

THE USE OF WEB SITES IN ESL CLASSROOMS

NOR AZAH BT. HJ. MOHD RATHI

**A PROJECT PAPER SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ENGLISH AS A
SECOND LANGUAGE**

**FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
KUALA LUMPUR**

SEPTEMBER 2003

Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya



A511432872

PERAKUAN TENTANG HASIL KERJA AKADEMIK

Dengan ini saya, **NOR AZAH BT. HJ. MOHD RATHI**, no. pendaftaran: **TGBX 01002** mengaku bahawa naskah Laporan Penyelidikan yang saya serahkan bertajuk: **THE USE OF WEB SITES IN ESL CLASSROOMS** merupakan hasil kerja akademik saya sendiri kecuali bahan-bahan/petikan yang telah dinyatakan sumber asalnya.

Sekian dimaklumkan.

Yang benar,



Nama Calon: Nor Azah bt. Hj. Mohd Rathi

Tarikh : September 2003

ABSTRACT

This study investigated the use of web sites in ESL classrooms in the Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Surveying at Universiti Teknologi Mara, Shah Alam, Selangor. 40 students and 5 English language teachers were the subjects for this study. The data for this study was gathered via classroom observation, student questionnaire, student interview and teacher interview. Findings revealed that the students and the teachers have positive views towards the use of web sites as a tool for learning and teaching English. The use of web sites can create interesting, enjoyable and fun environment while learning of English takes place in classrooms. It has potential in enhancing language skills particularly for the reading and writing. However, the teachers pointed out that web sites can be a useful teaching and learning tool if certain criteria are met. These include fast and workable server, adequate facilities, proper training for teachers and students and a relatively small number of students in class.

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini dijalankan untuk menyelidiki penggunaan halaman web di dalam kelas-kelas pengajaran Bahasa Inggeris di Fakulti Seni Bina, Perancangan dan Ukur, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Shah Alam, Selangor. Seramai 40 orang pelajar dan 5 orang guru Bahasa Inggeris terlibat dalam kajian ini. Data-data diperolehi dari pemerhatian, kaji selidik dan temuramah. Hasil kajian ini mendapati pelajar-pelajar dan juga guru-guru berpandangan positif terhadap penggunaan halaman web sebagai satu alat pembelajaran dan pengajaran Bahasa Inggeris. Penggunaan halaman web di dalam kelas membolehkan suasana pembelajaran menjadi lebih menarik dan tidak membosankan. Penggunaan halaman web berpotensi untuk membantu meningkatkan kemahiran bahasa terutamanya dalam pembacaan dan penulisan. Namun begitu, guru-guru berpendapat halaman web boleh dijadikan satu alat pengajaran yang berkesan sekiranya ianya memenuhi beberapa kriteria. Kriteria-kriteria tersebut termasuklah sistem server yang pantas, kemudahan yang mencukupi, latihan pengkomputeran untuk guru-guru dan pelajar-pelajar dan bilangan pelajar yang bersesuaian di dalam kelas.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to acknowledge special appreciation to those who have contributed to the completion of this study:

- 1) God Almighty for giving me the strength, courage and patience
- 2) my supervisor, Miss Jagdish Kaur for her immeasurable assistance, advice and guidance
- 3) my dear husband, Jailani Taharim and my darling, Amirul Ashraf for their understanding, love, tolerance and support throughout my study years
- 4) my parents, Hj. Mohd Rathi and Hj. Norsiah and my siblings for their moral support
- 5) my colleagues, Asha and Cynthia for their permission in using their classes for this study
- 6) UiTM students (AP114 & AP 118 Part 3 Diploma students) for being the respondents
- 7) my colleagues, Roza, Juridah and Carol for willingly to be interviewed
- 8) my friends, classmates and lecturers of Faculty of Language and Linguistics

TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page
Perakuan Tentang Hasil Kerja Akademik	ii
Abstract (English)	iii
Abstrak (Bahasa Melayu)	iv
Acknowledgements	v
Table of Contents	vi
List of Tables	x
List of Appendices	xii
CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION	
1.0 Background of the Study	1
1.1 Statement of the Problem	3
1.2 Aim of the Study	4
1.3 Rationale of the Study	5
1.4 Research Questions	6
1.5 Significance of the Study	6
1.6 The limitations of the Study	7
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.0 Introduction	9
2.1 History of the Use of Computers in Language Learning and Teaching	9
2.2 The Internet	10
2.3 The World Wide Web	11

