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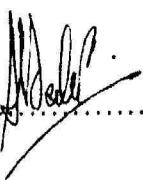
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..... **FOR THE STUDY OF A NOVEL**

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DEVELOPING THINKING SKILLS FOR THE
STUDY OF A NOVEL THROUGH ACTION RESEARCH

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**This book is dedicated to all teachers
who care enough to take the trouble to
make a difference in their teaching**

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Abstract

The focus of the study was to develop selected thinking skills through a two-phase approach among students in my form five class, who opted to take literature in English as a subject in the SPM examination. My contention was that if students are taught to use specific thinking skills, then reading and understanding texts and writing informed responses to literary works will not be so formidable to them. An action research approach was used to strategise ways to help students understand and develop informed responses to the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. Teaching and learning activities focussing on the development of relevant thinking skills were carried out over a duration of six lessons. Students' written work, my observations and discussions with students were examined for data and feedback regarding the effectiveness of the two-phase approach in teaching thinking skills. The findings indicated that under ordinary circumstances, the approach could produce positive outcomes.

ABSTRAK

Pembentukan Kemahiran Berfikir dalam Menganalisis Sebuah Novel: Satu Kajian Tindakan

Tumpuan kajian ini adalah untuk meninjau keberkesanan beberapa kemahiran berfikir yang khusus dikalangan pelajar-pelajar tingkatan lima yang mengambil matapelajaran kesusteraan Bahasa Inggeris dalam peperiksaan Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia. Kemahiran-kemahiran ini diajar dengan menggunakan pendekatan dua-fasa yang diubahsuai daripada pendekatan lapan fasa yang diperkenalkan oleh Fien, Gerber & Wilson (1984). Adalah dijangka bahawa sekiranya pelajar-pelajar tersebut dilatih kemahiran-kemahiran tersebut, maka tugasan membaca, memahami dan memberi respons kepada hasil karya kesusteraan tidak lagi menjadi sesuatu beban yang menakutkan. Pendekatan dua-fasa yang diajar melalui kajian tempatan diperkenalkan kepada murid-murid saya di tingkatan lima. Aktiviti-aktiviti pengajaran dan pembelajaran yang berfokus kepada pengembangan kemahiran berfikir dilaksanakan dalam enam waktu matapelajaran. Kajian ini yang dilaksanakan melalui kajian tindakan adalah berdasarkan novel hasil karya Harper Lee yang bertajuk "To Kill a Mockingbird". Hasil kerja bertulis pelajar-pelajar, pemerhatian saya serta perbincangan dengan pelajar diteliti untuk mendapat data dan maklumbalas yang berkaitan dengan keberkesanan pendekatan dua-fasa ini. Dapatan daripada kajian menunjukkan bahawa di bawah keadaan biasa, pendekatan yang digunakan boleh membawa hasil yang positif.

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