spelling in 1901 for the (NEI) followed by the British Romanised system of spelling in British Malaya. The Dutch and the British began to expand mass vernacular schools in 1867 and 1872 respectively introducing the Malay language with different spelling systems. Their education departments and the European owned printing presses monopolized and control the writing, production, distribution of the indigenous and Malay books for schools and school libraries throughout the colonised territories. Indigenous writers,

printers and publishers could not compete with the European presses, had no rights to supply local literature to the school system and were marginalised throughout European colonial rule. The European and indigenous printing and publishing infrastructure began to crumble when the Japanese invaded the NEI and British Malaya and took control of printing presses and paper to build out its propaganda machinery. Indigenous printing and publishing was in the shambles after the Japanese surrender in 1945. The Indonesian Ministry of Education had struggle to produce school books due to obsolete printing presses, very little editorial expertise and insufficient domestic production of paper. The Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka was established after independence in 1957. The Dewan Bahasa and Kebudayaan in Singapore was established in 1960 but dissolved in 1969. The two spelling systems, has evolved into a separate publishing system and production of literature. The current state of indigenous publishing in Indonesia and Malaysia was, by and large, due to their colonial legacies.

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**Adaptation to Addressee in a Second Language: Intentions of Students from East and West Malaysia**

One of the inadequacies of French language teaching in Malaysia is the lack of contact with native speakers. In the DELF examination, the French certification adapted from the European framework, students are evaluated on their sociolinguistic accuracy and respect for communication codes in French. Items to be taken into consideration in communication comprise the chosen code, the setting and the participants. In foreign language teaching, very often only the first component is taken into consideration and students are expected to adapt their speech to the native speakers for the first time during the examination. Adapting communication according to the addressee is perceived as a sign of politeness (Holmes, 2001). In this preliminary research, we wanted to explore the adaptation of communication strategies in terms of the ethnic origin of the person encountered. 463 Form 4 and 5 students (207 from the Peninsula, 256 from Borneo) from boarding schools where French is taught were asked to complete a questionnaire in Malay and in English, which was followed for selected ones by interactions in French with a native speaker. The respondents were put in situations where they had to interact with Malaysians in Malay, then in similar situations in English where the addressee was a European. Results show that students do not tend to change their communication strategies when English is used with someone from another origin. The type of answers given does not change according to the geographical origin of the participants (West vs. East Malaysia), nor to their ethnicity: Malay, Melanau, Iban or Kadazan-Dusun ( $r$  of Pearson close to 1).

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**Preserving Local Culture in Globalisation Era**

Preserving and promoting local cultures can be perceived as an alternative solution to manage possible impact of globalization. This is due to the reason that globalisation has a number of consequences either good or bad related to economic, political, cultural aspects, and so on. As a melting pot with diverse ethnic groups as well as an agricultural nation, Indonesia has been

attempting to manage possible impact of globalisation. The farmers living in the Special Region of Yogyakarta, for instance, have their own way to survive in the global era without ignoring local cultures. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the ritual of Merti Bumi in Kaliurang, Yogyakarta as it is assumed that the ritual is not simply a tradition of thanksgiving for bountiful harvest. This paper intensively reviews current literature, which is selected for synthesis based on its relevance to the topic under study. In addition, personal communication with a former member of Pangesti Jawi, an organization whose responsibility is to handle the ritual, has been carried out to add to the information gained from the literature. It is found that Merti Bumi is categorized in informational beliefs, which need to be stated and handed down from generation to generation. The ritual is then shared, learned, practiced, and becomes values in Javanese culture. These beliefs and values then become cultural knowledge among members of Javanese culture. Furthermore, Merti Bumi is a medium to bridge the local-global dichotomy. The ritual always focuses on universal issues, such as maintaining a harmonious life with nature presented in a local way.

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### **Effective Instructional Approaches in Assisting ESL Learners' Writing Using Blogs**

The research is about the use of blogging in assisting ESL learners' writing. Blogging opens up new possibilities for students to learn from each other. It enhances collaborative learning in the classroom and the students' continuous postings create ongoing document for the process of learning and a beneficial resource for others. As for the process approach of writing, it has recursive, non linear, mental, cognitive and metacognitive strategies which will be experienced by students as they go through the process of writing using blog applications. This research is carried out to investigate effective instructional approaches in facilitating ESL writing through blogging. The research was carried out over four months at UniSZA in Terengganu. The subjects were 28 diploma students from Faculty of Information Technology at the university. The students were exposed to the use of blogs in aiding their essay writing using the process approach to writing. The students were taught by the researcher using blog applications, utilising six lesson plans constructed specifically for the research. The data was collected from students' relevant documents, comments and writing in blog entries, questionnaires, interviews, journals and researcher's observation. Comments and writing in blog entries were analysed for interpretation. The questionnaires and interviews were administered at the beginning and end of the semester. The students and researcher contributed their journals for the research and researcher made the observation towards students' performance in the writing class. Two subjects were chosen for in-depth study based on certain criteria. The overall results showed that the usage of blog applications in the writing classroom had an impact on students' writing performance. The findings from this research clearly showed that blogging could produce positive results on the students' writing. The findings will be of interest to educators who are interested in applying technology in the teaching of writing.

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**Caryl Phillips's Novels: A Reminder Of A Forgotten Issue**

Transmigration and globalisation which is a distinctive phenomenon after the second World War has borne many writings on human migration and assimilation in their new homes. But rarely we come across a writer who has made this as the single persistent theme in all his literary work. Phillip's work was never a mere narration on migrants and migrations. More than that it's an attempt to retell an unfortunate incident in the chapters of the world history about disinheritance and rootlessness. His themes are often about imposed or motiveless migration, nostalgia for a homeland which does not exist, betrayal and emptiness. The establishment of slavery as the biggest injustice of colonisation and it becoming a source of commercial and later turning into international, diplomatic control and licensing were part of his narration. However, what seems like a affinity to lurk around a rich story material of slavery has a potent and hidden agenda. A scrutinised study on his novels expose that he is actually harping on a long forgotten issue with a deliberate and definitive motive. He reminds the world and the descendents of people involved in slavery through the depiction of acts and misery of the characters in his novels. And all this for a reason. This study aims to explicate the hidden and forgotten issue that Phillips often uses and his aim in doing so.

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**Quality of Interpreting from Users' Perspectives**

Translation and interpreting disciplines have quality notion as a fundamental issue in their cores, both in profession and research (Pöchhacker 2004). Quality is a function of situation, context, and variables which might call for different priorities in different interpreting situations (Kalina's 2005). Seleskovitch (1976) states quality is mainly focused on the ideas and perspectives rather than the pure linguistic aspects. Current approaches in the evaluation of quality are based on "determining the significance of the quality criteria by the old peers or the professional interpreters", "implementation of different effectiveness analysis", "analyses of the professional situation", and "extraction of the users' perspectives based on their personal ideas" (Tommola, 2003). The last mentioned approach is highlighted in this paper. Although the users' outstanding roles and perspectives in evaluation and definition of quality notion have been enhanced devoting surveys to this area which mainly commenced from the last decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there is still a need for a tremendous vote of attention to this group's particular/unique needs and expectation of interpreting services they receive. We are going to pursue and accentuate the significance of quality from interpreting users' point of view both in profession and the reasons this party, i.e. users, should be the major party to be taken into consideration in interpreting studies, quality discussion in particular. A set of guidelines are proposed to ascertain the implications for removing/facilitating some methodological difficulties for different participating parties in interpreting scenes such as interpreters, service providers, clients, users, and researchers in conceptualization of "good" quality on behalf of users who, as Seleskovitch (1986) believes, should always be the party to judge interpreting quality.

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### **Language Anxiety Coping Strategies of Pre-Service Teachers of English**

The role of anxiety in language learning has become an issue of increasing importance in research on second language (L2) acquisition. This psychological state-anxiety has been investigated by many linguists and psychologists in recent years. This study set out to investigate the strategies that pre-service teachers use to cope with anxiety in English classes. Participants were 68 pre-service teachers in the first semester of the foundation year of a Bachelor of Education (TESL) program. Data on the extent of language anxiety was collected through administration of the Foreign Language Classroom Anxiety Scale (FLCAS) (Horwitz, Horwitz & Cope, 1986). Pre-service teachers were also required to state one strategy that they used most often to reduce anxiety in learning English. Based on their total score in the language anxiety scale, pre-service teachers were categorized into three levels of language anxiety, namely low language anxiety (LLA), moderate language anxiety (MLA) and high language anxiety (HLA). Meanwhile, the anxiety coping strategies reported by pre-service teachers were clustered into seven categories namely positive self-talk, self-encouragement, relaxation techniques, attention-diverting techniques, preparation, seeking social assistance, and more frequent use of English. High language anxiety pre-service teachers used more and different types of affective strategies compared to their MLA and LLA counterparts, who used more cognitive, social and behavioral strategies to reduce anxiety. Overall, strategies such as more frequent use of English, preparation, and seeking social assistance were more often mentioned compared to self-encouragement, attention-diverting techniques, positive self-talk, and relaxation techniques. In conclusion, pedagogical implications related to anxiety management and suggestions for further research are put forward.

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### **Translation of a Woman Writer's Language and Perspectives by Male and Female Translators**

Recent translation studies have been increasingly focusing on translators as mediators between cultures around the world and have helped us to see how the translator's identity as a necessarily gendered rewriter impacts the work. This research studied the translation of a woman writer's language and perspectives at lexical level by female and male translators to find the probable differences between male and female translations. To this aim, nine short stories in a collection called "Interpreter of Maladies" by Jhumpa Lahiri were selected and translations of them by male and female translators were compared. Those lexical choices that according to Lakoff and Farahzad were affected by translators' different use of Language and their gender-related ideologies were selected, compared with the original texts and tabulated. Finally, it was found that female translators transferred the language and style of the woman writer better than male translator while the male translator imposed a manly tone on the text. On the other hand both male and female translations were affected by the translators' gender-related ideologies and perspectives.

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### **The Relationship Between Online Information Searching Strategies and EFL Reading Proficiency**

Research on the relationship between the computer and English has usually taken the direction of effect to be from computer use to success in English, suggesting a persuasive argument to support the fact that using computer-mediated communication can impact second or foreign language learning. However, more recent studies show that this relationship could be bidirectional and ability in English as a foreign or second language can be a contributing factor to ease technology use, perceived ease of use and even purchasing computers (PC ownership). Therefore, this study investigated the relationship between EFL students' reading comprehension proficiency and their online information searching strategies. Further, the relationship between computer ownership, access, and use with EFL reading proficiency was explored. One hundred and forty-four high school students filled in the Online Information Searching Strategy Inventory (OISSI) with six components including disorientation, evaluation, purposeful thinking, trial and error, selecting the main idea, control, and problem solving. They also took part in an English reading comprehension proficiency test. The respondents' computer ownership, access to technology and frequency of computer use were also examined using a personal information form. The result of the study showed that reading proficiency in English as a foreign language is significantly related to three types of online searching strategies including selecting the main idea ( $r=.27, p<0.01$ ), control ( $r=.32, p<0.01$ ), and problem solving ( $r=.18, p<0.05$ ). Further, reading ability was significantly related to technology availability ( $r=.23, p<0.01$ ) and computer use hours ( $r=.32, p<0.01$ ). However, reading proficiency and computer ownership were not found to be related.

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### **The Life and Career Choices of Gentry Sons in Jane Austen's Novels**

This paper examines the idea and influence of the primogeniture on the life of gentry sons represented in some of Jane Austen's novels. Primogeniture has long been a dominant system of inheritance in England since the Middle Age. This system of an impartible inheritance has been so inefficient and unjust that it has been a kind of a barrier to the life and career pursuit of non-heir in a family in that the whole landed estates are passed to the first born son when a patriarch passes away. Naturally the other sons couldn't inherit their fathers' estates, the basis for the belonging to the class of the 'genuine' gentry. So they tended to become soldiers or get in the world of trade to establish their own fortunes. This couldn't escape from the eyes of Austen who initiated the great tradition of the realist novels. As a 'serious' realist and an enlightenment feminist, Austen not only shows much awareness of the ideas of womanhood and reality of women of her times in her novels as well as letters, but also she portrays the gentry sons who could not inherit the landed estates from their fathers only to be degraded into the 'pseudo-gentry' like soldiers or merchants. Their pursuit of the rich girls as a marriage spouse is not a choice but a necessity according to Jane Austen. This is apparent especially in Austen's most popular novels such as *Northanger Abbey* and *Pride and Prejudice*. The ultimate purpose of this paper is to reveal Austen's strong social awareness through exploring the correlation between the social system and individuals' lives.

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### **The Duality of Discrimination in Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun***

When Hansberry opened *A Raisin in the Sun* in 1959, it was viewed as both a general celebration of the American dream, as well as a specific criticism against the racism that was African Americans faced in a predominantly white, American society. Thus, *A Raisin in the Sun* has been viewed by some as an attempt to familiarize audiences with the discrimination occurring against minorities, and by others as an attempt to hide it under the pretext of universality. This study examines the confusing duality of the play in an attempt to reconcile these conflicting interpretations as the symbiotic halves of a message against discrimination in all forms. The goal of this analysis is therefore to create and share an understanding of *A Raisin in the Sun*'s paradox as well as its implications by examining its historical context and the playwright's own background. While scholars have been mystified by the play's seemingly mixed message, it serves the important purpose of highlighting the two-sided nature of marginalization. Hansberry neither focuses solely on racial discrimination nor does she distance herself; she utilizes the external marginalization imposed upon society because of her characters' statuses as minorities to emphasize the corresponding internal marginalization that they have difficulty even recognizing. Therefore, the mystery of Hansberry's simultaneous particularity and universality are answered; her characters' triumph over the racial discrimination they face from society is used as a foundation to create a larger awareness against the self-doubts that haunt people indiscriminately.

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### **Making Meanings Out of Language of Diversity Within the Context of a Malaysian University**

Due to the increasing degree of pluralistic campus community in Malaysian universities, there is a need to have a closer examination of the concept of diversity, specifically, campus cultural diversity. Language of diversity, produced by the relevant campus community members, is uttered in many forms and for various situated meanings. The institutional practice and policy of including international students and academics in the local university should have a transformative effect of promoting equity among students of various backgrounds by capitalizing on the university's norms and habitus. However, it also has the potential to further maintain differences among them, depriving them of the benefits that a culturally-diverse university can offer. Using Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) framework, the writer managed to a) gather contextualized interactional data among selected international students and academics within the campus situated cultural milieu, b) critically analyze the data on the basis of interactional sociolinguistics, c) and meaningfully discuss the finding within the university's wider and macro notion of diversity, especially, the internationalization agenda of the university. Based on a case study at this selected Malaysian university, I found that the language of diversity has a) capitalized on the commonly shared norms and values among different groups, b) been affected by the perceived mismatch between their expectation and institutional practices as well as perceived institutional values and ideas, and c) been implicitly used, or avoided at all, in public domain, fearing cultural sensitivities and miscommunication. The findings suggest that language is an effective medium to express

diversity or the lack of it. Language of diversity offers revealing insights into pluralism, internationalization, higher education, and critical discourse. Such insights are useful in order to formulate policy which can transform the quality of campus life and academic excellence, in particular, the literacy practices. CDA serves as a rigorous analytical tool to understand the complexity of diversity, its language, its efforts, and its impact on institutional change.

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**Writing Skill and Content Scores of English Essay Test: Is There Any Relation?**

Writing skills can be the ticket to better college grades and greater academic achievement (Hansen & Hansen, 2008). Essays are an important method of assessment and enable examiners to discriminate between candidates, while also enabling candidates to display the skills and abilities which they possess. As the essay paper has evolved, it has become more demanding with much more emphasis on posing questions which allow candidates to display the higher order skills especially in achievement tests which are popular in ESP courses in many universities. As it was demonstrated in the results of many examinations, despite the high familiarity of students with the content of books, the results of many essay tests were not as expected by their tutors. It may be because of the lack of enough writing proficiency to convey their current knowledge. This quantitative study seeks to compare the content scores of EFL students in Iran with their writing skill scores of the same essay type tests. The purpose of the study is to determine whether there is any relationship between writing proficiency of students and their content score, i.e. the ability to convey their knowledge on the paper. To compare the results of the two sets of scores –content scores rated by two ESP professors, and writing scores by two raters– the researcher used correlation coefficient formula in order to find the relationship between the two variables and the strength of the relationship, if any. As writing evaluation is subjective, for getting valid criteria IELTS writing criteria was used. The results showed a strong relationship between content scores of students and their writing skill at  $\alpha < 0.01$ .

