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NEEDS ANALYSIS FOR AN ENGLISH

Title of Project Paper:

FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES PROGRAMME FOR

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ENGINEERS IN A MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANY
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NEEDS ANALYSIS FOR AN ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES
PROGRAMME FOR ENGINEERS IN A MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANY

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ABSTRACT

This study is an investigation into the English language needs of the engineers, through an analysis of a survey which was conducted for the engineers and engineering managers currently working in a multi-national company. The aim of this study is to know what English language skills the engineers and engineering managers require and to provide input for an ESP programme for the engineering students.

ESP evolved in the mid-60's in response to an awareness that certain types of learners had specialised needs which were not sufficiently and efficiently dealt with in most of the current EFL courses which mainly focussed on grammar/ comprehension or general communication skills. The learners were mainly pursuing tertiary education or professional training. It was felt that they had more limited and finely focussed needs, for example, a chemist wanting to participate in conferences both locally and overseas, and an undergraduate seeking to understand lectures and participate in seminars etc.(Mackay, 1975).

Mackay and Mountford (1978) have suggested three kinds of purposes:

- (1) Occupational requirements e.g. for international telephone operators, civil airline pilot etc.
- (2) Vocational training programmes, for example for hotel and catering staff, technical trades etc.
- (3) Academic and professional study e.g. engineering, medicine, law, etc.

The instrument used for gathering information for this research consists of self-constructed questionnaires the researcher made use of several sources. In developing the questionnaire, several sources were made use of including Mackay (1976), Richterich and Chanceral (1972), Mackay and Bosquet (1981), Yalden (1982), Hawkey (1980), Zoughoul and Hussein (1985), information of general manager and discussion with engineering

lectures and other course lectures dealing with engineering students.

The questionnaires were analyzed using frequency counts and percentages. The responses were tabulated according to major areas that emerge from the answers. From the results, many engineers need to improve their writing and speaking skills as compared to listening and reading skills. This result is so much related to the living environment and English education in university. It can be drawn from the findings that engineering students need not only to study all kinds of English skills, but also to expose to the environment which English is being widely used.

By identifying the English language needs of the engineers and engineering managers, it is hoped that a suitable English language course can be designed later to help prepare the engineers for the real job situations in which their English proficiency will be needed. Also this study will provide a model for an English Language Needs Analysis for the engineers and engineering managers.

ABSTRAK

Thesis ini adalah satu kajian mengenai Bahasa Inggeris yang diperlukan oleh jurutera melalui satu kajian analisa yang dijalankan kepada jurutera dan pengurus kejuruteraan yang sedang bekerja di syarikat antarabangsa. Objektif utama kajian ini dilakukan ialah untuk mengetahui peringkat manakah penguasaan Bahasa Inggeris yang diperlukan oleh jurutera dan pengurus kejuruteraan dan juga untuk menyediakan satu input untuk ESP program kepada pelajar kejuruteraan.

ESP yang berlaku pada pertengahan 60an ini adalah tindakbalas terhadap kesedaran bahawa sesetengah pelajar memerlukan satu kepakaran yang mana ianya tidak mencukupi dan begitu berkesan pada kursus ESL, yang mana lebih memfokuskan kepada tatabahasa / karangan atau skil berkomunikasi yang biasa sahaja. Mereka sebenarnya memerlukan satu pembelajaran khas atau latihan professional. Ini menggambarkan bahawa mereka mempunyai pemfokusan yang terhad serta lebih baik, sebagai contohnya, seorang penyelidik kimia mahukan satu penyertaan di dalam mahupun luar negara, dan seorang pelajar cuba untuk mamahami kuliah dan penyertaan didalam seminar dsb (Mackay,1975).

Mackay dan Mounford (1978) telah memberikan tiga pendapat:

- (1) keperluan pekerjaan, contohnya kepada operator panggilan antarabangsa dan juruterbang awam
- (2) Program latihan vokasional, contohnya, kepada pekerja katering dan perhotelan
- (3) Akademik dan pembelajaran professional, contohnya, kejuruteraan, perubatan, undang - undang dsb.

Alat yang diperlukan untuk mengumpul maklumat didalam penyelidikan ini

mengandungi kaji selidik pembentukan diri yang diambil daripada beberapa rujukan. Di dalam menyediakan kaji selidik sebegini, beberapa rujukan diambil daripada Mackay (1976), Richterich dan Chanseral (1972), Mackay dan Bosquet (1981), Yaldan (1982), Hawkay (1980) Zoughoul dan Hussein (1985), serta juga maklumat daripada pengurus besar dan perbincangan dengan pengajar kejuruteraan dan tutor yang mengajar pelajar kejuruteraan.