2.4 Learning via the Internet	12
2.5 The Internet as a powerful Teaching and Learning Tool	14
2.6 Using the Internet in the Teaching of English	18
2.7 The Web as an Educational Tool	19
2.8 Studies on the Use of Computer Based Technology in the ESL Context	21
2.9 Summary	23

CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction	25
3.1 Sample	25
3.1.1. Students	25
3.1.2. English Language Teachers	26
3.2 Instrumentation	26
3.2.1. Classroom Observation	27
3.2.2. Student Questionnaire	27
3.2.3 Student Interview	28
3.2.4 English Language Teacher Interview	28
3.3 Validation of Instrument (Pilot Study)	29
3.4 Administration of Questionnaire	30
3.5 Rationale for Choosing the Web Sites	30
3.6 Data Analysis	31

CHAPTER FOUR RESULTS AND INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

4.0 Introduction	32
4.1 Sample Background Information	32
4.2 Analysis of Observation of the Subjects	35
4.2.1. Students' Response	36
4.2.2. Students' Participation	37
4.3 Student Questionnaire	38
4.3.1. Presentation and Analysis of Student Questionnaire Data	39
4.3.2. Discussion of the Findings	54
4.4 Presentation and Analysis of Student Interview Data	55
4.4.1. Discussion of the findings	63
4.5 Presentation and Analysis of Teacher Interview Data	64
4.5.1. Discussion of the Findings	69

CHAPTER FIVE SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction	71
5.1 Summary of the Study	71
5.2 Summary of the findings	73
5.2.1 Use of Web Sites in Helping ESL Learners in Language Learning	73
5.2.2 Perceptions of Learners on the Use of Web Sites in Language Learning	73

5.2.3 Perceptions of Teachers on the Use of Web Sites in ESL	
Classrooms as a Tool in Learning English	74
5.2.4 Comparison between Teachers and Students on Their Perceptions	
Towards the Use of Web Sites as a Teaching and Learning Tool	74
5.2.5 Problems Faced by Learners When Using Web Sites for Language	
Learning	75
5.2.6 Limitation on Using Web Sites in the Language Learning and	
Teaching Context	75
5.3 Pedagogical Implications	76
5.4 Recommendations for Future Research	77
5.5 Conclusion	77
BIBLIOGRAPHY	78
APPENDICES	84

LIST OF TABLE

PAGE

Table 4.1	Gender Distribution	33
Table 4.2a	Teacher Age Distribution	33
Table 4.2b	Student Age Distribution	33
Table 4.3	Students' total family Income	34
Table 4.4	Father's Level of Education	34
Table 4.5	Mother's Level of Education	35
Table 4.6	Rating Scale	38
Table 4.7	Item 1- Learning English using the chosen web site for today's lesson was enjoyable	39
Table 4.8	Item 2 - The activities in this web site were interesting	40
Table 4.9	Item 3 - The content of this web site was easy to understand	40
Table 4.10	Item 4 - The English lesson was easier to understand because this web site was used for today's lesson	41
Table 4.11	Item 5 - The following in this web site helped me the most in understanding the lesson	42
Table 4.12	Item 6 - The English lesson was easier to understand because this web site was used for today's lesson	43
Table 4.13	Item 7 - Using this web site has increased my interest in learning English	44
Table 4.14	Item 8 - Using this web site helped me in learning English more effectively	44
Table 4.15	Item 9 -The use of the language in this web site was challenging to me	45

Table 4.16a	Item 10 - The skills that I developed most from this web site	46
Table 4.16b	Item 10 - The skills that I developed most from this web site	46
Table 4.16c	Item 10 - The skills that I developed most from this web site	46
Table 4.17	Item 11 - The activities in this web site helped me to improve my vocabulary	47
Table 4.18	Item 12 - This web site was interactive and fun	48
Table 4.19	Item 13 - This web site helped me in learning English through the following	49
Table 4.20	Students' Overall View on Using Web Sites as a Tool in English Language Learning	52

LIST OF APPENDICES	PAGE
Appendix A : Student Questionnaire (Set 1)	84
Appendix B : Student Questionnaire (Set 2)	87
Appendix C : Interview Questions for Students	89
Appendix D : Interview Questions for Teachers	90
Appendix E : Internet Worksheet	91