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**Failed Individuation of Modern Man: A Jungian Approach to 1984**

Fragmentation is one of the significant features of modern era. George Orwell describes, in *1984*, a technologically advanced but fragmented society wherein modern man's absence of self-integration is easily noticeable. By representing how the protagonist responds to the voices of his psyche through characterization and dreams, which play a significant role in Jung's Analytical Psychology, Orwell explores the roots of modern man's failure to take the journey to individuation. Accordingly, this paper, borrowing some terms and notions of Jungian Criticism such as archetypes and the process of individuation, with a particular focus on the dreams occurring in the course of the story, attempts to illustrate how modern man steps in the path of individuation and to what extent his efforts meet with success, if any. In addition, the dystopian society portrayed in *1984*, this paper would like to argue, is the offspring of a mere rationalism which prevents man from knowing the opposing forces working within as well as the forces functioning from without.

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**English Morphosyntactic Features of Past and Non-Past Tense and Agreement in the Interlanguage of L1 Arabic Speakers**

This study investigates the acquisition of the English morphosyntactic features of past and non-past tense and agreement by adult L1 Arabic speakers within the Minimalist Program framework. In particular, the focus is on the acquisition of the verbal functional categories of T and Agr, the formal features of [ $\pm$ finite,  $\pm$ past]. The morphemes being examined are the third person singular agreement morpheme *-s*, the past tense agreement morpheme *-ed*, the irregular past tense and the *be* auxiliary and copula *be* verb forms of *is*, *am*, *are*, *was* and *were*. The study tests two competing proposals about the representation of functional categories and features in L2 acquisition: the Failed Functional Features Hypothesis (FFFH) (Hawkins and Chan, 1997), the Full Transfer Full Access (FTFA) hypothesis (Schwartz and Sprouse, 1994; 1996). Altogether, 240 adult L1 Arabic speakers of L2 English participated in the study. They were subdivided into three proficiency levels (lower-intermediate, upper-intermediate and advanced). The test instruments consisted of the Oxford Placement Test (OPT) and a Grammaticality Judgement Task on tense and agreement (GJT). The GJT was designed to test the learners' underlying knowledge of English past and non-past tense and agreement. The findings suggest that the interlanguage (IL) of the Arabic speakers is non-target like in the syntactic domain, particularly with those functional categories and associated features not instantiated in the L2 learners' L1. These findings seem to show that the learners' IL grammars are UG-constrained, although UG is only partially available to adult L2 learners; that is, the L2 learners' IL, specifically that of the functional features, is constrained by what is available in the learners' L1.

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**Developing Vocabulary Knowledge:  
The Role of Motivation and Metacognitive Strategy Training**

In Malaysian universities, improving English language proficiency and vocabulary knowledge has always been a fundamental part of the learning process. However, despite the emphasis on developing vocabulary knowledge, learners still show slow progress in improving their reading comprehension. One of the biggest concerns cited by students is having a "weak vocabulary", which impedes their reading and understanding of texts. Thus, in order to improve the learner's reading comprehension ability, introducing a metacognitive strategy training programme could help to improve vocabulary knowledge through more effective vocabulary learning. Metacognitive strategies can stimulate cognitive processes and lead to more profound learning and improved performance, especially among learners who are experiencing difficulties. This study investigates whether a metacognitive strategy training would have any impact on students' vocabulary learning strategy use, mediated by vocabulary learning strategy use. It also studies the roles played between metacognition and motivation in developing vocabulary knowledge. This study features a quasi-experimental design with 206 students of mainly Chinese ethnicity from a local private university, divided equally into the Treatment group and the Control group. The Treatment group was

exposed to a metacognitive strategy training programme embedded in their tutorials, while the Control group had classes as normal. The metacognitive strategy training programme was based on the Cognitive Academic Language Learning Approach and was conducted over 14 weeks. The results indicate that 1) motivation has a positive impact on metacognition, 2) metacognition has a positive impact on the use of vocabulary learning strategy use, and also 3) vocabulary learning strategy use has a small but negative impact on vocabulary knowledge. These findings, as well as the implications on future ELT research and pedagogical practices, is discussed.

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### **Exploitation of the Grotesque: Queer Eroticism in Ian McEwan's Selected Short Stories**

In 1970s, two collections of short story by Ian McEwan introduced an author who simply shocked not only the average but also the prolific intelligent reader. The world McEwan creates is psychologically violent, excessive and extraordinary. This is particularly the case with his earlier works including the two collections of short story and early novels. Much in association with the grotesque, this eccentric atmosphere is mainly depicted in the milieu of sex and sexual depression. As dealt with in the present study, the portrayal of the grotesque is remarkably affluent and vast-ranging in McEwan's short stories. In some stories, the grotesque is exploited for the sake of a general impression of shock and disgust. In many others, it is fundamentally employed through the representation of recurrent elements of the mode. The present work selectively focuses on short stories from both collections to illustrate the range of the grotesque in McEwan's short fiction. The endeavor is to discuss and evaluate the selected stories for their exploitation of the grotesque as represented through violent, transgressive and bizarre depiction of sexuality. Themes of sexuality, particularly in excessive and extraordinary forms, are readily palpable in their potential linkage with the grotesque. The present study thus aims to discuss the grotesque in the queer eroticism of McEwan's selected short stories and demonstrate how his short fiction offers a variety of the grotesque types of narrative mingling the grotesque both with fantasy and caricature.

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### **It Takes Two to Tango: Academic Environment and Social Skills**

It is known that social skills is the main contributing factor to building more positive relationships among group members, and group work undoubtedly instils this quality. By exploring the educational pedagogies and classroom discourses, it is the aim of the study to extend theoretical insights into the way ESL writing classrooms might help to develop social and learning identities of the learners in the classrooms. The basic premise of the social interdependence theory is in the way individuals interact and how it determines outcomes, in turn. This study, therefore, has focused on student-student interaction in an ESL tertiary writing classroom in an institution of higher learning. The results revealed that group discussions in ESL classrooms offered experiential learning whereby learners became more skilled at using suitable choice of words (at

times with the help of their more capable peers), specifically utilising their bilingual expertise. It was observed that the learners juxtaposed two languages (L1 and L2) and appropriated their bilingualism to learn English language. As they worked in small groups, they developed social skills whereby their relationships became more positive regardless of their tasks. Learners became skilled at trusting one another, communicating accurately, accepting and supporting one another, and resolving conflicts constructively if they are to capitalise on the opportunities presented at the academic setting.

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### **The Place of Culture in the Palestinian ELT Textbooks in High School Level**

It became a widely accepted fact that teaching and learning English as a foreign language cannot be reduced to the direct teaching of linguistic skills like phonology, morphology, vocabulary, and syntax; a vital component of cultural knowledge and awareness should be included (Chlopek, 2008). Therefore, a new trend in foreign language teaching known as "the intercultural approach" appeared. Having identified this new dimension, the question being addressed in this study was to find out to what extent the content of the newly released textbooks *English for Palestine* match the current universal trends in TEFL: Intercultural language learning / teaching. Following the descriptive analytical approach, quantitative analyses of the cultural content of (Grade 11 and 12) textbooks were conducted. To collect the needed data one main tool: a content analysis card was used. To validate the tool, this content analysis card was exposed to seven experts in the fields of TEFL. To ensure the external or inter-rater reliability of the present study, the researcher asked for the cooperation of another researcher who analyzed the two books along with her. Based on the analysis of data, results showed that more than half of the entire activities included in the two textbooks analyzed are culturally oriented. There is a focus on introducing the Non-Palestinian cultures more than the Palestinian culture. Presentation of various countries and cultures from different parts of the world are evident. Moreover, very limited opportunities for comparing cultures is evident and absence of authentic texts for either Palestinian or Non-Palestinian countries is clear. There is no special focus on presenting suitable expressions to talk about and introduce the Palestinian Issue to the world via English. Absence of Islamic topics was detected as well. Implications for research and practice were discussed.

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### **Investigating the Reading Practices of International Graduate Students: A Case Study at UKM**

In Malaysia, the increasing number of international students attending tertiary education is growing steadily. These students are exposed to various long and short term university research activities such as attending and presenting proposals at workshops, seminars and conferences, conducting research and project works, teaching as well as writing theses. They must also portray a certain level of proficiency in English to ensure that they are able to manage their studies and readings in English. However, previous studies (Deutsch, 2007; Alyousef, 2005; Fender, 2003; Milton & Hopkins, 2006) have shown that many EFL learners face difficulties while studying through the medium of a foreign language. Some problems cited specifically for reading include

cultural differences where EFL students lack background knowledge to comprehend reading texts, insufficient reading strategies to identify main ideas from texts, lack vocabulary knowledge, lack automaticity in processing information, low proficiency in target language and lack textual schema. The purpose of this study is to investigate and examine the reading problems encountered by ten EFL graduate students studying at a local university as well as identify the reading strategies employed by these students in their reading tasks such as identifying main ideas, supporting details, outlining and summarizing. Preliminary findings from the study reveal that students encountered difficulty in understanding and comprehending information in the text, were unable to identify main ideas and experienced difficulty in paraphrasing due to limited vocabulary knowledge. To conclude, the paper will further discuss the implications of the findings and some pedagogical considerations for the teaching and learning of reading within the EFL context.

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### **Speaking Assessment: Raters' Variation in Construing the Rubrics**

Many believe that testing learners' spoken language ability is the most difficult among all other tests of the four language skills. Regardless of the method employed in measuring learners' language proficiency and the number of raters involved in the scoring process, issues that affect learners as the test-takers need to be taken into account before any decision is made with regards of their speaking performance, as these issues justify the validity and reliability of the overall speaking test. The employment of rubrics or scoring scales by raters in assessing candidates' speaking performance is one of the efforts in maximizing the validity of the assessment. However, there are still some issues that need to be considered especially due to the subjectivity of human raters in construing the rubrics components, which might be influenced by the raters' external and internal factors. This qualitative study means to see raters' variation in construing the speaking rubrics utilized for ESL group oral assessment in UiTM Perak. Six (6) raters' responses to a questionnaire, answered by them soon after they finish assessing the candidates, are analyzed qualitatively in getting in-depth understanding on their different or similar interpretations of the analytic speaking rubrics comprised of Content, Language and Communicative Ability components. The findings of the study show that raters adhere to the speaking guideline to some extent though they construe and prioritize features for each component differently, and they also take with them other criteria during the rating process. From these findings, it is believed that raters' variation can be minimized by revising the speaking rubrics and raters training.

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### **Humour in Meetings: A Case Study of Power and Solidarity in the Malaysian Academic Context**

Studies from the West have indicated that humour is highly recognised as a powerful discourse to be used to wield power as well as to build solidarity in workplace settings (Sollit-Morris, 1997; Holmes and Marra, 2002; Holmes and Stubbe, 2003; Arfeen, 2009). This study attempts to investigate the functions of humour in tandem with the concept of power and solidarity in the Malaysian academic setting. The parameters of this study are confined to the different ranks of the participants who utilise humour either to be used for exercising power or building rapport in a

hierarchical environment. Data for the study were collected from semiformal meetings that were recorded in a local university in Terengganu. The instances of humour were categorised based on Hay's Taxonomy of Functions of Humour (1995) which mainly focuses on power and solidarity in discourse. The findings revealed that academicians utilised certain strategies to either enact power or to maintain camaraderie among the team members. Samples of data to illustrate the use of such strategies will be presented. This study provides insights that the production of humour in academic management meetings is highly influenced by the status or position that one occupies.

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### **The Effectiveness of Visual Media in the Literature-Based Classroom**

A typical literature-based classroom consists of the students, the teacher and the literature text. This has resulted in the loss of students' interest towards learning literature. Apart from the literary texts such as novels, poems and short stories, most of the materials lack in essence of capturing the students' interest towards understanding the literary meanings of the literature text. Another setback to this is the teacher's dependency on the textbook which results to a monotonous lesson as the teacher is not using creative methods to convey the lesson to the students. Nevertheless, many questions and insights on the teaching and learning of literature through visual media have become a focus these days. This research is carried out on TESL students of Faculty of Education, UiTM to find out the effectiveness of implementing visual media in the teaching of literature towards students' interest and understanding of literature texts. A survey was conducted and data were collected via questionnaire and interview. Based on the findings, the research revealed that there is a significant correlation between the independent variable and visual media in the literature-based classroom, and the dependent variables; students' interest and understanding of literature texts. The majority of the respondents agreed that visual media in the literature-based classroom enabled them to understand the literature texts better. Moreover, it was also discovered that the use of visual media in the literature-based classroom can be one of the creative ways to attract their interest. Many insights and suggestions relating to the issue have also been raised by the respondents which need to be further investigated.

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### **Third World Feminism and Che Husna Azhari's Tales: Consciousness, Identity(es) and Politics**

A deep reading of a Malaysian writer, Che Husna Azhari's semi-autobiographical "Melor in Perspective" presents us evident traces of feminist ideals, particularly the ones that have long been advocated by the Third World Feminism. As she chooses to write about her distinctive self and people, Che Husna Azhari and her protagonists alike, illuminate their consciousness, consequently leading to the formation of multiple identities they so rejoice – a Muslim, Kelantanese, Malay and a woman – among many intersecting others. In so doing, this author defies Western feminist views on homogeneity and sameness of women, celebrating instead differences, distinctiveness and cultural pluralism within and among women. In this essay, I analyze the themes of consciousness, multiple identities and politics, highlighting the parallels between these Third World feminists' focus with Che Husna Azhari's selected works. This essay thus argues that these

Third World Feminism focal elements, being so apparent, have helped develop uniqueness and a sense of individuality in the writings of this Malaysian author.

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### **Role Play : Improving Language and Cultural Literacy**

This paper shows the interaction between literature, literacy and role play in Malaysian pre-service teacher education. Literature is known as one of the ways to improve students' language and cultural literacy. Students would be able to improve their proficiency of the second language and learn about a new culture through the integration of literature in a lesson. Thus in the Malaysian education system, it has been included as an essential part of the primary and secondary school syllabuses. According to reader response theory, students can relate more to the text and comprehend better if they are given the chance to express their feelings and ideas. One of the activities suggested by the reader response theory is role play. Thus through role play, students can heighten their interaction with the text and eventually ensure better understanding of the text. In addition, role play would enable students to reflect on the similarities and differences between their own culture and the new culture learned through the literature text. To ensure successful learning, there is a need for pre-service teachers to be equipped with sufficient pedagogy skills, and exposed to the major literary works. However, in studying higher level literary works such as Shakespeare plays, the pre-service teachers are having problems understanding and appreciating the texts. Thus by using role play, they are able to understand the texts better and use the knowledge gathered during their own teaching practices later. This study examines the use of role play among pre-service teachers in a teacher training institute. In-depth interviews and questionnaires were used to determine the effectiveness of role play in enhancing their understanding and appreciation of the text. The findings of this study would contribute towards developing linguistically and culturally literate educators and students.

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### **Islamisation of Knowledge in Novels Impuls/Roh and Bimasakti Menari by Sri Rahayu Mohd Yusop**

As a Muslims, it's important to accepted Islam as a system and the way of life. Islam encompasses all aspects of life such as socials, economics, politics, laws, sciences and so on. In fact, Qur'an also explained the priority of seeking the knowledge to Muslims and so the efforts to understand and to practice Islam in their life. It is a continuation of the efforts of the Prophet, scholars and leaders of Islamic philosophy in improving the knowledge through the stories of the biography of the Prophet and Islamic history. Therefore, there is a long process of knowledge development within the scope of some of the era of Islam. Starts from the Prophet till the era of Caliphs, where the knowledge in Islam is stressed. All the efforts have continuously progress until the era of the rise of Islamic philosophers, such as Ibn Khaldun, Imam Shafie and Imam al-Ghazali. Those are figures of a great deal of knowledge in the Islamic perspectives and have involved in improving the knowledge as a platform to strengthen Islam in the world community. It is proven when Islamic civilisations have

developed and considered as a guide and compass in a variety of disciplines. This fact has shown through the wave of modernisation of education and also the development of the education systems in Malaysia due to the religious subjects which has been appointed as the main axis in learning. The importance of this phenomenon also leads the local authors to take the matter as a main issue in their works. The efforts in attributing Islam and literature show the Islamisation of knowledge is growing rapidly. Thus, this study aims to describe the Islamisation of knowledge in novels *Impuls/Roh* (2010) and *Bimasakti Menari* (2011), written by Sri Rahayu Mohd. Yusop and published by Utusan Publications & Distributors Sdn. Bhd. This study also examines the Islamisation of knowledge in modern science which is aligned with the Islamic sciences as the pivot of the struggle in sending elements of teaching to readers.

