

# ENGLISH IN THE WORLD OF WORK

*Disusun dan diolah berdasarkan penyelidikan Airil Haimi Mohd Adnan*

**Pro-Eksekutif UfoRIA: Unitari Penyelidikan & Aplikasi Intelek UiTM  
dan Panel Penyelidik-Perunding bersama TechConsult.com, Malaysia**

# INTRODUCTION



The 'Dilemma' that you have been hearing in the news and reading in the papers is true, **English is a hurdle for M'sian students** ☹️

At the Malaysian Education Summit, the **lack of English proficiency was highlighted, especially for Bumiputera students** ☹️

In 2004, from 419 top students interviewed by PROTON for overseas internship, **ONLY 49 were chosen, because of poor English and weak communication skills** ☹️



# QUESTION TIME...



A. Is English a difficult subject to learn? Yes / No / I Don't Care / I Really Hate It *lah*

B. Do you feel that English is interesting or boring? Interesting / Boring / I Don't Care

C. What is most difficult about English? New Words / Grammar / Speaking / Everything

D. What about writing? Do you like to write essays, stories and letters in English? Yes / No / English is Stupid / English is Rubbish



# QUESTION TIME...



H. Do you understand everything that you see and hear in English? **Yes / No / 50-50 / Apa?!!**

I. Do you feel sad because you have problems in understanding English? **Very Sad / Not Sad / I Don't Care / I Still Understand BM *lah***

J. Do you know that you should try to be really good in the English Language? **Yes / No / You're Lying to Us / What For, Uncle? I Don't Need English I Live in Malaysia *lah!***



# UNDERGRADS & BROKEN ENGLISH 1/3



Look at the samples of work, by Undergrads from some higher education institutions all around Malaysia.

The undergrads were asked to continue with the following lines: **“Animals are part of the creatures living on earth. There are many kinds of animals...”**

They were given 10 minutes to write as much as possible. Look at the results I gathered:



# UNDERGRADS & BROKEN ENGLISH 3/3



**Ms S, 18, of Alor Star:** "Animals are part of creature living of earth. There are many kind animal. For example the famous animal are cat. Many people inside world liked cat and makes it pet. Cats has a nice habits. It always closed with their owner."

**Ms N, 18, of Kuala Lumpur:** "... There are many kinds of animals. Each group of animals have their own community. Such as bird, it can fly. Tiger is one of the chessing group. For another the last one is cat."



# ENGLISH ISSUES IN THE WORKPLACE: 1



Our students have difficulties in receptive skills (listening, reading) and productive skills (writing, speaking)...

The implication of this finding is disturbing, as it means that our university students, are unable to use English effectively and correctly.

They have a lower 'Workability Score' and are less likely to get a position in a larger firm or one which is already established.



# ENGLISH ISSUES IN THE WORKPLACE: 6



The biggest problem is you can graduate with a four-flat but without the confidence to speak and to share your opinions and thoughts with others, where will you be?

Students say they either 'can write can't speak' or 'can speak can't write'. But in reality you need to be good in both areas!

Although you *are* good you need to show you are *really* good. How can you do this without the ability to speak and write in English?





# BEFORE YOU GRADUATE 1/3



## POINT 1:

Try to think in English and do not translate from your first language all the time!

## POINT 2:

Play a part in English discussions during lessons and outside of the classroom!

## POINT 3:

Improve your accuracy by doing English exercises both written and spoken!



# THANK YOU

