

## **UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

ESL TEACHER AND STUDENT BELIEFS AND PRACTICES IN THE TEACHING OF ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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MASTER OF SCIENCE UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

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## ESL TEACHER AND STUDENT BELIEFS AND PRACTICES IN THE TEACHING OF ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS



By

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Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science

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For Mum and Dad

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate, Universiti Putra Malaysia in partial fulfillment to the requirements of the Degree of Masters of Science

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By

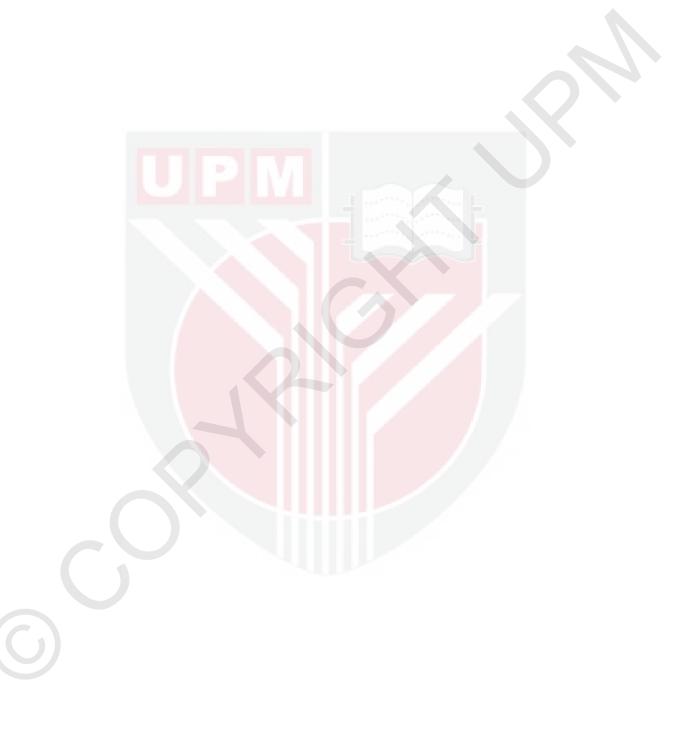
#### **CLARVIE M. CHARLES SPAWA**

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Poor oral communication proficiency among Malaysian learners has become a national problem. Oral communication skills in ESL is important if Malaysia wants to produce a generation of global communicators which is in line with the country's mission to become a fully developed nation. However, we often hear of grievances that many of Malaysian graduates are not employed due to their poor communication skills in English. This study seeks to compare between the beliefs and practices in the teaching of ESL speaking skill. The study involved ESL teachers and from different regions in Malaysia. The respondents were chosen using purposive sampling. The major statistical procedures used in the quantitative study were descriptive statistics and paired samples t-tests. Semi structured interviews were analyzed for themes and categories. The results suggest that both teachers believe oral communication skills in English is important in students' language learning. However, teachers faced numerous challenges in translating

this belief into practice. This has led to a discrepancy between in teachers' beliefs and practice in developing students' oral communication skills.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai

memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Master Sains (TESL)

#### KEPERCAYAAN DAN AMALAN GURU DAN PELAJAR DALAM PENGAJARAN KEMAHIRAN BERKOMUNIKASI SECARA ORAL DALAM BAHASA INGGERIS SEBAGAI BAHASA KEDUA

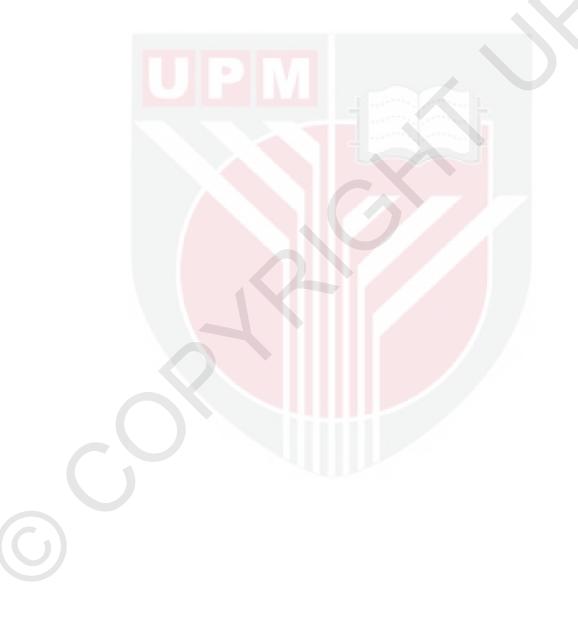
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## CLARVIE M. CHARLES SPAWA Mei, 2011

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Kelemahan dalam kemahiran berkomunikasi secara oral di kalangan pelajar Malaysia kian menjadi masalah di seluruh negara. Kemahiran berkomunikasi secara oral adalah amat penting jika negara kita ingin melahirkan generasi yang mampu berkomunikasi secara global, seiring dengan misi untuk menjadi negara vang maju. Walaubagaimanapun, kita sering mendengar mengenai masalah pengangguran di kalangan graduan Malaysian yang disebabkan oleh kelemahan bertutur dalam Bahasa Inggeris. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk membandingkan kepercayaan dan amalan guru Bahasa Inggeris dalam pengajaran kemahiran berkomunikasi secara oral di dalam bilik darjah. Kajian ini melibatkan guru Bahasa Inggeris daripada empat bahagian di semenanjung Malaysia. Responden dipilih berdasarkan persampelan purposif. Prosedur analisa statistik yang digunakan dalam kaedah kuantitatif ialah statistik deskriptif dan paired sample t-test. Temubual semistruktur dianalisis untuk mencari tema dan kategori. Hasil daripada kajian menunjukkan guru melihat kemahiran bertutur sebagai suatu kemahiran yang penting. Namun, para guru menghadapi pelbagai kekangan dalam mempraktikkan kepercayaan mereka. Masalah ini telah menjurus kepada perbezaan di antara kepercayaan dan amalan guru dalam pengukuhan kemahiran bertutur dalam Bahasa Inggeris di kalangan pelajar.



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My heartful gratitude also goes to my friends who have been with me through thick and thin. Their continuous supports are the reasons that help me to rise up everytime I fall. Last but not least, this would be impossible without the never ending encouragement and support from my family. They are my pillar of strength. I believe that only through the test of fire, makes the finest steel.

Mum and dad, thank you for believing in me. I dedicated this to both of you.

I certify that an Examination Committee has met on date of viva voce to conduct the final examination of Clarvie M. Charles Spawa on her degree thesis entitled "Teacher's Beliefs and Practices in the Teaching of Oral Communication Skills " in accordance with Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulations 1981. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Master of Science.

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