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### **Managing Multigenerational Differences at the Workplace**

The primary goal of tertiary education is to provide learners with an effective education which would enable them to transfer their knowledge and skills into their job, the outcome of which includes facilitating a supportive process that increases productivity through enhanced delivery and better communication with various generations of people. The objective of this research is to discuss the importance of recognising the presence of multiple generations in the workforce (traditionalists, baby boomers, generation X, and generation Y individuals) and equipping educators with cutting-edge teaching techniques which would provide effective skills to their learners to survive the ever-changing workforce. These students who are the prospective employees of the nation should be trained to deal with a multigenerational and multicultural working environment and be conscious of the personality characteristics of individuals from all generations and their various cultural background. The outcome is to produce multicultural employees who are able to acquire appropriate cultural knowledge regarding the local norms, mores and customs in order to work effectively with individuals of different generations throughout the world.

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### **Making a case for Sarawakian Literature in English (SLIE): A Personal Viewpoint**

This paper investigates the extent and nature of local Sarawakian literature in English (SLIE) across genres from folktales and Praise Songs translated into or retold in English, to anecdotes, short stories and poems written originally in English by Sarawakians, particularly from the 1960s to the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It first of all investigates the possible reasons why Sarawakian literature in English came into existence only about 50 years ago. This is followed by a study of the possible factors that have led to Sarawakian literature in English being practically completely ignored in mainstream discourse on Malaysian literature in English (MLIE), looking at the issue from political and socio-cultural perspectives. Significant and relevant factors that have led to differences between Sarawakian literature in English and mainstream Malaysian literature in English are investigated and explained. The catalytic role of the Borneo Literature Bureau (BLB) in the development of SLIE is also explained. The study takes a thematic approach in reading, analysing and interpreting the selected multi-genred texts, linking them within 'synchronic

thematic clusters' or 'landscapes' to achieve a more focused socio-cultural commentary of Sarawakian society, past and present. The texts studied are divided into 'derivative' and 'original' Sarawakian literature in English, and analysed using the hermeneutics approach, for a better understanding of their relevance to the main study objective, which is to prove that Sarawakian literature in English is socio-cultural commentary. This study shows that while Sarawakian society may have changed and developed over the past century or so from the advent of White Rajah rule in 1841 to the early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the different eras are linked by common themes of affinity with the land and Nature, a strong pioneering spirit, harmonious communal living and the will to survive under sometimes difficult circumstances. This pioneering study on Sarawakian literature in English arrives at the conclusion that Sarawakian literature in English not only exists but is also fairly substantial although it differs from mainstream MLIE in many literary, social and cultural aspects. It is hoped that this pioneering study will be a catalyst for further research in Sarawakian Literature in English.

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### **The Silent Confessions of Socially Conscious British Travel Writer on 19 Century Malaya**

This paper attempts to examine the manner in which the popular genre looks beyond the borders of functional colonialism and subject orientation in male or female writings and instead shifts the focus to constructive renegotiation and social consciousness of the Self's placement when living among the *Other*. The examination is conducted through the study of the symbolic construct of the traveler's own rational, balanced engagement and voice in the literary discourse which compromises fabula, actions, happenings, characters and their relationships with one another and the *Other* in narratives written by British travel writers on 19 century Malaya.

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### **Simone de Beauvoir's Notions of Transcendence/ Immanence in Forugh Farrokhzad's Poems**

This paper aims to explain Simone de Beauvoir's concept of Transcendence/Immanence in the poems of the acclaimed Iranian poet Forugh Farrokhzad. In the development of feminist criticism and its major changes in cultural and social-political thinking, Farrokhzad has tried to reflect women's oppression and confinement in the realm of immanence.

She employs her poetic power to give voice and subjectivity to subjugated women and to liberate them from what Beauvoir delicately calls immanence. She successfully intends to raise women's consciousness about their reduction to passive object who are hugely trapped in the immanence sphere through cultural conventions imposed by patriarchal society while masculinity has perpetually dwelled in the realm of transcendence. Conventional cultural and social practices have chained women to a submissive position where no intellectual cultivation is anticipated. Analyzing some of Farrokhzad's renowned poems, the researcher demonstrates the way Beauvoir's concept of transcendence/immanence can be explored and explained against the cultural conventions formulated by patriarchal mind styles. This paper is significant for it aims to bring about a change and to raise women's consciousness regarding the way their identities locked in immanence sphere have been hugely regulated by patriarchal society.

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**“Why don’t you ask someone else?”:**

**Patterns of Refusal for Requests and Invitations Amongst Academics**

This study was conducted to investigate the patterns of refusal in English used by academicians when given an invitation or when requested to do a favour. The participants of this study were 50 academic staff of various educational backgrounds from two Malaysian universities. The data for this study was collected by means of a Discourse Completion Test (DCT) and interview sessions with the participants. The taxonomy of refusal by Beebe *et al.* (1990) was used to categorise the various responses. The findings show that the participants differ in many ways when refusing an invitation or a request. There is a high tendency of participants conforming to the indirect manner of refusal, at the same time providing reasons and explanations. Some participants appear to use polite forms, while others use more diplomatic approaches. Members of the academic community in this study portrayed a high level of pragmatic competence, cultural awareness and ethnic sensitivities when dealing with refusals.

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**Representation of Malay Traditional Culture in Lat’s Cartoons**

Lat is renowned for his illustrative cartoons of typical Malaysian cultures, especially the Malay culture. The potential of his cartoons in spreading Malaysian culture worldwide via the media cannot be denied. As such, it is important to study his masterpieces and investigate the ways in which he portrays Malaysian culture through his drawings. We were therefore interested to study the ways Lat narrates the Malay traditional circumcision ceremony that took place during his childhood through visual and verbal elements. Using multimodal discourse analysis, which focuses on visual and verbal elements, we analysed Lat’s famous *Bersunat* cartoon, which was published in *Asia Magazine*, Hong Kong on 10 February 1974. The aim of the study was to investigate the text-image relations, or in other words, how the two modes, visual and verbal, portray the traditional Malay circumcision ceremony. Findings from the study show that, from the visual perspective, Lat described the circumcisor or the Tok Mudim as an old man wearing sarong or ‘kain pelikat’, ‘baju melayu’, with eyeglasses, had a moustache, always carried a box with him and his presence always scared small boys. Lat also showed that this ceremony was important for the Malays, since this ceremony was attended by majority of the *kampong* folks. In addition, feast and *marhaban* were also held in conjunction with the ceremony. As from the verbal perspective, Lat extensively used the words such as *kampong*, *sarong*, *baju melayu*, and *Tok Mudim* to represent the circumcision ceremony which took place in Malay traditional culture.

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### **Animal Metaphors of Malay Domesticated Animals**

Zoosemy or what is understood in the current semantic literature as the use of animal names to denote human qualities, or animal metaphors, has been the subject of investigation in various languages and cultures, such as English, Spanish, Hungarian and Chinese. Studies that focused on this topic have examined the role of conceptual dimension APPEARANCE/ PHYSICAL/ CHARACTERISTIC in the process of zoosemic extension in different languages. This study examined the use of animal metaphors in Malay. Data on Malay animal metaphors were extracted from various databases, namely the electronic database on Malay *peribahasa* and *Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka* Malay corpus. The analysis of the data focused on how domesticated animals such as cow, goat and donkey are used in the figurative expressions, i.e., what conceptual dimension are encoded in the conveyance of specific meanings related to the figurative expressions and whether they have positive or negative evaluations. Findings of the analysis revealed that the behavioural characteristics as well as appearance of the domesticated animals are a common source of animal metaphors in Malay. The conceptual dimension BEHAVIOUR/APPEARANCE related to the domesticated Malay animals motivate the intended meaning of the expressions. The findings also illustrate that the use of domesticated animals in the Malay figurative expressions is also often negative, in that they are often employed in a derogatory sense. These findings are in line with those found in the analysis of animal metaphors in other languages, which suggest cultural universality in the mechanism of zoosemy.

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### **Developing Students' Cultural Awareness Through the Use of the Novel 'The Namesake' by Jhumpa Lahiri in the literature classroom**

The teaching and learning of literature in the Malaysian classrooms does pose challenges especially to ESL students studying at tertiary level. Most students are often ignorant of the purpose of reading literary texts nowadays. They perceive it as something like a reading comprehension passage. This does affect the originality of looking at literary texts. The learning of literature requires more than that. Reading and understanding literary texts not only involve the ability to generate information but also ability to critically reflect, observe and make appropriate decisions. In other words, it involves the cognitive aspect of the students in coming up with their own answers. In this way, learners themselves will know whether their ideas are correct or not. Learners should also be encouraged to think creatively and critically when analyzing the texts. They also need to be taught on how to make valuable, worthwhile judgements as this will show how far they have understood the text. Therefore, it is the task of the instructor to make the lesson to be as interesting as possible. There are many ways an instructor could make the students to love literature. Basically, in this paper, I will be looking at how the novel 'The Namesake' by Jhumpa Lahiri can be used as a source to develop students' interest in learning literature and at the same time enhance their cultural awareness. As we know, learning a new culture requires careful understanding and an applicable instruction. Through this, it is hoped that we will gain several insights into some of the ways students' cultural awareness can be developed. In this light,

students' perception towards literature can be viewed from different perspectives. This provides more opportunity to use different novels which portrays a variety of cultures in the literature classroom.

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### **The Role of Conjunctions in Cohesion Structuring in Academic Writings of Persian Students in Malaysia**

This study focuses on the use of conjunctions in the academic writings of Persian students to examine the cohesion structured in their texts. The data is selected from the proceedings presented by Persian postgraduate students of engineering fields in a nanotechnology conference held by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM, the National University of Malaysia) in 2009. Cohesion structures of 20 selected proceedings of this study are investigated based on Hallidayan Systemic Functional Linguistics though the use of conjunctions is descriptively presented in this paper. Conjunctions help in the setting up of the logical/semantic relations in texts by making connections among clauses inside clause complexes or even among paragraphs (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004). The mixed method applied in this study needed to measure the quantity of the conjunctions produced in the proceedings via Word Smith software (Scott, 2004) accompanied by further qualitative investigations regarding the position in the rhetorical organization of the proceedings (which include Abstract, Introduction, Experimental, and Results and Discussion). In addition, the finding of this paper extends to the classifications of the conjunctions produced by the Persian students following Halliday and Hasan's (1976) categorization as Additive, Adversative, Causal, and Temporal through different sections of the proceedings. Furthermore, it discusses the reasoning behind Persian students' conjunction selections in their academic writings (quantity and repetition) as well as the variety of conjunctions produced by them compared to other research done in this area.

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### **Linguistic Dimensions of Discursive Dynamism in Motionsof the University Parliamentary Debate as Speech Genre**

This paper reports on part of a doctoral study that investigated English language use in the speeches produced in University Parliamentary Debate (UPD) discourse. The data set for the investigation comprised debate motions compiled from the World Universities Debating Championship (WUDC) tournaments over the period 2002 to 2011, and were analysed using a broad discourse as social practice framework (Fairclough, 1989, 1995, 2001) together with Lave and Wenger's (1991) associated notions of "communities of practice" and "legitimate peripheral participation". Debate motions are central to the genre in that they identify the topics and set the tone of the subsequent (counter) argumentation and/or rebuttal discourse. The results of the study showed that a clear shift had occurred in the linguistic realization of UPD motions at WUDC over the period in question. There were more motions that employed imperative clauses in comparison with the previously dominant declarative forms. Inventories of possible linguistic choices in the

“declarative motions” and the “imperative motions”, respectively, were identified in tandem with any change in discourse purpose. It was concluded that such discursive dynamism of the UPD genre needs to be researched further, and training activity in legitimate peripheral participation among ESL/EFL students of UPD would improve with the inclusion of explicit linguistic exposure in terms of particular purposes or role fulfilment, from the simple, recurrent employment of clause/sentence forms to the understanding of the reasons behind the change in discourse purpose.

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### **The Factors that Affect Non-Native Students' Tendency to Commit Plagiarism**

In order to reduce the level of plagiarism in theses, subtle awareness of its reasons is required. Designing pre-emptive policies based on the factors that aggravate non-native students' (NNS) propensity to plagiarize may be effective. This study focuses mainly on academic and language skills to address unintentional plagiarism among postgraduate NNSs in Malaysian international universities. A focus group interview with three proofreaders was done firstly; then their perception of the factors that lead to plagiarism was triangulated with the responses of 14 non-native postgraduate students from five different universities to our interviews about the difficulties of thesis writing. The results of this study show that high academic workloads and time deadline pressure (TDP) to submit proposals/theses hinder students in allocating time to learn the components of academic writing (e.g. referencing and citation conventions). Moreover, they suffer from low English proficiency, which leads them toward patchwriting. The needs analysis of the students shows that the current support centers which offer academic writing consultations are not efficient enough. In fact, NNSs need to extensively practice academic discourse prior to starting their studies; support centers however may provide on-going support when they start writing their actual theses. This study informs policy developers of Malaysian international universities' language centers about NNS needs to plan and implement pre-emptive academic literacy courses, and consulting centers in international settings. Providing such facilities may reduce the rate of plagiarism among non-native postgraduates and sustain the standards of academic integrity.

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### **Fairness in Assessment**

The aim of assessment is to provide a fair and valid evaluation of students' performance. Every year, teachers and those involved in developing assessment methods and rubrics have to decide as to the types of assessment that can best be used to evaluate students' performance. Appropriately designed assessments will produce valid and fair results. Standardized tests tend to measure the acquisition of facts and skills rather than students' real understanding. Furthermore, the questions do not cover the content of the whole programme and limited areas are tested. Students are expected to know everything and they often answer the questions merely by memorizing information. This type of test is generally conducted in higher education institutions. Both the objective and subjective test types are used. Certain students benefit from tests while others do better in coursework. The multiple-choice format sometimes leads to unfairness when they are ill-

constructed, and it does not test the communicative ability of test takers. The open-ended items can also be unfair as the criteria for marking are subjective. Tests and examinations are normally in the written form and hence cater more to those whose learning style inclines towards writing whereas students learn using different learning styles. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to discover what students perceive as fair assessment and their views regarding assessment. The results of the study can further improve the way assessments are conducted.

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### **Testing System at S.S.C Examination and Its Wash Back**

It is claimed by many that the English testing at S. S. C. Examination in Bangladesh has been kept as means only to awarding certificates because of the existing discrepancies shown between teaching-learning and testing systems. This paper investigates the same but focuses mainly on the backwash of the testing system either beneficial or harmful if any. Both quantitative and qualitative data analyses were used. Maximum nine schools (3 urban, 3 semi-urban and 3 rural) were visited to fill up the questionnaires, conduct interview sessions, and observe classrooms –as data collecting tools. The study examined what language skills were taught in the classes, how learners learned them, whether authentic materials were used in those classrooms or not and how they were tested finally. After data analysis, a significant gap was detected between teaching, learning and testing of English which was reflected in a four-tier wash back: learners' learning style, teachers' teaching skills, use of teaching and learning materials, and English testing system at S. S. C. examination.

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### **Power @ Play: Managerial Discourse at the Workplace**

Previous studies have indicated that workplace leaders display a wide verbal repertoire (Mullany, 2009; Vine, 2009; Holmes, 2003; Huseman et al., 1980). Drawing on a preliminary database of recorded material collected from female managers in several hypermarkets in the Klang Valley, this paper illustrates the value of qualitative analysis in displaying such varying repertoires. The discourse patterns of manager-employee interactions reveal that effective female managers adapt their speech styles with sensitivity and skill to enact their power and authority covertly. Discussions of the strategies employed by the female managers are presented in this paper.

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**A Gang Boy in Search of Identity: Billy's Character Development  
in Doctorow's Billy Bathgate**

E.L. Doctorow's distinguished novel, *Billy Bathgate* depicts the accidental involvement of an insignificant fifteen-year-old Billy in the potent Gang of Dutch Schultz in 1930s of America. Under the narration of Billy, it is suggested that Doctorow shows the boy's character development and his quest for power and identity. Moreover, the formation of his individuality links Billy to picaresque characters in American novels and his transformation from naivety to experience designates aspects of bildungsroman within him. To justify such claim, this study carries the ideas of Bakhtin's "Bildungsroman" and Owen Aldridge views on "picaresque" novels. In addition, Billy's outer progress is studied in Neo-Historical realm to unveil his challenges with the role of "power" and its effects on his character formation.