Pertanyaan kaji selidik ini kemudiannya dianalisa menggunakan bilangan kekerapan dan peratusan. Tindakbalas ini diambil berdasarkan kepada fokus utama daripada jawapan yang diperolehi. Daripada ini, hasilnya, ramai jurutera lebih memerlukan penguasaan didalam penulisan dan skil berkomunikasi berbanding dengan pendengaran dan skil pembacaan. Jawapan ini berkait rapat dengan persekitaran tempat tinggal dan pembelajaran Bahasa Inggeris di universiti. Ini boleh digambarkan bahawa pelajar kejuruteraan bukan sahaja perlu belajar semua bentuk skil Bahasa Inggeris, tetapi juga kepada pendedahan terhadap persekitaran Bahasa Inggeris yang digunakan secara meluas.

Dengan menyelidiki tahap Bahasa Inggeris yang diperlukan oleh jurutera dan pengurus kejuruteraan, ianya diharapkan supaya satu kursus Bahasa Inggeris yang sesuai boleh diwujudkan kemudiannya untuk membantu jurutera kepada persekitaran kerja yang sebenar yang mana memerlukan kefasihan penguasaan Bahasa Inggeris mereka. Dan juga kajian ini akan menyediakan satu model untuk Analisa Bahasa Inggeris Yang Diperlukan kepada jurutera dan pengurus kejuruteraan.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	page
ABSTRACT	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
TABLE OF CONTENTS	vi
LIST OF TABLES	ix
CHAPTER	
I INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND	
Introduction	1
The Role of English in Malaysia and the Emergence of ESP	1
Purpose of the study	4
Significance of the study	5
Definition of terms	6
II REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE	
Development in ESP	7
Syllabuses	10
Needs Analysis and ESP	12
Approach to needs analysis	15
Needs analysis and course design	17
Needs analysis and objective formulation	18
Needs analysis and selection of methodology	20
Needs analysis and evaluation	22

III	RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	
	Introduction	23
	The sample	23
	Engineers	23
	Engineering managers	24
	The instrument	24
	Methods of analysis	26
IV	FINDINGS	
	Introduction	27
	Personal details of survey participants	27
	Age group	27
	Education	28
	Work experience	28
	Communicative activities	29
	Language skills	29
	Listening skill	31
	Listening sub-skills	32
	Speaking skill	34
	Speaking sub-skills	35
	Reading skill	37
	Writing skill	39
	Writing sub-skills	40
	Proficiency and Importance of English Language	42
	Proficiency in English	42
	Importance of English	43

Personal impressions	45
Provisions for improving English	45
Knowledge of English	45
English language skills possessed	46
English language skills required for practical training	47
 V RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION	
Summary of findings	49
Limitation of the study	52
Recommendation for further study	53
Pedagogical implications of the study	53
 BIBLIOGRAPHY	55
 APPENDIX	61

LIST OF TABLES

	page
Table 1: Age of Engineers and Engineering Managers	28
Table 2: Education of Engineers and Engineering Managers	28
Table 3: Work Experience of Engineers and Engineering Managers	29
Table 4: Language skills of Engineers	30
Table 5: Language skills of Engineering Managers	31
Table 6: Listening skill of Engineers	32
Table 7: Listening skill of Engineering Managers	32
Table 8: Listening sub-skills of Engineers	33
Table 9: Listening sub-skills of Engineering Managers	34
Table 10: Speaking skill of Engineers	35
Table 11: Speaking skill of Engineering Managers	35
Table 12: Speaking sub-skills of Engineers	36
Table 13: Speaking sub-skills of Engineering Managers	37
Table 14: Reading skill of Engineers	38
Table 15: Reading skill of Engineering Managers	39
Table 16: Writing skill of Engineers	40
Table 17: Writing skill of Engineering Managers	40
Table 18: Writing sub-skills of Engineers	41
Table 19: Writing sub-skills of Engineering Managers	41
Table 20: English Proficiency of Engineers	42
Table 21: English Proficiency of Engineering Managers	43
Table 22: Importance of English - Engineers	44
Table 23: Importance of Emglish - Engineering Managers	44