

ABSTRACT

English is the second language in Malaysia and it is used by different ethnic communities. This situation could have contributed to the unique characteristics of Malaysian English (ME). ME can be distinguished in two categories- the Standard Malaysian English (SME) and the Non-Standard Malaysian English (Manglish). This study focuses on Manglish which is used among Chinese vernacular school students. The research aims to examine the lexical and syntactic features of Manglish. It also aims to identify the choice and usage of Manglish an SME in formal and informal situations. To achieve these aims, a combination of research methods and procedures were employed. Qualitative and quantitative methods are used to analyze the data which are collected through a listening activity, questionnaires and oral interaction recordings. Some of the main findings of this research indicated that Mandarin- medium vernacular school students: 1. Use various particles (lah, mah, ah) frequently; 2. Omit the subject in the noun phrase structure; 3. Use Manglish with friends in informal situations and also during lessons (English lessons and Mathematics and Science in English lessons); 4. Usually use SME with teachers in formal situations. This study also provides recommendations to address the issue of Manglish usage in schools. It is hoped that the study can be used as a guide in researching the usage of Manglish in schools in general and the effects of Manglish usage in particular.

ABSTRAK

Bahasa Inggeris adalah bahasa kedua di Malaysia dan ia digunakan oleh pelbagai komuniti etnik. Situasi ini mungkin telah menyumbang kepada ciri-ciri unik Malaysian English (ME). ME boleh dibezakan di dalam dua kategori – Malaysian Standard English (SME) dan Non-Standard Malaysian English (Manglish). Kajian ini memberi tumpuan pada Manglish yang digunakan di kalangan pelajar-pelajar sekolah vernakular jenis Cina. Penyelidikan ini bertujuan untuk meneliti ciri-ciri leksikal dan sintaksis Manglish. Ia juga bertujuan untuk mengenalpasti pilihan dan penggunaan Manglish dan SME di dalam situasi formal dan tidak formal. Untuk mencapai tujuan ini satu gabungan kaedah dan prosedur penyelidikan telah digunakan. Kaedah kualitatif dan kuantitatif telah digunakan untuk menganalisa data yang dikumpul melalui satu aktiviti pendengaran, soal selidik dan rakaman interaksi lisan. Beberapa penemuan utama penyelidikan ini menunjukkan bahawa pelajar-pelajar sekolah vernakular jenis Cina: 1. Kerap menggunakan perbagai partikel (lah, mah, ah); 2. Tidak menggunakan subjek dalam struktur frasa nama; 3. Menggunakan Manglish dengan rakan-rakan dalam situasi tidak formal dan juga semasa pembelajaran (pelajaran Bahasa Inggeris serta pelajaran Matematik dan Sains di dalam Bahasa Inggeris); selalu/sering menggunakan SME dengan guru-guru di dalam situasi formal. Kajian ini juga memberi cadangan-cadangan untuk menangani/mengatasi isu penggunaan Manglish di sekolah. Adalah diharap kajian ini boleh digunakan sebagai panduan dalam penyelidikan tentang penggunaan Manglish di sekolah pada amnya serta kesan penggunaan Manglish secara khusus.

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