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**Variants to Collectivism Across Cultures in Negotiation Communication**

The world is linked as a consequence of globalisation. Contact between cultures in many spheres of life such as the workplace results in cross-cultural encounters that impact on the praxis of the workplace. Social practices evident in business contexts in Asia, such as patterns of oral communication, particularly of the Chinese and Japanese, and more recently of the Indians, have been subject to attention by the West. The ways in which the praxis of the workplace is presented, however, privileges the West. The general understanding, that Eastern social practices are result of collectivism while such practices are driven by individualism in the West, may be reflective of Eastern and Western cultures. However, the discourse from the West does not show sufficient appreciation for the different ways of thinking and reasoning that underlie the social practices of different cultures. This paper provides an alternative view by subjecting it to critical scrutiny. The study shows that although Malays, Chinese and Indians value collectivism, it is exercised differently in communication. The study discusses the Malay, Chinese and Indian mindset from the perspective of culture and shows how it underlies their communication patterns in negotiations. In sum, the study argues that there are variants to the collectivist practices of the East that more than meets the eye of the essentialistic collectivism observed by the West.

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**About the Ethnic and Linguistic Identity of Ethnic Groups in Kazakhstan  
(On the Example of the Russian, Polish and Korean Diasporas)**

Currently, in many post-Soviet countries, issues related to ethnic and linguistic processes as well as those related to the revival of national and linguistic identity of the peoples have been raised. In connection with the change of socio-political situation, namely, the transformation of the Soviet space into post-Soviet, and the disappearance of the Soviet ideology, there are various socio-cultural strains that have an influence on the relations between social factors and the conceptual definition of these relations. The problem of studying the national consciousness of the peoples living in Kazakhstan has become significant as evidenced by heated debates, particularly, about language policy, state language development, language and ethnic identity. Kazakhstan is a multiethnic country, where representatives of 140 nationalities peacefully coexist and develop. Throughout the centuries different peoples are united by a common territory, social development and cultural interaction. However, the current policy of civic integration does not reduce the urgency of ethno-linguistic research. The idea of this investigation is to identify the types of interaction of different bases to identify different ethnos - linguistic, ethnic, socio-cultural, and in some cases, religious and governmental. For various reasons people, who find themselves in different cultural and linguistic environments; have to redefine their position in the new system of values and socio-cultural space. They feel and understand peculiarities of their national culture, social behaviour, and mentality, clearly distinguishing them from the indigenous population. According to the research findings the integration of ethnic groups into Kazakhstani society is the interaction of complex, multiple-valued and contradictory processes, in which a language, as one of the important components of ethnic identity, is a bearer with a wide range of symbols of the ethno members' unity, their similarities and differences. This research enables us to analyse changes in their ethno-linguistic identity under the influence of determining factors.

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**Barriers in Implementing ICT in the Teaching of Literature in  
Selangor International Islamic University College Literature Classrooms**

This research was conducted in the Selangor International Islamic University College (SIIUC) focusing on 5 lecturers who have experience teaching English Literature classes as respondents. The research has four objectives which are (1) to study the barriers that might or could arise when it comes to implementing ICT in the teaching of literature, (2) to identify any possible ICT applications that are currently being used by the literature lecturers in literature classrooms, (3) to examine whether the use of ICT applications will lead to new, different, and better literature-teaching experiences, and (4) to explore the possible solutions to overcome the barriers in adopting ICT in literature classrooms. This research employed quantitative design to analyse and interpret the data. The instrument used is a questionnaire. The data obtained from the questionnaire distributed to the respondents were analysed using SPSS version 16. This research outlined several major issues to be highlighted. Generally, reading a literary text requires a high level of understanding. Often, readers need to form mental images and visualise what they read. Hence, the

practice of using ICT such as PowerPoint in literature classes would be of greater help to enhance literary teaching and learning experiences. Towards the end of this report, a number of recommendations are proposed in line with the issue of ICT and Literature. Although this research is a case study involving a small number of lecturers from the Department of English Language and Literature in SIIUC, it is still applicable to all higher education institution.

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### **Teaching Language and Beyond**

The speed at which new technology is emerging is truly amazing and we as teachers need to adapt ourselves to teaching through technology as well as professionally develop ourselves. With social networking all around it is inevitable that teachers and learners work together collaboratively and burn the bridges between teachers and learners that have been built traditionally. Voice based e-learning tools like Voxopop is a great one where students can improve their speaking skills as well as gain confidence and be motivated by being able to share their voice threads along with their peers. Learners also gain self esteem by being able to publish their projects and activities on social networking sites like Facebook. Learners can gain knowledge of life skills along with language learning. They also indirectly become aware of meta-cognitive learning, critical thinking and problem solving. Learning through technology promotes learning in a non threatening environment which supports second language acquisition. This paper aims to bring into the limelight different ways that IT can be merged within a traditional classroom framework thereby fostering learner autonomy. The benefits as well as the challenges faced will also be discussed.

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### **The Protagonist /Antagonist Demolished Distinction Line A Critical Analysis of Characterization in the Social Dramas of Henrik Ibsen, George Bernard Shaw, and Arthur Miller**

Social Drama is one kind of modern drama that has come with different convictions to the stage of theatre. In social drama, the identification of characters has become much hazier as it approached the inner side of normal people. In the social dramas of Henrik Ibsen, George Bernard Shaw, and Arthur Miller it can be clearly noticed that the main characters are themselves in struggle with themselves and with their society. Accordingly, the current study is intended to investigate the characters and the characterization process in selected social dramas of Ibsen, Shaw, and Miller to show how and why the distinction line between the protagonist and the antagonist is so unclear. This paper is to cover Ibsen's *Enemy of the people*, *Hedda Gabler*, and *When We Dead Awaken*, Shaw's *Pygmalion*, *Mrs' Warren's Profession*, and *Widowers' Houses*, And Miller's *Death of a Salesman*, *The Crucible*, and *All My Sons*. This paper also aims to show how and to what extent there have become more and more transferable traits between the protagonist and antagonist in social drama. With the focus on the inner struggle of the characters and a more insight into their psychology, the realistic characterisation demolishes the distinction line that defines the features of the protagonists/antagonists which has occurred due to their struggle with their milieu.

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**Revisiting Identities – “Sambalizing” the Malaysian Persona**

Malaysia's unique social fabric has always been captured through various mediums. In this paper, we look at the multiple and varied layers of meaning found in a cinematic text, namely *Nasi Lemak 2.0*. This is one of the local movies that features the three major ethnic groups (and then some) living in Malaysia that attempts to explore several factors: Are cultural and individual identities and language determined by one's ethnicity? Is the articulation of diverse diasporas encouraged? How are inter-ethnic, inter-cultural relations established and maintained? In the light of tremendous technological advances and 'glocalised' economies, can the various groups survive without compromising their authentic traditional cultures or is it imperative that they undergo hybridization in certain cultural aspects?

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**Exposure to Audiovisual Programmes as Authentic Language Input and Language Learning in Informal Setting**

Today, various audio-visual technologies are developing by sharing and showing a variety of programs to both instruct and entertain different audience. These developments offer many possibilities for teachers to utilise different programs as various sources of authentic language input to construct activities for enhancing language learning. In the same line, the present paper aimed at providing empirical evidence on the effect of exposure to various audio-visual programs on language proficiency of differentiated language proficiency levels language learners in informal setting. To this end, 75 language learners majoring in TESL were assigned to 3 language proficiency levels based on the scores obtained by them from an IELTS pre-test: low (N=25), intermediate (N=25), and upper-intermediate (N=25) levels. During the study all the participants were asked to have exposure to their preferred audio-visual program(s) in informal setting and keep track of the amount and type of exposure. At the end of the study, another IELTS test was administered to all the participants to find out which language proficiency level(s) language learners could improve their language proficiency more. The results of the post-test were indicative of the fact that intermediate and upper-intermediate language learners improved their language proficiency more. The data obtained from the self-report sheets also showed that the intermediate and upper-intermediate participants had more exposure to news than other programs.

**TAW LY WEN, CHAN SWEE HENG & YONG MEI FUNG***Universiti Putra Malaysia*[lywentaw@fbmk.upm.edu.my](mailto:lywentaw@fbmk.upm.edu.my), [shchan@fbmk.upm.edu.my](mailto:shchan@fbmk.upm.edu.my), [yong@fbmk.upm.edu.my](mailto:yong@fbmk.upm.edu.my)**Request Strategies Used by Malaysian ESL Learners of Four Proficiency Levels**

Pragmatic competence is defined as the ability to convey communicative actions in sociocultural contexts. Production of appropriate speech acts in a particular context is one of the important aspects of pragmatic competence. Request is one of the most commonly researched speech acts in pragmatic studies. This study investigates the request strategies used by ESL undergraduates of elementary, lower intermediate, upper intermediate, and advanced proficiency levels in a public university in Malaysia. Oral Discourse Completion Task, also known as closed role play was employed to elicit the request production from 20 participants through six controlled situations which reflect common oral encounters. These situations involve request as speech act in the daily life of the undergraduates, mirroring directness and authenticity of language use. Data from Oral Discourse Completion Task were audio-recorded and transcribed, and then analysed using the request coding scheme developed by Blum-Kulka and Olshtain (1989) in the Cross-Cultural Speech Act Research Project (CCSARP). The study sheds light on the developmental pattern of requests of the Malaysian ESL learners. It also contributes to the knowledge of how requests are made to co-relate with pragmatic competence of these L2 learners.

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[bee@fbmk.upm.edu.my](mailto:bee@fbmk.upm.edu.my)**Use of Discourse Particles in Facebook Wall Posts Among Chinese Malaysian Youth**

Malaysia has its own variety of English due to its multi-racial setting. As Malaysians come from different racial and language backgrounds, Malaysian English consists of many loan words and discourse particles from other languages. This study seeks to examine the use of discourse particles (DPs) by Chinese Malaysian youth in Facebook, specifically in the wall posts and comment sections of Facebook. It aims to investigate the types and frequency of the most commonly used DPs and their pragmatic functions in Facebook wall posts and comments among Chinese Malaysian youth. The data for the present study consists of 200 Facebook conversations obtained from the wall posts of twenty Chinese Malaysian youth, with ten male and ten female. This study is located within the pragmatic framework and the data will be analysed using the typology and scheme of DP pragmatic functions adopted from the website Malaysia Tourism and Travel Guide - Malaysia Truly Asia: A study of definite noun phrases in Singaporean and British discourse, compiled by the Department of English Language and Literature, the National University of Singapore (2000); and Discourse particles in Singaporean English (Low & Brown, 2005). The results reveal that the DPs *lah* (啦), *lo* (咯), *leh* (咧), *ah* (啊), and *d/edy* (already) are the most frequently used DPs in the Facebook wall posts by Chinese Malaysian youth.

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**Batek in Motion: Lexicon and Loanwords**

One of the sub branches of Austroasiatic Mon Khmer language family is the Aslian language. Linguistically, the Aslians are further divided into Jah Hut, North Aslian, Senoic and South Aslian. Batek is one of the eastern sub communities of the Northern Aslian and Batek Hep' is one of the dialects of the main Batek language used in the North Central Peninsular Malaysia. Other dialects include the Batek Nong, De', Igak and Teq which are claimed (by the informants) to be quite different phonologically and morphologically. These dialects are in a vulnerable endangered state as development is beginning to reach the outskirts of the National Park. The present research shall present preliminary findings of lexicons describing movements in Batek Hep'. Adopting the language documentation method where data are gathered through participant-as-observer recordings and transcription; the findings shall include some preliminary documentation of Batek Hep' verbs. The data collected are from the Batek Hep' who dwell along the Tembeling, Keniam, Yong, Kucing and Sat rivers in Pahang over a period of three months. These documentation shall assist future descriptive study.

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**Daring to Break Convention: The Tragedy of Sylvia Plath**

Sylvia Plath's intense ambition to write a novel provides us one of her main and most distressful themes of her early journals. Her various attempts to start--brought her repeatedly to near despair. She agonized about style, tone, structure and even subject matter. Simultaneously during the same period, her poetry struggled. Many poems survive, maybe because each of her convulsive efforts to break through the mysterious barriers by way of completing a short poem--which could then be sold for cash and bore comparison with what other poets were publishing. She knew that these poems were not what she wanted. She valued them far more highly than her prose, because they reflected, often very beautifully, the obsessive inner life that made her write them. Even though they reflected it, she felt they did not contain it, did not release it. These poems actually do not live, they are a sad diagnosis. On the other hand, her prose did not seem to reflect her inner sights. On reading her narrative prose one can see a mismatch between her ambition and the character of her actual gift. Her high-minded, academic passion for classic novelists combined with the priorities of her own sophisticated poetic talent made her think of the ideal narrative prose as something densely wrought, richly charged, of all-encompassing, superfine subtleties. Her vital inner creative life was not in her prose. Her breakthrough came in Spring 1959, in a moment of seemingly no importance, like a gambler, playful and reckless, out of the blue she wrote her short story "Johnny panic and the bible of dreams." The first-person narrative was composed in a voice that approximates the one she would find for *The Bell Jar* -a voice, rather than a style of her choice.

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**Evaluative Language in Engineering Research Thesis Abstracts**

Abstract as an indispensable part of a thesis used by researchers to position their work in academic communities is a means of communicating the significance of the study in order to persuade readers to accept the novelty and credibility of the accompanying research. The persuasive nature of abstract mandated the employment of evaluative language; research writers need to situate their study, convey their stance towards prior knowledge claims made by others and display attitudes towards their own findings all within a specified word limit and confined space. Working mainly within the linguistic framework of evaluation provided by Hunston and Thompson (2000), this study explores how Malaysian Engineering student writers use evaluative language in their research thesis abstracts. Four parameters of evaluation, good-bad, certainty, expectedness, and importance are used to analyse how student writers' structuring strategies are employed in the process of knowledge construction. The manifestation of parameters of evaluation in the abstracts indicate that the student writers are aware of the role of evaluation in their abstract writing and the quantitative analysis of evaluative stance markers revealed variations in the density and type of evaluations. The most prominent signals of evaluation in the abstracts are the stance adverbials and complement clauses controlled by stance verbs, adjectives, or nouns used to express the writer's certainty of the knowledge claim. Evaluation along with positive-negative parameter is strongly signalled stating the results and implications of the research based on the underlying value-system of the abstracts. This study is a contribution to student writers especially non-native speakers of English who need to improve their abstract writing skill.

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**Context of Situation in the Use of Jukun Proverbs: A Pragmatic Approach**

The polymorphous nature of proverbs tends to offer the users some insights into certain pragmatic constraints in the general use of language thereby making them a specialized genre of language use. In the light of this, the work examines the appropriateness, meanings as well as the context in which they could be employed with specific examples drawn from Jukun society, Nigeria in West Africa. In order to achieve the purposes of highlighting and contextualizing these proverbs as intended, some pragmatic tools which stress certain contexts, competencies, background information and Speech Acts would be adopted. Our Model of analysis, Lawal (2003) is a built up on the earlier Speech Act theoretical Models of scholars such as Austin (1962), Grice (1967), Searle (1976), Bach and Harnish (1979), Levinson (1980) and Adegbija (1982) assumes six hierarchical contexts of: Linguistic, Situational, Psychological, Social, Sociological and Cosmology which the speaker and the listener need to be conversant with. In order to realize the contextual and functional distinctiveness of Jukun proverbs, few that are sampled for this study would be analyzed by stating both the direct and indirect illocutionary acts they perform and the contexts/competencies needed for their interpretation.

