

UNIVERSITI MALAYA
ORIGINAL LITERARY WORK DECLARATION

Name of Candidate: **UMA RANI A/P A. RETHINA VELU** (I.C./Passport No: **580822-07-5196**)

Registration/Matric No: **TGB070001**

Name of Degree: **MASTER OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

Title of Project/Paper/Research Report/Dissertation/Thesis ("this Work");

**THE EFFECTIVENESS OF CONTENT-BASED INSTRUCTION
IN LITERATURE-BASED ESL READING CLASSES**

Field of Study: **Second Language Acquisition**

I do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

- (1) I am the sole author/writer of this Work;
- (2) This Work is original;
- (3) Any use of any work in which copyright exists was done by way of fair dealing and for permitted purposes and any excerpt or extract from, or reference to or reproduction of any copyright work has been disclosed expressly and sufficiently and the title of the Work and its authorship have been acknowledged in this Work;
- (4) I do not have any actual knowledge nor do I ought reasonably to know that the making of this work constitutes an infringement of any copyright work;
- (5) I hereby assign all and every rights in the copyright to this Work to the University of Malaya ("UM"), who henceforth shall be owner of the copyright in this Work and that any reproduction or use in any form or by any means whatsoever is prohibited without the written consent of UM having been first had and obtained;
- (6) I am fully aware that if in the course of making this Work I have infringed any copyright whether intentionally or otherwise, I may be subject to legal action or any other action as may be determined by UM.

Candidate's Signature



Date 10 April 2010

Subscribed and solemnly declared before,



Witness's Signature

Date 10 April 2010

Name: **Dr Mahmud Hasan Khan**

Designation: **Supervisor**

ABSTRACT

This study investigates the effectiveness of CBI in Literature-based ESL Reading Classes in an urban Primary School in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The researcher used quantitative method to collect the data, which were analysed using SPSS (Statistical Packages for Social Sciences), version 16. Sixty students were the subjects for this study. The data for this study was gathered via three questionnaires and 3 tests. Findings revealed that the students, who had medium and low proficiency levels in English, had a positive attitude towards the use of CBI in the teaching and learning process in the reading classes. The CBI approach was in a way found to be effective in enhancing the students' performance and understanding of the content of the prescribed literary text 'Clever Katya'. It was found that there was a lack of knowledge among English Language teachers who needed concrete exposure in the use of CBI and its effectiveness in ESL classes with 'proper' instructional materials. More studies on the use of CBI in reading programmes at the upper primary level need to be encouraged. The success of CBI should be recognised and its effectiveness shared in relation to its importance in second language acquisition especially in the reading classes. This study shows the effectiveness of CBI which can be a useful approach in contributing to the teaching of language and also in promoting reading towards creating a reading society in the country.

ABSTRAK

Penyelidikan ini bertujuan untuk meninjau keberkesanan process pengajaran dan pembelajaran di kelas bacaan Bahasa Inggeris berbantuan di sebuah sekolah rendah di Kuala Lumpur. Kajian kuantitatif di guna oleh penyelidik. Seramai 60 pelajar adalah subjek bersama 2 orang guru yang terlibat dalam kajian ini. Data di kumpul melalui 3 soal selidik pelajar dan 3 ujian. Dapatan menunjukkan bahawa pelajar yang mempunyai prestasi kebolehan yang sederhana dan lemah dalam Bahasa Inggeris, mempunyai sikap yang positif terhadap penggunaan 'Content-based Instruction' (CBI) dalam process pembelajaran dan pengajaran dalam kelas bacaan Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua. 'CBI' boleh di anggap efektif dalam meningkatkan prestasi pencapaian pelajar dalam kefahaman, aspek sastera dan bahasa bertumpukan pengisian sebuah teks sastera yang dibaca, 'Clever Katya' Walaubagaimanapun, terdapat beberapa kelemahan dalam pelaksanaan program ini yang boleh di beri perhatian. Guru-guru Bahasa Inggeris perlu pengetahuan dan pendedahan yang konkrit dalam penggunaan CBI dan keberkesanannya di kelas bahasa kedua serta pengendalian bahan CBI yang sesuai. Lebih banyak dorongan untuk penyelidikan diperlukan bagi program bacaan di peringkat atasan sekolah rendah. Keberkesanan CBI boleh di kongsi akan kejayaan dan kepentingannya dalam perolehan Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua di dalam kelas bacaan. Kejayaan CBI dalam penyelidikan ini sangat dihargai sebagai satu eset yang dapat membawa kebaikan bukan sahaja kepada pelajar dan

guru-guru tetapi untuk mempromosikan sikap membaca ke arah membina masyarakat yang suka membaca.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to acknowledge first and foremost the Headmistress of Sekolah Kebangsaan Taman Desa, the teachers and students who had given me the support to carry out this study successfully in their school and reading classes.

I take this opportunity to thank all the professors and the university staff who had given me the guidance in order to be able to complete this study at University Malaya, a University of my dreams since I was a child. My heartiest gratitude to my supervisor, Dr Mahmud Hassan Khan, who had made my dreams come true by guiding, convincing and showing me the path to success in accomplishing this study.

Last but not least, this accomplishment of mine would not have been a success if it was not for the patience, tolerance and unconditional love from my husband, Aldo Vallicelli, who stood by me all through the days of this study. He inspired me all the way.

To my dearest, beloved daughter, Syntheeya, who departed from me during this study, on 27 September 2007, I dedicate this valuable piece of my work, to her.