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**The Use of Literary Works and The Development of Tertiary and Pedagogical Literacies**

The teaching and learning of literary works should naturally lead to the acquisition of multifaceted knowledge and skills which are useful in preparing students for needed academic skills as well as for their future professional career. This study examines the influence that the teaching and learning of literary works, within an undergraduate TESL program, has on ESL teacher trainees' tertiary literacies. Teacher reflections, observations, forum content analysis, interviews, and questionnaires were used to gather data among ESL teacher trainees who were asked to read, discussed, and analyzed a short story, a play, and a poem. This paper will describe a) the aspects of tertiary literacies displayed by students when dealing with literary works in the classroom, b) the aspects of pedagogical literacy that the teaching and learning of literary works offer. The findings suggest that the teaching and learning of literary works a) could serve as an effective medium for the acquisition of knowledge, skills, and competence needed by university students, and b) offer useful insights into effective classroom teaching, syllabus design, and materials development. The writers further argue that due to the sociocognitive and linguistic demands of teaching and learning literary works, their inclusion in tertiary education will not only benefit students and curriculum of language education, but also those of other disciplines such as sciences and engineering. Such inclusion, thus, complements higher education goals of producing academically competent and socially versatile graduates

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**The Confluence of Sociological Ideologies and Feminist Literacy Discourses**

The title of my paper brings together three vital, thought provoking terms in any discussion of Literature – Society, Culture and Gender. The term “subjectivity” assumes importance in any discussion of literature in the light of Althusser’s theory which states that individuals are “cultural constructs” since society “interpellates” individuals. The paper is divided into three parts. The first part analyses the changes in the meaning of the term “subject” or “subjectivity” through the centuries, the second and the third parts would underscore how feminist writers have deployed postmodern and postcolonial techniques in their writings as a result of the complex interplay between culture, society and gender. The discussion centres round six feminist writers from varied cultures namely Mahasweta Devi (Indian), Toni Morrison (African American), Dorris Lessing (British), Margaret Atwood (Canadian), Leslie Marmon Silko (Native American) and Beatrice Culleton (Native Canadian). Devi and Morrison engage with the question of subjectivity by presenting the maternal as a vital space where the boundaries between the private and the public become blurred. Lessing and Atwood use subversion and fragmentation as a mode of postmodern fictional representation thereby opening up the closed unitary subject to an experience of multiplicity and difference. Postcolonial women’s discourses seek to decenter the hegemony or power game of the coloniser and sustain the marginalised. They throw new perspectives on language and on the complex interaction between personal and political. When viewed from this angle, the postcolonial works of Silko and Culleton can be termed “anti-imperial translation”, a

term used by the postcolonial critic Arnold Krupat, since they create an alternative space for the native woman's voice to be heard. In conclusion, it can be said that Literary Discourses are the fundamental constitutive mode of power relations.

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**The Missing Link: The Place of Translation Studies in the Curriculum of Humanities**

Translation may readily seem a convenient grid for linguistic acquisition. However, it can be misleading and even problematic as a result of the misconception of translation as a mechanic exchange between two languages that may cause interference to comprehension. In other fields of humanities, however, it is its negligence that needs attention. Languages traveled with disciplines and cultures. When a whole set of concepts involved is traveling, a whole set of translations and translated terminology inevitably function as a vessel for them to reach the destination. It becomes relevant for the students of the humanities to have at least a basic but overall understanding of how this vessel has evolved and whether it works well, especially when there are incessant and increasing communications among cultures in this era of internet. However, it is crucial to know that a translation-related course does not mean one that offers purely practical training. It should be culturally bounded and tailored for the curricula which it serves, composed of a proper balance and an exclusive composition of the issues covered specifically by the discipline in question. This paper investigates related issues involved and discusses some examples.

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**A Modern Yemeni Short Story**

Much has been written about the theme of encounter between Arabs and the West in Arabic narrative fiction. However, most if not all of the previous studies have a masculine stamp in that they speak about the experience of many Arab males and their encounters with Western females. Many attendant thematic issues have been dealt with in such representations as culture shock, cultural values, personal attitudes and religious distinctions between involved characters. Ramziah Al-Eryani, a prominent Yemeni female writer and an active feminist, however, provides a totally different thematic treatment of this encounter. In fact, she has participated in and contributed to the dialect between Arabs and the West from a feminist perspective. She has reversed the norm by characterizing a Yemeni girl who was desired by an American man to be his wife, not his girlfriend. In her short story entitled *Al-Garibah*, "The stranger", published in her third collection of short stories entitled *Assama tomter qutnan* translated as "The sky is raining cotton" (1999), Al-Eryani provides a novel treatment to such theme. Furthermore, her representation has a local flavor since she attempts to deal with an enduring problem for the Yemeni female whose rights to marry and select her partner has been hijacked by her male guardians. She has tackled the issue from a feminist perspective which quite is distinctive from other treatments by Arab male writers. Building on an eclectic theoretical framework, this paper attempts to analyze one of Ramziah Al-Eryani's short stories that are still imprisoned within the local Yemeni linguistic and cultural barricades.

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**Achieving Research Rigour: Challenges for and Contributions from  
Linguistic Research in a Multilingual Context**

Linguistic theories were developed from observing language development and use among monolinguals. These theories were then tested with bilinguals and L2 learners to extend the scope of these theories and to discuss its application in second language contexts, resulting in modifications of our understanding of how language is processed and represented in a speaker's mind. However, a huge proportion of learners in Malaysia are multilinguals. For example, students of Aslian, Chinese and Indian ethnic origin speak their mother tongues at home, but learn Malay and English in schools. A similar scenario is also available in Sabah and Sarawak where the indigenous peoples there speak their indigenous languages while acquiring Malay and English as additional languages. The paper discusses possible linguistic factors such as cross linguistic differences and similarities of the languages spoken by Malaysians, language proficiency and non-linguistic factors such as language dominance and age of acquisition that need to be taken into account in designing experimental studies that involve multilinguals. The paper also discusses challenges in conducting such research and the contributions that can come from such research.

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**Using Reflective Journals in Postgraduate Research Methodology Class**

Reflective journal also known as learning log is a method which encourages metacognitive practice. Through the use of a reflective approach, teachers can recognise the different affective stages that their students go through in the research process. In addition, it promotes independent learning where students take ownership of their research development and understand their own struggles and learning strategies. The purpose of this paper is to show how reflective journals can offer unparalleled insights into the complex and subjective experiences of novice researchers as they cope with the demands of becoming a capable researcher, critical thinker and good writer. Excerpts from the weekly reflective journals written by 19 students in a postgraduate research methodology class will be presented to bring the students' experiences vividly to life. Based on the findings, pedagogical implications are discussed.

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**Reading Strategies of Iranian Students**

To read printed materials effectively, many strategies have been suggested to cultivate good reading habits and also to motivate readers to read more. In this study, reading strategies suggested by Block (1986), Mokhtari and Shoerey (2002) and Fotovatian and Shokrpour (2007) were adopted for the “think-aloud protocol” which was used as the main source of data collection. The participants were asked to read two texts, one in Persian and the other in English, in order to investigate the similar and different strategies they used while reading in L1 and L2. Questionnaires were used as one of the research instruments to identify the strategies that students used in their reading. In addition, in-depth interview sessions were conducted to enlighten any unclear points. The data were collected and analysed. The results from the data analysis showed that Iranian intermediate students most frequently used *underlining*, *monitoring comprehension* and *reacting to the text* strategies while reading both texts. However, they most frequently used strategies such as *correcting behaviour* and *questioning information* while reading a Persian text but used *using reference materials* and *question meaning of a word* strategies while reading an English text. It was found that most of the participants were not familiar with some useful and general strategies. In addition, they did not read the headline of the text properly. As a recommendation, the researcher believes that teachers should explicitly familiarise students with useful methods, strategies and instructions while teaching them reading.

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**“Publish or Perish”: Challenges in Scholarly Writing and Publishing in Local and International English-Medium Journals among Uitm Perak Academicians**

Having done numerous language editing tasks for scholarly articles, abstracts and full papers, we realised that many academicians from various faculties in UiTM Perak are struggling with their academic writing skills and linguistic competence particularly in English. Since academic writing and publication in high impact journals dictate the success of an academic career at higher learning institutions, failure to produce quality papers inevitably becomes a bane in their professional development. Onerous pressure in scholarly publication has created an urgent need to acquire relevant academic writing skills. Even if they did write in English, there would be another hurdle that awaits them. Previous studies have shown that non-native English speakers have to compete with the native speakers when it comes to publishing in established local and international English medium journals. Therefore, this study aims to determine the factors attributed to problems in academic writing in English, the subjects’ strategies in handling the problems and their perception of scholarly publication in a second language. Fifty academicians from five different faculties were chosen to complete the questionnaire prepared by the researchers. Quantitative data analysis using SPSS was done to obtain the results. Findings provided a deeper and more detailed insight into the challenges that UiTM Perak academicians face in order to produce academic writing in English and publish it. The results will also be used to gather more specific needs analysis data in the future so that measures can be taken to overcome the problem.

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**Staging Inter-Culturalism and Multi-Culturalism in “Terompah Manek”(Beaded Slippers)  
Theatre Education Project**

This paper is an attempt to discover some of the issues in adopting the Malay script, “Terompah Manek”, translated as Beaded Slippers, written by Zulkifli-bin Mohamad, for the final staging of “Asas Seni Lakon”(Basic Acting) BBK 3407, at the Malay Studies’s Theatre Minor Program. Interestingly, there are six Chinese students, one Iban, one Sarawak Malay and three Malay students from West Malaysia in the class. What triggers me to write a special script for this event is the difficulty of choosing the right Malay script for them (beginners of acting lesson) where half of them do not speak Malay in their daily life. In the beginning of the fourteen-week class, a Bangsawan script, Hang Li Po, was chosen for class exercises, partly to gauge special interest among non-Malay and Malay students about history of Melaka and perhaps the origins of Chinese Peranakan (Nyonya-Baba) in Malaysia. Bangsawan is also an important start in studying Malay theatre and Malay acting, though it requires special acting skills, stylistic acting. Though some people see Bangsawan as a traditional theatre, others see it as a transition from traditional to modern theatre as it beginning to require special set for different scenes and some kind of dialogue improvisation. The paper continues with discussion of various multi-cultural concepts in Malaysian history, from “Muhibbah” and “Malaysia Truly Asia” to “1Malaysia” and how the concept has inspired many work of arts, from television advertisement to feature film and theatre production. It also discovers the two most important concepts in this paper, “inter-culturalism” and “multi-culturalism”. The discussion on the two concepts tries to relate to the writing and stage production of “Terompah Manek”. In writing and staging the work, the writer also tries to discover related theatre and performance concept such as “Teater Kontemporari” (Contemporary Theatre) in 1970s Malaysia (developed after the May 13, 1969 incident), as well as “Fictional History” in script writing, by bringing in the life of a Muslim Chinese Peranakan in Melaka.

## ABSTRACTS OF POSTER PRESENTATIONS

(in alphabetical order by name of the first author)

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### **The story of history: A Reading of Slaughterhouse Five as Metafiction**

Vonnegut, in words of Todd Davis, “offers a new fiction, a paradigm of postmodernity that allows the author to struggle with philosophical ideas concerning our condition in a form that reflects this very struggle”. But how could Vonnegut’s fictions be labelled as a paradigm of postmodernity while postmodernism is on ‘the move away from narrative, from representation’ and where the ‘relationship between signifier and signified is arbitrary’. Known as our leading literary pragmatist, Vonnegut, in his best known novel *Slaughterhouse Five* (1969), explores a kind of writing which is hard to be labeled. While new fiction moves toward ‘an autonomous art form’ in its own right just as poetry, music, or the plastic arts are autonomous, Vonnegut deals with the harsh realities of the world through writing fiction. His novel challenges and enlightens about some parts of history that has been archived by seemingly unknown forces by exposing the process of narration. This new fiction has close affinities with the term American critic William Gass coined in 1970, metafiction. Reading the novel as metafiction that self-consciously and systematically draws attention to its status as an artefact, comes to explore how this kind of writing highlight the relationship between fiction and reality.

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### **Representations of “Palestinian Prisoners-Shalit Swap” in Selected Arab and Israeli Online News Articles**

“The Palestinian Prisoners-Shalit Swap” deal, or as some media sources refer to it as the “Gilad Shalit-prisoners exchange”, was a major issue in the media coverage in the Middle East for almost five years. This issue refers to an agreement between Israel and “Hamas”, the dominant political party governing the Gaza Strip, to release the Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit in exchange for 1,027 prisoners. The agreement came five years and four months after Palestinian militants captured ‘Shalit’ in southern Israel along the Gaza border, which was led by imposing a siege on the Gaza Strip and waging a 28-day war in 2008, in an attempt to impose pressure on Hamas. Both the Arab and Israeli media played a role in portraying the image of the released Palestinian Prisoners and the Israeli soldier to the readers worldwide. The study aimed to identify the online media coverage of the “Palestinian Prisoners-Shalit Swap” in terms of the manipulation of language and semiotics of the pictures accompanying the news covered. The researcher used Discourse Historical Analysis (DHA); as well as the transitivity analysis developed by M.A.K. Halliday. The study analyzed news reports appeared in both the website of the Israeli news agency “Haartz” and the website of the Arab news agency “Aljazeera”, to identify the discursive strategies and the linguistic means of self-justification of both news agencies towards this issue. It was discovered that the macro strategies of “us” versus “them” was evident in the discourse. It was concluded that many strategies were used by the Israeli news agency to justify their position

as oppressors and to justify their past, present and future political actions in the region. On the other hand, the Arab news agency was portraying the “self” as righteous and heroes by highlighting the success of the swap as a victory against the oppressor.

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### **Exploring Multilingual Acts in Billboard Advertisements: The Linguistic and Code Practices in a Linguistic Landscape**

Studying linguistic landscape (LL) is a relatively new area of sociolinguistics that encompasses written language on public road signs, billboard advertisements and shop fronts. The term, LL, can be traced to the seminal work of Landry and Bourhis (1997). It is through the lens of LL that this study aims to examine the linguistics practices and code choices in billboard advertisements in the ‘cityscape’ of a capital city. Spolsky (2004) states the real language policy of a community is likely to be found in its practices than in management of the policy. With this in mind, this study examines official documents which articulate and prescribe linguistic and code choice policies for billboard advertisements in the selected cityscape. The reality of the practice is captured through an analysis of selected billboards identified along a stretch of highway as part of the LL. This reality is what matters most as the relevant language contact, while the prescribed language policies provide a sense of the ideal that a society could strive for in nationhood practices. The study pulls the different forces together to illustrate empirically how multilingual acts in billboard advertisements are realized. The LL is evidently a negotiation site of the reality and the ideal in language contact management affected by different forces that are politically and socially motivated. The results of these practices point to language accommodations made within a linguistically heterogeneous society.

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### **Discourse Analysis of Tertiary Students' Tweets**

Twitter is one of the top 10 sites used among Malaysians and has attracted new research interest in recent years. Twitter is a simple technology to use because it is user-friendly, highly mobile, easily accessible, cost effective, and it can be used for education and entertainment purposes. It also gives students the opportunity to interact beyond the classroom walls. The purpose of this study is to examine the discourse structure and content of tertiary students' tweets. The study refers to the computer-mediated discourse analysis (CMDA) approach proposed by Herring (2004) that describes different levels of analysis of online discourse which includes structure, meaning, interaction management, and social practice. CMDA is an approach for the analysis of computer-mediated communication (CMC) that focuses on language and language use. It is a discourse analysis for mining networked communication for structure of patterns and meanings. The study implemented a qualitative content analysis method where a total of 28 undergraduate students interacted through Twitter for eight weeks. The data collected were analysed by using the QSR Nvivo 9 software to determine the common linguistics features, grammatical structures, and social practices within the online interaction of students on Twitter. The findings of this study may contribute to research in discourse analysis of texts mediated by technology.

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### **Enhancing English Proficiency: A Conceptual Framework on Teaching Strategies**

Perhaps no one can deny the importance of English in the present time as a global language. Nonetheless, a study conducted to assess the English proficiency among students and lecturers in Malaysian varsities showed that the English proficiency is still at a low and alarming level. It appears that when it comes to English proficiency, Malaysians are not even at par with their neighbouring counterparts, with the country ranking third out of five countries in the English language assessment test. In view of this problem, it was found that increasing the range of teaching strategies may help educators adapt to the various learner types that exist in classrooms. However, there appears to be no studies on the effects of various teaching strategies on English proficiency. Therefore, the aim of this study is to develop a conceptual framework that explores the roles of various teaching strategies on English proficiency. For this study, findings from the literature review are used to develop a conceptual relation on how the implementation of different teaching strategies can possibly impact the progress and eventual improvement of English proficiency. At the end of this paper, some future directions and implications on research will be explained. The contribution of this study can be seen in its originality as it involves looking into areas where educators have not looked into before and creating a synthesis that has never been made before. Also, this study identifies several key determinants of specific teaching strategies that should be given more emphasis on in order to promote English proficiency.

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### **Negotiating Abstract Writing in Technical Papers**

One of the first contacts in reading a technical paper is the abstract. An abstract serves to lead the reader into the main text and it offers salient information about work done in a distinct form that conveys the pertinent information. In this research the focus is on the abstract whereby the moves of abstract writing are explored. Together with the moves are the linguistic features that provide insights into the expressions that negotiate the functions connected to the moves. This paper aims to investigate the moves in abstract writing by the university's engineering students and the corresponding language use in the writing. For this investigation, Santos's (1996) model was used to identify the moves in an abstract. Each move is then corresponded to the linguistic analysis to situate the functional purposes. The paper offers insights into text organization of an abstract. The analysis shows that deviant move patterns were used among the writers. A discussion follows on the comparison between the idealized move patterns and the actual use in abstract writing together with the chosen expressions. Conclusions are made about the contextualized discursive practices related to a specific genre, lending sensitivity to genre expectation and its fulfillment.

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**Social Interactions in Film Adaptations of 'Chick Lit' Novels**

This paper wishes to investigate the dynamics of the intersection of the narrative form and film. This interaction is most keenly observed in blockbuster romantic comedy films adapted from post-feminist novels of the 21st century or more popularly known as 'Chick Lit'. Successful writers of this genre of fiction have discovered a niche for themselves in both the world of literary as well as commercial film industry as their works are leased for adaptations onto film, and most screenplays are even written or edited by the original novelists. These film adaptations bring attention to certain patterns that address the social interactions or networking of characters that exist in the narrative. For this paper, the scope of the study is limited to two commercially successful novels which are Sophie Kinsella's *Confessions of a Shopaholic* (2001) and Lauren Weisberger's *The Devil Wears Prada* (2003), and their respective blockbuster film adaptations of the same name. It would be interesting to see how much of these social networks in print translate onto film and how much has been adapted to fit the needs of screenplays. These nuances and changes may shed light onto real social dynamics amongst women and even between women and men of the 21st century.

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**Exoticism in Gertrude Bell's Persian Travel Writing**

The closing decades of the nineteenth century, as the height of British imperialism, saw a tremendous increase in the number of British travellers to Persia. The main reason had to do with the emergence of Persia as a political entity in the 'Great Game' played between the imperial powers of Russia and Britain to win supremacy in the region. Accordingly, there appeared an outpouring of British travel writing on Persia mapping the social and natural milieus. Recent scholarship contends that colonial-era travel writing played a key role in endorsing imperialistic imperatives by depicting the colonial worlds as exotic in need of British benign tutelage. Through a textual scrutiny of Gertrude Bell's *Persian Pictures*, this study explores the exoticist images of Persian peoples and their mores and manners. Looking at the effect of the travelling subject's gender over the text, this research intends to move away from the pejorative colonial conceptualisation of exoticism by highlighting the non-axiological representations of the Persian milieu in Bell's travel writing. It argues that the heterogeneous portrayals of Persia while at times subscribes to British agendas in the country, at others subverts the very ends. This unstable positionality in Bird's travel book is attributed to Victorian gender ideology according to which women travellers identified both with the coloniser and the colonised.

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### **Almayer's Folly: Conrad's Investigation into Modern Man's Unpromising Fate**

Being his first attempt as a writer, *Almayer's Folly* is Conrad's initial step in his long journey to trace the soul of modern man which seems to have been overshadowed by rapid developments in science and technology intensifying particularly from the second half of the nineteenth century. Although, without the slightest doubt, modernity brought enormous blessings for modern man, it left him in such an uncertain state about everything including his own identity that his destruction seemed and it may still seem unavoidable. The twentieth-century man, stripped of his cloak of faith, relied far too much on his conscious ego as the modern truth. However, he soon realized that he could not have been more wrong as the consequences were devastating. Regarded as one of the pioneers of modernism, not only does Conrad depict such a dubious state in his works, but also, unlike many of his contemporary counterparts, he comes up with a possible solution that may function as a modern salvation. For the reader, Conrad's works are a journey or quest of Self-discovery through which one like a mythical hero traverses ups and downs and at the end either is defeated (as in his earlier works) or returns a conqueror (more obvious in his later works). *Almayer's Folly* is his very first work and first step in his journey of individuation, or in other words the thesis of his dialectical method, in which Conrad vividly explores and portrays the unpleasant aspects of modernity and the reasons why modern man fails to establish an individual self. Therefore, if one ignores Conrad's earliest work, one will certainly miss the opportunity to appreciate the significance of his later and much more discussed novels.

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### **Hardy as a Loyal Deputy of the Dominant Group: An Althusserian Analysis of the Return of the Native**

This article intends to prove that Thomas Hardy as an intellectual successfully performed his role as a loyal deputy of the dominant Victorian middle-class group. He helped the ruling middle-class to perform their hegemonic strategies by creating an imaginary world in which subordinate characters follow dominant ideologies. Some of the characters seem radical or subversive but the opposite of this view is shown through Althusser's theory of Ideological State Apparatuses (ISAs) whose aim is to analyse the society based on the structure of dominance and resistance; that is, the resistance of the counter-hegemonic ideologies to the hegemonic ruling ideas. Although many critics believe that Hardy and his characters resist the ideologies of the Victorian age, Hardy and his novels are actually the instruments of ISAs of the Victorian middle-class society. The main discussions in this paper focuses on the novel *The Return of the Native* (1878) to clarify some ambiguous points about Hardy's view of the culture of his age.

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**Horse trough or bain linguistique? The use of English and French for teaching French at Lancaster University**

This project examines the use of English and French to teach French in the Department of European Languages and Cultures at Lancaster University. Starting from a personal history of learning French in the 1960s, and again in recent years, there follows an examination of recent literature on the findings and implications of Second Language Acquisition research. The project investigates why target language teaching is largely avoided in the French Department. From a critical ethnographic approach, four tutors were interviewed, recorded and transcriptions made. Selected quotes were shown to small second year and final year focus groups, three students in each, and these discussions were recorded and transcribed. DELC documents were examined using the discourse-historical approach (from critical discourse analysis). Transcription data were analysed using argumentation and justification strategies, and text and conversation analysis. The analysis reveals a continuation of 'Classics' grammar-translation teaching practices and various 'reasons' and preferences not to adopt target language teaching. Concerns are raised about tutor to student communications and recent initiatives to bolster numbers in a competitive 'market place' against a background of falling demand for modern European languages. Suggestions for review and change complete the work.

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**Miguel Street: Deep Tragedy in the Hearth of Overstated Humor**

Caribbean Literature has had a major prosperity and juice-up in the recent years predominantly after relative independence from colonialism in a way that has brought up two Nobel Laureates. This semi-autobiographical novel which has been written in seventeen disconnected episodes by 2001 Nobel Prize laureate and the Trinidadian novelist and essayist of Indo-Trinidadian descent, V. S. Naipaul who lives in England and has been considered as one of the greats in the postcolonial Literature in the world, speaks about the life in a street with grotesque and some temporary residents that are the adventures of the new and odd happenings that occur for them in the course of the novel. Although V. S. Naipaul's Miguel Street has been studied from various aspects, directly trustful and strong investigations related to tragic implications have been partly overlooked. This paper is an attempt to unearth the motives that this novel would rather be called a tragic novel more than a humorous one. For demonstrating and catching this output numerous outlooks will be gone under the scope of analysis that is very outstanding in the course of the novel. These Parts comprise: Woman in Miguel Street, Language of the Residents, Escape and finally Relationships, which compose the body of this novel. For the last section (Relationships) I am to exploit and take advantage of Homosociality approach introduced to the Globe by Eve Sedgwick in 1985.

**HASLINA OMAR & NORITAH OMAR***Universiti Putra Malaysia*lit\_fan9@yahoo.com, nomar@fbmk.upm.edu.my**A Malayan Woman's Life Narrative: World War II**

World War II to the younger generation remains a distant nightmare learned of from grandparents' stories, lessons in school, or books. From 1941 to 1945, the Imperial Japanese Army occupied British Malaya, North Borneo and Sarawak. As the historian Wang Gungwu (2001) notes, "people in Southeast Asia do not seem to be keen to remember the war" (14). This inclination is being tested by one Malaysian woman's determination to not let young Malaysians forget the atrocities that were committed during the occupation. Sybil Kathigasu vowed that she would write about her war experiences if she survived the inhumane treatment at the hands of her Japanese captors. The physical, mental and emotional tortures are detailed in her posthumous memoir *No Dram of Mercy* (1954). This memoir was forgotten about for almost six decades, but sparked renewed interest after its copyright expired in 2003. Kathigasu's spirit of resistance against oppression and injustice made her the only Malaysian woman to ever be awarded the George Medal for gallantry several months before her death in 1948. *No Dram of Mercy* is one of the four books on Japanese atrocities in Malaya published after the war, and the only one written by a woman. The book is certainly a departure from most male-penned war texts, as Kathigasu's "politics of remembering" (Smith and Watson 1998, 39) foregrounds female experience as equally authoritative, despite the absence of descriptions of firsthand jungle combat. This study, therefore, aims at putting women back into the WWII historical narrative. The choice of Kathigasu's memoir can be summed up in the words of Malaysian historian Cheah Boon Kheng (1983): "The spirit of resistance against oppression and injustice that Sybil Kathigasu represented is not merely confined to Malaya, but is universal and found whenever people are free." *No Dram of Mercy* is especially significant in terms of reexamining human rights abuses through a female narrative of public memory, at a time when their contributions, both in life and literature, threaten to disappear from cultural and social history.

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mfaiz@fbmk.upm.edu.my, afida@fbmk.upm.edu.my**Political Cartoons: A Subtle Medium for Political Satire and Public Reorientation**

The 21st century has witnessed a considerable research on political cartoons. This increasing research indicates the relevance of political cartoons in the media discourse. Political cartoons are communication artifacts used to express opinions, construct valuable arguments and provide specific knowledge on contemporary social issues. Despite the growing research on cartoons, yet the communicative functions of political cartoons as a medium of satire and public reorientation remains under-researched. This paper explores how cartoonists especially in Nigeria harness cartoons to inform and reorient the public on current socio-political issues in a particular period and also construct humorous satirical criticisms that target political leaders, parties, prominent public officers and social institutions. Humor has the quality of revealing the truth about a given society (Davis, 1993). Methodologically, theoretical perspective of humor is used as framework of analysis to analyze how satire is created and conveyed in the cartoons. The findings indicate

that using rhetorical devices especially visual humor, political cartoons provide medium of persuasive communication. Unlike conventional news stories, political cartoons succinctly combine verbal and nonverbal devices to convey satire in a way that thousand words could not provide without fear of retribution.

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### **Influence of Native Phonotactic Constraints on the Perception of English Voicing by Malay and Tamil ESL Speakers in Malaysia**

The influence of the mother tongue on second language acquisition has received a lot of attention in second language studies. Although many studies have been conducted on the influence of first language on second language, results obtained from these studies are not always conclusive. Pilus (2010) found out that Malay speakers perceive non-native sounds which are similar to their native sounds easier than the ones that are not similar. Meanwhile, Tsukada (2006) found out that Australian English speakers were having difficulties in perceiving L2 Thai sounds which are similar to their L1. In contrast, Thai speakers performed better in perceiving L2 English sounds which are not similar to their L1. This study investigated the perception of Malay and Tamil ESL students on English stops. Malay language distinguishes the voicing contrast in initial position but not at final position meanwhile voiced stops in Tamil language only appear as allophones to voiceless stops. Therefore, this study focused on the influences of supra-segmental constraints in the perception of voicing contrast in different positions by Tamil and Malay ESL speakers. The study is conducted using a forced choice identification task constructed with E-Prime 2.0. A total of 240 stimuli, including 120 fillers words were presented. The subjects will hear a word and identify the word presented from a choice of two words provided on the computer screen. The correct response and reaction time of the subjects were collected as data. The result shows that, Tamil subjects were able to distinguish stops in initial position better than in final position while Malay subjects had difficulty with voiceless stops in final position only. In addition, longer reaction time was observed for the stops in final position for both groups of subjects.

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### **A Comparative Study of the Rhetorical Moves in Engineering Published Research Articles and Students' Term Papers**

Abstract writing is a brief overview of a research article and it is an essential part that the readers first encounter to evaluate the worth of the article. As research articles are written mainly in English, writing an abstract tends to be a challenge for most L2 novice writers. This can be seen, in particular, in the organisation of the rhetorical moves. This paper intends then to compare and contrast the rhetorical moves found in the abstracts of engineering published research articles and students' term papers. Based on Santos's (1996) framework for abstract analysis, 30 abstracts

each from the published articles and term papers were analysed. The data indicated that there were differences and similarities in the rhetorical moves used in the two types of abstract writings. The findings have some pertinent pedagogical implications for L2 learning of academic writing and provide an informed input for L2 writing instructors.

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### **Gender Representation in the Malaysian High School English Language Textbook**

Gender representation in the media, be it in film, art, or text plays an important role in the gender socialisation of members of a society. Its effect is especially important in school text books as students at an impressionable age are served particular representations that provide particular role models as part of their socialisation into society. This study examines gender representation in the Form Five English textbook used by students in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor as compulsory reading material. Analysis is done in terms of studying the characterisation of both genders, the activities carried out by the characters, and the dominance of any one gender in the selected reading passages. The findings indicate that gender representation in the textbook reading passages is severely imbalanced; male characters take up a very large portion of the textbook, whereas females are underrepresented. It is also found that female characters portray roles that are largely secondary to the male characters, and that strong, independent female characters who defy gender stereotypes are a rarity in the passages in the textbook.

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### **Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain: An Unknown Voice of Bengal**

The whole world knows that England has her Mary Wollstonecraft and France has her Simone de Beauvoir as feminists but the world knows a very little that Bengal too has her Rokeya Shakhawat Hossain, an intrepid feminist, who struggled till the last day of her life for the perfectly right assessment of the neglected Indian women, was born in 1880, in Pairaband, a small village in British India which now lies in the north-western part of present-day Bangladesh. She pioneered women's advancement and led the way to enlightening and empowering women breaking all the traditional social barriers. When the whole women folk were utterly distressed, deprived and drowned under the dirt of illiteracy, fanaticism, superstitions and prejudices and could not think of equal rights and freedom, she raised her voice through her writings and worked to uplift the fortune of women, instilled a sense of renaissance in them and led them to taste the flavor of freedom opposed to the current of patriarchal social views. Based on this bold attitude towards female emancipation, Rokeya can easily be acclaimed as a feminist whereas some critics have viewed her as a Muslim or Islamic feminist which is nothing but an immature attempt to underestimate her genius. It was true that she was brought up in an Islamic cultural milieu and tried to educate the then lagged behind Muslim girls which, the critics probably cogitated as the main aim of her life overlooking the universality of women's problems she dealt with and her non-sectarian outlook of life. In fact, she sprang up beyond the limitations the society placed upon her and was boldly vocal about the freedom of women irrespective of their distinctive faiths and

social customs. This article, therefore, aims at exploring Rokeya's *Istrijatir Abanati* (Woman's Downfall) with a view to showing her firm determination, endeavours and voice to emancipate women, and advocating her as a concerned feminist.

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### **Methodological Issues in the Examination of the Interplay of Language Policy, Ethnic Identity and National Identity**

With the constant changes in the geopolitical borders of the world, there is an urgent need to define ethnic and national identity in relation to language policy in sociolinguistic studies. The present study identifies methodologies that investigated the interplay of three constructs: ethnic identity, national identity and language policies. Ethnic identity is the contextualization of history, beliefs, customs, spiritual values, etc. of a speech community which are practiced via the medium of their ethnic language. National identity which emerges in time can be defined as the all common cultural values and social practices of unified different ethnic groups inside the borders of any country which uses a common language as the formal language of their country. Finally, language policy is the body of law, regulation and authoritative planned linguistic programs which are imposed on societies by governments. This study examines related studies in order to arrive at similarities and differences employed for the extraction of empirical data in relation to the interplay of language policy, ethnic identity and national identity. Understanding the different approaches used will give insights for researchers into scientific approaches to obtain information in this field of studies.

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### **Identification and Formulation of Norms in Technical Translation and Applications in Technical Translation Quality Improvement: A DTS-based Approach**

Following an explosion in technology, technical translations constitute the vast majority of staff translator's work in international organizations, multinationals, private companies and translation agencies. Despite the importance, technical translation is an underexplored area in applied translation studies and translation teaching in particular. Few, if any, studies have been conducted so far to serve quality improvement in technical translation. In the second half of the twentieth century, Holmes put forward a new idea in his revolutionary map: descriptive translation studies. Such descriptive studies came into practice when Toury proposed his model in 1995. Toury's DTS approach addresses universals, laws and norms of translation induced from corpus and comparative studies so as to partially feed and enrich theories of translation. The movement, so far, has been most beneficial to literary translation quality improvement. The present article attempts to reveal through a quantitative approach that this array of normative progress may be beneficial to technical translation quality improvement and translation teaching. To this end, the research will pass through an intermediate stage of identification and formulation of technical translation norms through a corpus analysis.

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**Patterning of Interactive Metadiscourse Markers in Result and Discussion Sections  
of Academic Research Articles Across Disciplines**

A generic analysis of research articles can cover a wide variety of issues; among them are rhetorical features. A crucial part of rhetorical features of research article is the use of metadiscourse that can help to make the text persuasive and acceptable to a discourse community (Hyland, 2005). The underlying principle behind metadiscourse use is the view of writing as socially engaging; in particular metadiscourse reveals the ways writers project themselves into their discourse to declare their perspectives and commitments to the readers. The present paper focuses on interactive metadiscourse markers in the result and discussion sections of academic research articles across four disciplines, namely, English Language Teaching, Civil Engineering, Biology, and Economics to reveal the manner of metadiscourse use across disciplines. Sixteen research article result and discussion sections (4 from each discipline) were sourced from four international reputed refereed journals for analysis. Results revealed that there were no statistically significant differences between disciplines in the use of interactive metadiscourse markers with the exception of evidentials. The similarity and difference are explained by way of an explication of genre features in terms of contextual configuration and genre specific needs in relation to evidential functionality by discipline.

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**The Status of Identity in Postmodern Society:  
The Study of Hunter Thompson's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas***

In today's fast changing and interconnected global world, researchers in a variety of areas have come to see identity as an important analytic tool for understanding schools and society. A focus on the contextually specific ways in which people act out and organize identities, allows a more dynamic approach than the sometimes overly general and static trio of "race, class and gender". The present study aims to investigate the status of identity for the characters of Thompson's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* and to consider the effect of a postmodern society, as is portrayed in the novel, on the identity of its people; the people who have lost their natural, inborn identity under some pressures in the society and have started experimenting a variety of recreational drug use. This study utilises Social Identity Theory of Stryker and Statham (1985) to explain how social structures impact self and how self impacts social behaviours. In other words, by getting help from this theory in which an individual is defined by the society it belongs to, this study delineates how the identity of the characters would be reflected in a postmodern society.

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**Schopenhauer's Philosophy of Pessimism on George Eliot's  
Characterisation in *Silas Marner***

Arthur Schopenhauer's pessimistic philosophy presents the world as a dark and evil place where the human being struggles to fulfill the evil and malevolent will's desires. All human selfish desires, urges, and wants which always cause the individual to struggle painfully, have their roots in this over-mastering force. Since the evil will is the base of all human worldly attitudes and actions, the individual is destined to face the bitterest miseries in his/her life's journey. Since Schopenhauer's pessimism influenced Victorian writers greatly, this paper examines and explores how selected characters in George Eliot's novel, *Silas Marner*, is controlled by the Schopenhauerian omnipresent will. Further, it highlights the portrayal of the weak victims who struggle to fulfill their selfish desires which bring the great misery to every character in return. Silas Marner, George Eliot's protagonist in *Silas Marner*, who blindly worshipped God at the Lantern Yard, and then his bright guineas, found no peace and contentment, but rather more suffering and pain with them. Although the findings show George Eliot's created world as a world of evil where the characters are born to suffer, the study also presents the possibility of transition from this dark and unpleasant world to a world where the will is silenced. Realizing how all his efforts were in vain and how his selfish desires brought misery to everyone, the protagonist reject all his inner will's worldly needs and desires. Silas Marner finds true peace and contentment by sympathizing with a little, suffering girl who has been ignored by her biological father.

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**Failed Individuation of Modern Man: A Jungian Approach to 1984**

Fragmentation is one of the significant features of modern era. George Orwell describes, in 1984, a technologically advanced but fragmented society wherein modern man's absence of self-integration is easily noticeable. By representing how the protagonist responds to the voices of his psyche through characterization and dreams, which play a significant role in Jung's Analytical Psychology, Orwell explores the roots of modern man's failure to take the journey to individuation. Accordingly, this paper, borrowing some terms and notions of Jungian Criticism such as archetypes and the process of individuation, with a particular focus on the dreams occurring in the course of the story, attemptsto illustrate how modern man steps in the path of individuation and to what extent his efforts meet with success, if any. In addition, the dystopian society portrayed in 1984, this paper would like to argue, is the offspring of a mere rationalism which prevents man from knowing the opposing forces working within as well as the forces functioning from without.

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**Exploitation of the Grotesque: Queer Eroticism in  
Ian McEwan's Selected Short Stories**

In 1970s, two collections of short story by Ian McEwan introduced an author who simply shocked not only the average but also the prolific intelligent reader. The world McEwan creates is psychologically violent, excessive and extraordinary. This is particularly the case with his earlier works including the two collections of short story and early novels. Much in association with the grotesque, this eccentric atmosphere is mainly depicted in the milieu of sex and sexual depression. As dealt with in the present study, the portrayal of the grotesque is remarkably affluent and vast-ranging in McEwan's short stories. In some stories, the grotesque is exploited for the sake of a general impression of shock and disgust. In many others, it is fundamentally employed through the representation of recurrent elements of the mode. The present work selectively focuses on short stories from both collections to illustrate the range of the grotesque in McEwan's short fiction. The endeavor is to discuss and evaluate the selected stories for their exploitation of the grotesque as represented through violent, transgressive and bizarre depiction of sexuality. Themes of sexuality, particularly in excessive and extraordinary forms, are readily palpable in their potential linkage with the grotesque. The present study thus aims to discuss the grotesque in the queer eroticism of McEwan's selected short stories and demonstrate how his short fiction offers a variety of the grotesque types of narrative mingling the grotesque both with fantasy and caricature.

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**Orthographic and Phonological Influences in a Mandarin Lexical Decision Task  
among L1 and L2 Mandarin Learners**

The "Universal Phonological Principle" (Perfetti, & Tan, 1998; Perfetti, Zhang, & Berent, 1992) of reading cannot be demonstrated in Mandarin literacy acquisition because unlike alphabetic reading, Mandarin does not directly require phoneme-level processing to read because each character represents a syllable (Cheung, 2003; Siok & Fletcher, 2001; Shu, Peng, & McBride-Chang, 2008). Moreover, the logographic nature of Chinese characters may engender a contention that there exists a closer relationship between shape and meaning for Chinese characters than alphabetical words (Chen and Juola, 1982; Leck et al., 1995 quoted in Kuo et al., 2004). However, with the introduction of Romanized Mandarin, *hanyu pinyin*, there is a possibility that there may be phonological effects in visual word processing by Mandarin learners, particularly L2 Mandarin learners. This paper reports a study conducted to investigate the difference in visual and aural processing of L1 Mandarin speakers and L2 Mandarin learners using a lexical decision task. The lexical decision task was constructed using the E-Prime 2.0 software. Accuracy rates and reaction times were analyzed to check for differences between groups and task conditions. The study showed that L2 Mandarin learners are better in perceiving Mandarin sounds compared to the L1 Mandarin learners. The use of *hanyupinyin* in learning Mandarin by the L2 learners

seemed to have facilitated the L2 Mandarin learners' ability to do better in the phoneme task. On the other hand, L1 Mandarin learners performed better in the orthographic condition. Implications of the findings for teaching and learning Mandarin will also be discussed in the paper.

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### **A Study on Intrinsic and Extrinsic Motivation and Learners' Language Performance**

Second language acquisition is a complicated process involving various teachers' and learners' factors. Many people regard motivation as one of the learners' key factors of second language attainment. It stimulates learners to learn in the first place and inspire them to keep on learning though the process of acquiring the language is sometimes mind-numbing. When a learner shows his natural interest towards language learning activities, the learner is said to be intrinsically motivated to learn the language. On the other hand, a learner is extrinsically motivated if he is inspired by environmental factors like rewards and people's recognition of his language achievement. It is crucial for teachers to understand their learners' type of motivation as this would shed light on their classroom instructions and activities, as learners' intrinsic motivation needs to be promoted since it offers more positive language learning outcomes. This study investigates the relationship between learners' intrinsic and extrinsic motivation and their language performance. A total of 350 first semester diploma students from five faculties in Universiti Teknologi Mara Perak, Seri Iskandar Campus are chosen at random to be the respondents. The respondents' intrinsic or extrinsic motivation is determined from their response to a set of questionnaire adapted from Schmidt et al (1996), Kimura et al. (2001) and Takagi (2003), meanwhile the respondents' English grade for the final examination is the indicator for their language performance. These two variables are then linked by using SPSS Pearson Product-moment correlation method. The results of this study show that intrinsic motivation correlates highly with language performance, thus several approaches are recommended in order to stimulate learners' intrinsic motivation which may enhance their language learning.

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### **Motivation and Attitudes towards learning English of Computer Science students at the National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM)**

This paper analyzes the results from a survey on Computer Science students' motivation and attitudes towards learning English. Many studies have been carried out on motivation and attitudes but there is lack of focus given on computer science students. Therefore, this paper provides a study to present a general picture of the computer science students' motivation and attitudes towards English language. The study investigates students' motivation in terms of three motivational constructs: instrumental motivation, integrative motivation and personal motivation. The main instruments used are questionnaire and interview questions. A sample of 25 students studying computer science served as the respondents to the questionnaire which consists of three sections namely students' background, questions to identify students' motivation to learn English and questions to identify students' attitudes towards the English language. The possible findings suggest that there is a definite degree of positiveness towards learning the English language. The findings indicate that the students have certain reasons for learning the language and hold

significant attitudes toward the use of English language. This could serve as a reference for instructors and syllabus designers at NDUM to improve the situation of English language teaching with respect to students' motivation and attitudes.

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**The Silent Confessions of Socially Conscious British Travel Writer  
on 19th Century Malaya**

Tragedy across time and space: a comparative analysis of Oedipus Rex and *Ibu Mertuaku*. Sophocles' *Oedipus* is a play famous for its Hamartia and Catharsis. In the local scene, *Ibu Mertuaku*, a film directed by P. Ramlee also contains these elements. A comparative analysis is carried out using these two theoretical frameworks. In terms of Hamartia, for example, *Oedipus* had an inability to control his temper whereas *Kassim Selamat* lacked the ability to support himself financially. As for Catharsis, they both gain pity from the audience as *Oedipus* searched for truth led to disaster while *Kassim Selamat*'s genuine love was objected by his lover's family. All in all, they both could not face the reality of life and both plots ended tragically. In conclusion, the film *Ibu Mertuaku* may not conform to the traditional convention of a tragedy but it is able to produce the Catharsis induced by a tragedy.

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**Disease Metaphors in H1N1 News Reports**

Epidemics and pandemics are not, a new phenomenon. They have always been there from time immemorial. As time passed and travelling became more extensive in the world, fears of a worldwide threat became more widespread in people's minds. In April 2009, reports of a new strain of a deadly flu virus emerged in Mexico. The virus, officially named as Influenza A (H1N1) by the World Health Organisation (WHO) is the most recent strain of novel viruses to emerge in the world. News of this disease caused news media caused an international media scramble to find out more information about this latest threat. This paper aims to investigate the use of conceptual metaphors of the Influenza A (H1N1) pandemic in newspapers and how these metaphors help to construct the notion of a pandemic in the media. The data was extracted from The New Straits Times, Malaysia from April 2009 when the disease was at its peak.

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**The Mechanics of Racial Discrimination in Lorraine Hansberry's  
*A Raisin in the Sun*: A New Historicist Study**

In the two decades following the Second World War, a time came in the United States when hatred and prejudice toward blacks, which had existed since the infancy of America, was beginning to increase. African Americans, no longer content with the second-class citizenship status forced upon them through legalized segregation, began their battle for freedom and civil rights. Lorraine Hansberry (1930-1965) vividly depicts this period in her semi-autobiographical play *A Raisin in the Sun*. The poor black family of the play is shown to suffer from racial discrimination in housing industry, living space, and employment. The present paper aims to investigate the various means of racial discrimination manifested in *A Raisin in the Sun*. It explores the play as evidence of the political, social, and economic infrastructures of deliberate racism of the time. From a new historicist point of view, the essay considers how the American black population used to be "marginalised" in their own country. In this light, the play is proved to be a product of its author's outlook as well as the conditions that surrounded it. In other words, examining the "social sphere" in which Hansberry moved reveals how her work is greatly influenced by the time in which it was produced. The essay starts with providing clear definitions of race and racism, and then studies the major concerns of the African Americans of the 1950s over their country's institutionalised segregationist policies. This study not only sheds light on the rôle played by the American government in supporting the segregated housing environment, but also considers other contributing factors portrayed in the play such as housing and real estate market, white religious leaders, and average white American citizens. The essay does not stop at analyzing the mechanics of racial prejudice in *A Raisin in the Sun*. It continues to explore Hansberry's proposed solutions to the problem. Both Hansberry's life and works holds the view that the acceptance of their present condition will treacherously ruin the future of the blacks. To fight the institutional racism, she argues that the decision to resist racial injustice should not be just a choice for African Americans. If they want to live in dignity, it must be a "duty" for them to carry out.

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**Factors Contributing to Students' Reluctancy in Asking Questions in ESL Classrooms**

Interaction in classroom particularly in the language classroom is vital to ensure the success of the teaching and learning process. Many studies show that students especially those in secondary and tertiary levels are reluctant to interact with their instructors or with their peers in the language classroom. Studies also indicate that active interaction in the language classroom is an important determinant for success among the learners. However, many inclined not to interact with others in the classroom. Among the strategies available for classroom teaching and learning, questioning is deemed to be an effective strategy to be used in classrooms to stimulate interaction. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to discover the factors why students are reluctant to ask questions in English Language classrooms. The results of this study will help mostly, teachers and researchers to better understand the aspects that hinder students' interaction in classroom. Besides that, it will also help them to foster classroom interaction.

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### **Manifestations of the Theme as Point of Departure in the Result and Discussion Section of Academic Research Articles**

Theme is the element which serves as the point of departure of the message in a clause. It plays a major role in text organization, enabling a text to be communicated and understood clearly (Halliday, 1994). One issue in research article writing is how the writer deals with this important textual feature. This study did an analysis of theme types used in result and discussion sections of academic research articles using Halliday's (1994) model of thematic organization. The study was carried out on the corpus of 16 result and discussion sections sourced from 16 academic research articles published in UPM journals in 2010 and 2011 from four disciplines, which are English Language Teaching, Economics, Biology, and Civil Engineering (4 from each discipline). The results revealed a significant difference in the use of interpersonal theme across the four disciplines. There were similarities more than differences regarding theme types and this is discussed in the context of general and specific genre expectations as well as textual choices exercised to give text coherence. Results also supported the idea proposed by Godsen (1992), that theme types are important in fulfilling discourse functions of research article sections.

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### **The Effect of Context on the Type of Hesitation Strategies Iranian EFL Learners Use in Oral L2 Tests**

Hesitation strategies are discourse markers which occur in speech such as filled or unfilled pauses, paralinguistic markers like nervous laughter or coughing, or signals which are used to pre-empt or justify coming utterances. The main functions of these forms have been commonly associated with planning or accessing difficulties. The present study presents an investigation of hesitation strategies employed by Iranian EFL learners during an oral English test. Previously, the studies on hesitation strategies employed by beginner or advanced L2 learners revealed that beginners mostly leave their hesitation pauses unfilled which caused their speech to sound disfluent, although advanced learners tend to use various fillers to sound like native speakers. This study attempts to identify whether the hesitation strategies used by Iranian EFL learners at a public university in Malaysia are influenced by the type of questions asked during L2 oral tests. This study also investigates the frequency and location of silent pauses, silent pauses and fillers, and non-lexical words in three different types of oral test contexts to identify the most challenging questions for the EFL learners in speaking tests and how this influences the hesitation strategies employed. A total of 12 first semester students participated in the study. The findings of the present research suggest that the type of test questions does influence the type and frequency of hesitation strategies employed.

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### **An Overview of Potential Uses of Facebook in Education**

Facebook is a new version of web page which refers to Web 2.0. Facebook is primarily used as a social website for connecting people because it enables people to upload text, photos and music easily which is accessible online by anyone. Besides, Facebook has also become the popular platform for business, marketing and study purposes. Nowadays, many researchers have highlighted the potential uses of Facebook in the field of education. The advancement of technology such as Facebook is promoting the new learning environment among students. However, despite the many opportunities for facilitating teaching and learning in universities, the usage of Facebook in classrooms is still low especially in Malaysia. It has therefore provided an opportunity to investigate the educational use of Facebook among students and lecturers in institutions of higher education. The purpose of this study was to provide an overview of Facebook's ability in promoting the interchange of learning which potentially makes it a vital educational tool for university students. This paper reviews scholarly research from selected online journals to compile the latest findings related to the field. It hopes to provide a preliminary foundation for understanding the potential use of Facebook in education. This will help in determining how this technology might be used more effectively in learning and teaching applications.

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### **Linguistic and Stylistic Features of Airline Slogans**

In today's advertising world, brand names play a crucial role in the marketing of products and services and in their acceptance by public. A good brand name enjoys a high level of consumer brand awareness and commands strong consumer preference. It also adds greatly to the success of a product or service. As such, the use of slogans has become an important advertising statement for a brand as it increases consumer's retention rate and desire. Some slogans have an attitude like Nike's "Just do it" or a statement of accomplishment like Nokia's "connecting people". This study investigates the linguistic and stylistic features of advertisement language used in slogans by airline companies. The descriptive method is used to analyse 50 airline slogans retrieved from the database of world-famous airline advertising companies. The wordings in the slogans were analysed for its linguistic and stylistic features. Findings of the study reveal that airline slogans display many unique features or wording, such as frequent use of simple words, clever use of coinages, loanwords, monosyllabic verbs, simple adjectives, rhyme and rhythm and puns. As airlines target to sell its services more than tangible products, this study will benefit not only readers and language learners but also copywriters and advertisers in inventing effective taglines, as well as stakeholders and marketers in findings ways to sell their brands through the power and art of language.

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**Ines of My Soul by Isabel Allende: An Ethnographic Approach**

*Ines of my soul*, written by Isabel Allende, is based on the real life experiences of a Spanish woman conquistador (conqueror) named Ines de Suarez who is famous for being the founder of Santiago, the capital of Chile. de Suarez was the first European woman who dared to break the social norms of the Spanish society of that time by travelling alone to South America then known as 'The New World'. *Ines of my soul* can be described as an ethnographic novel since it is written based on historical records on de Suarez's life among the Indians of Chile, mostly the Mapuche tribe. *Ines of my soul* is narrated by Ines, the female protagonist of the novel and Allende, through Ines's eyes and words, takes us to The New World and to the heart of the Indian tribes residing there. In this paper, I intend to focus on Allende's depictions of the Indian tribes of Chile and Peru, especially the Mapuche tribe. Allende, by magnifying the Indian ethnic group, provides us with an example of an ethnographical novel within the genre of travel literature. While the Mapuches are still living in South America and fighting for their rights, I aim to discover whether Allende has been successful in providing a clear and accurate portrayal of the Mapuche tribe through her fictionalized memoirs of de Suarez. My analysis shows that Allende, by presenting the Mapuches as noble and independent tribal group, endeavors to criticize the ruling power for depriving the Mapuches of their rights and tries to gather sympathy and help for the Mapuches' actual freedom.

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**Interpreting Melville's Typee: A Victorian Age Journey to Understanding  
Savage Civilised Societies**

*Typee: A Peep at Polynesian Life* is a picturesque story of Herman Melville's remarkable stay with villagers on a Marquesan island in the mid-1800s. The book was a popular travelogue in its time and depicts common travel writing themes such as confusion, discomfort, discovery, and natural beauty, among others. A more careful examination of the text however shows that there are strong social critiques of racism and imperialism and a struggle with what makes humans civilized beings or savages. What seems to be crucial to an analysis of the text is an approach based on literary theory and culture studies that insists that the behaviors described in the text must be analyzed according to the social and political context in which they occur. To do this I combine a limited use of the concept of hegemony combined with the analytical technique of reducing culture to binary oppositions. Doing this crystallizes the practices of the Typee and allows us to see them in clearer contrast with the Europeans. Melville challenged the narrative that South Pacific natives were savage cannibals inferior to civilized Europeans. He showed that the Typee's apparent savage aggressiveness was not inherent to their culture but was provoked by attacks from outsiders, particularly Europeans and Americans. Cannibalism as a cultural practice is explained according to the social and political context of contact with European aggression and devastation. By analyzing the text using the concept of hegemony and the analytical technique of binary opposition, I make clear Melville's objective in writing about his experiences and show that his travelogue has lasting significance even today.

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**Language Change or Preference: The Batek Aslian Names**

The study of language change requires an acceptable research period or thorough study of generations. Differentiating a preference, variant or change can be challenging without proper exposure or experience in the study field. A preference can indicate choice, whilst a variant may be differences due to geographical settings, age or gender distinction. To declare a language change may create greater implication as it can lead to the notion that the community has undergone a change which may be not only linguistically but also culturally. Through literature review, the present study looks at how research of language change should be best pursued. Later, through introspective narration by Batek Hep' informants, some findings of Batek names between the older and the younger generations are shared. The present paper looks into how language contact may take place among the Batek Hep' community to offer some preliminary finding of language change or probably merely a preference.

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**Idiom Decomposability and the Production of L2 Idiomatic Expressions**

A cross-modal priming experiment was conducted to investigate the influence of decomposability of idioms on the representation and production of idiomatic expressions in proficient Iranian learners of English. Thirty participants were asked to react quickly to visually presented prompt words (common English names) by producing the appropriate memorized English idiomatic expressions while being exposed to auditory related vs. unrelated concepts synonymous to the figurative meaning of the idioms. Participants' response latencies were measured to determine how decomposability may affect idiom production in an L2 context. The results confirm that idioms have their own unitary representation in the mental lexicon. The findings also reveal that the analysability of an idiom may not be a useful means to facilitate its production as it is in idiom comprehension. The non-decomposable idioms showed an advantage of being retrieved considerably faster than the decomposable ones. The results of this study also confirm Abel's (2003) Dual Idiom Representation model.

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**Iranian EFL High School Seniors' Learning Style Preferences  
in a Web-Based Training Context**

The advancement of technology has coupled with prompt development of Internet use in all walks of life, in particular in educational contexts that lead to pervasive proliferation in distance learning. No doubt, the core issue of teaching and learning environments, that is learners, should not be neglected. Learners employ a diversity of learning styles which might appear differently in various channels of instruction. In this study, Iranian EFL high school seniors have been exposed to a web-based training context. For them, a shift from conventional face-to-face classrooms to an online context might not seem very pleasing as it might not be in adjustment to their accustomed learning styles. The current research makes an attempt to identify the learning style preferences of 132 students in a compulsory English school course through the application of Willing's (1988) questionnaire on "How do you learn best". There are two levels of high school seniors I and high school seniors II with two main majors of Humanities and Science. The results indicate that there is a difference in the types of learners between the two levels. They are mostly authority-oriented learners who do not have similar proportion in two levels. This trend is gradually inclined towards analytical learners in the second level. There is a relationship between the types of learners and their major. The research goes further to find out whether learners' language proficiency can predict the types of learners. Later, suggestions are given regarding how students' learning style preferences can be a help in course design.

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**Applying Socratic Questioning on Blog:  
Does It Enhance Students' Critical Thinking?**

Over the past decade, much has been done to improve students' critical thinking (CT) in the education system. This study investigates the effects of practicing Socratic questioning (SQ) on students' CT as seen from their blog posts and comments. Participants were an intact class of tertiary students enrolled in an obligatory course. Students posted two topics on blog. They were also asked to read and comment their classmates' blog posts. Students' CT ability was assessed by administering the Cornell Critical Thinking Test Level X before and after they were trained in SQ. The results show that the SQ training had a highly significant positive change in students' CT ability in writing blog posts and giving comments. The study highlighted the benefits of using SQ in different learning processes to promote students' CT. If students master the art of SQ, they can bring it into various courses they take. They can also use it in discussions they engage in, and apply it not only in raising and asking questions about what is taught, but also in making questions concerning their issues in their daily life in a meaningful way.

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**Parental Relationship and the Language of Roddy Doyle's *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha***

This paper analyses parental relationship and the language used by the parents and children in the novel *Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha* by Roddy Doyle, an Anglo Irish writer who has vividly portrayed the uniquely Irish parent-child relationship in the novel. The paper also focuses on the style and literary techniques adopted by Doyle that have created such an impact on his readers that he has been called a Joycean writer for his use of the stream of consciousness as his major technique. This paper provides examples and explanations on the chosen technique by dissecting several sections of the novel in order to present a better clarification of the message that the author is trying to convey. The relationship between parents and children in the novel is another main concern of this paper. Through the words of the novel's protagonist, Paddy Clarke, readers will be able to see how the world is seen by a ten year old boy grappling with issues of growing up in an abusive surrounding. Delving into the characters' language interaction, full of quarrels and fights within the boy's family and between his family and the others in the community, the paper traces the causes and effects of a family's disintegration by analysing the words and thoughts of Paddy Clarke as his character develops and matures with an epiphany at the end of the novel.

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**"Definitely English, Never Tamil": Language Choices of Young University Educated Indian Learners in Perak**

Indian communities have long been part of the Malaysian multiracial and multilingual ethnic landscape. Many Malaysian Indians are multilingual with Tamil being the mother tongue among most of them. At the same time, they are able to understand and fluently converse in English, Bahasa Melayu, as well as other languages such as Cantonese and Mandarin, especially the younger generation. For the young, educated Indians, however, English appears to be a more appealing mode of communication in their day to day lives. This paper examines the use of both Tamil and English in three domains namely education, family and society, and the media. Besides identifying their language choices in these three domains, the 40 subjects of this study are required to give reasons for their choices as well as their perceptions as to how well the Tamil language will fair with the coming generation, and their awareness as to the possible marginalization of the language. The data will be obtained from questionnaires and interviews with students from both public and private higher learning institutions in Perak. Analysis of the data is inclusive of both qualitative and quantitative methods. Findings will lead to a better understanding of language choice among the young, educated Indians while projecting the future position of the Tamil and English languages amongst the Indian communities, especially the Tamils from this region.

## BIODATA OF PRESENTERS

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**Ahmad Izadi** finished his PhD at the Faculty of Languages and Linguistics, University of Malaya and is a fulltime academic member of Islamic Azad University, Abadan Branch, Iran. He has published several papers in international journals, including Journal of Pragmatics. He has also presented papers in 10 international conferences. His research area is professional communication, face and politeness theory and Pragmatics of Persian language and culture.

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The Organising Committee would like to extend our appreciation to:

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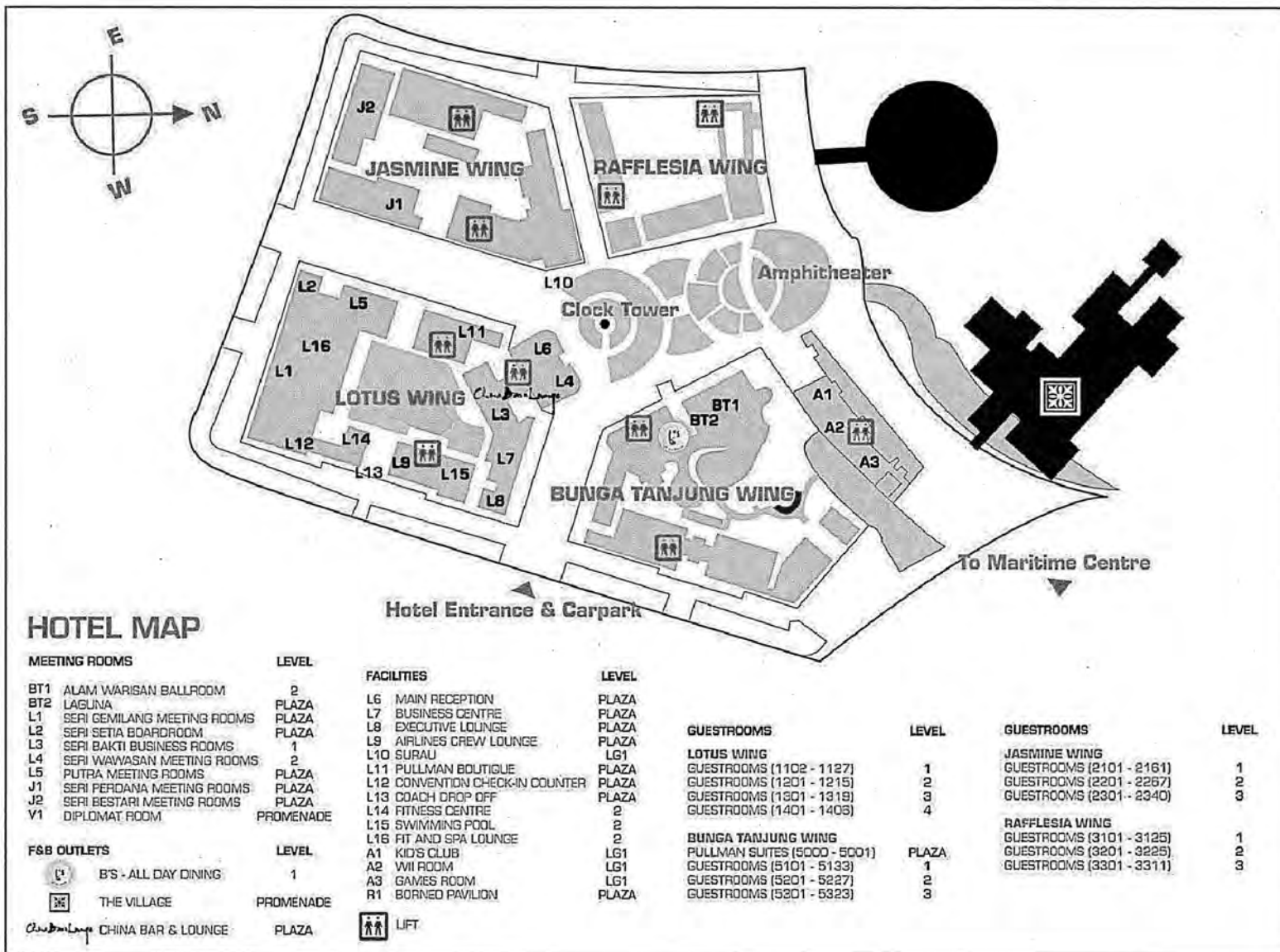
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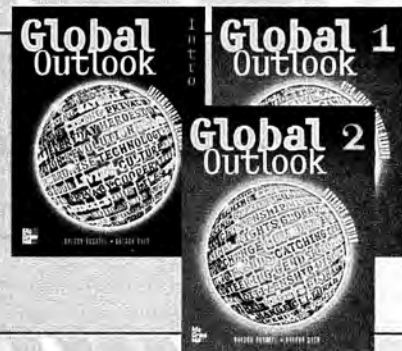


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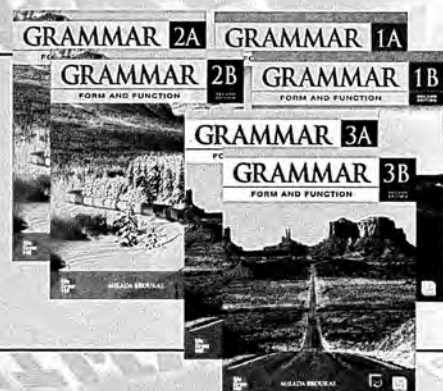
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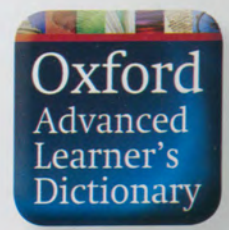
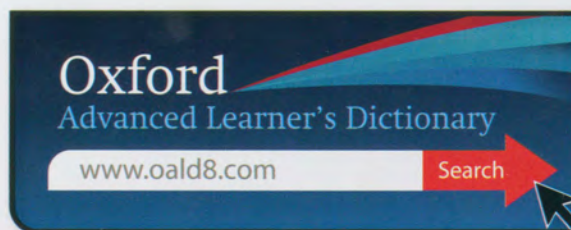
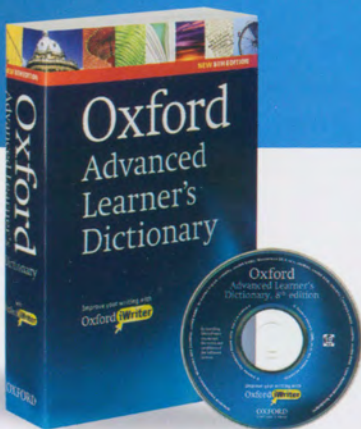


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