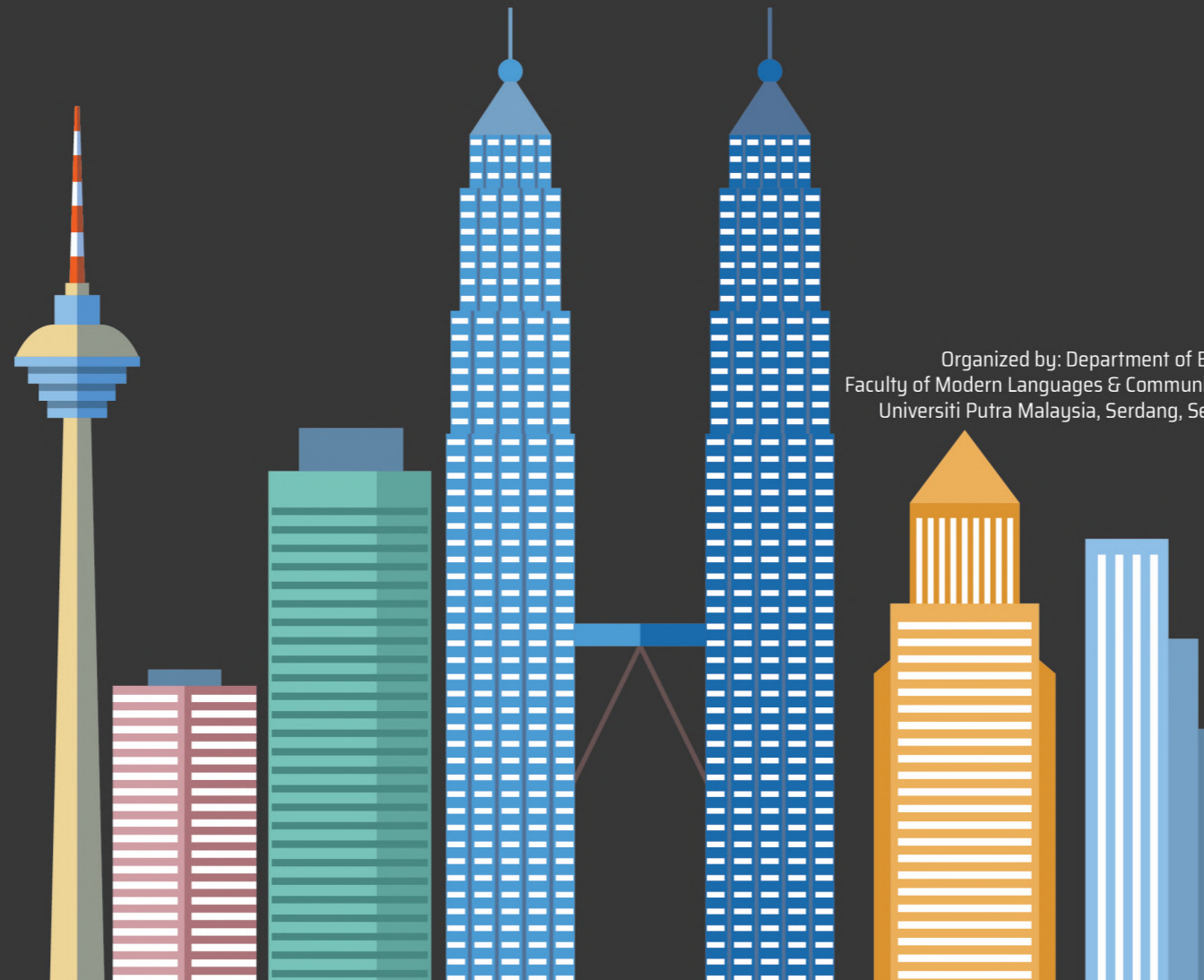UPM · UPM
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

MICOLLAC

MICOLLAC 2020

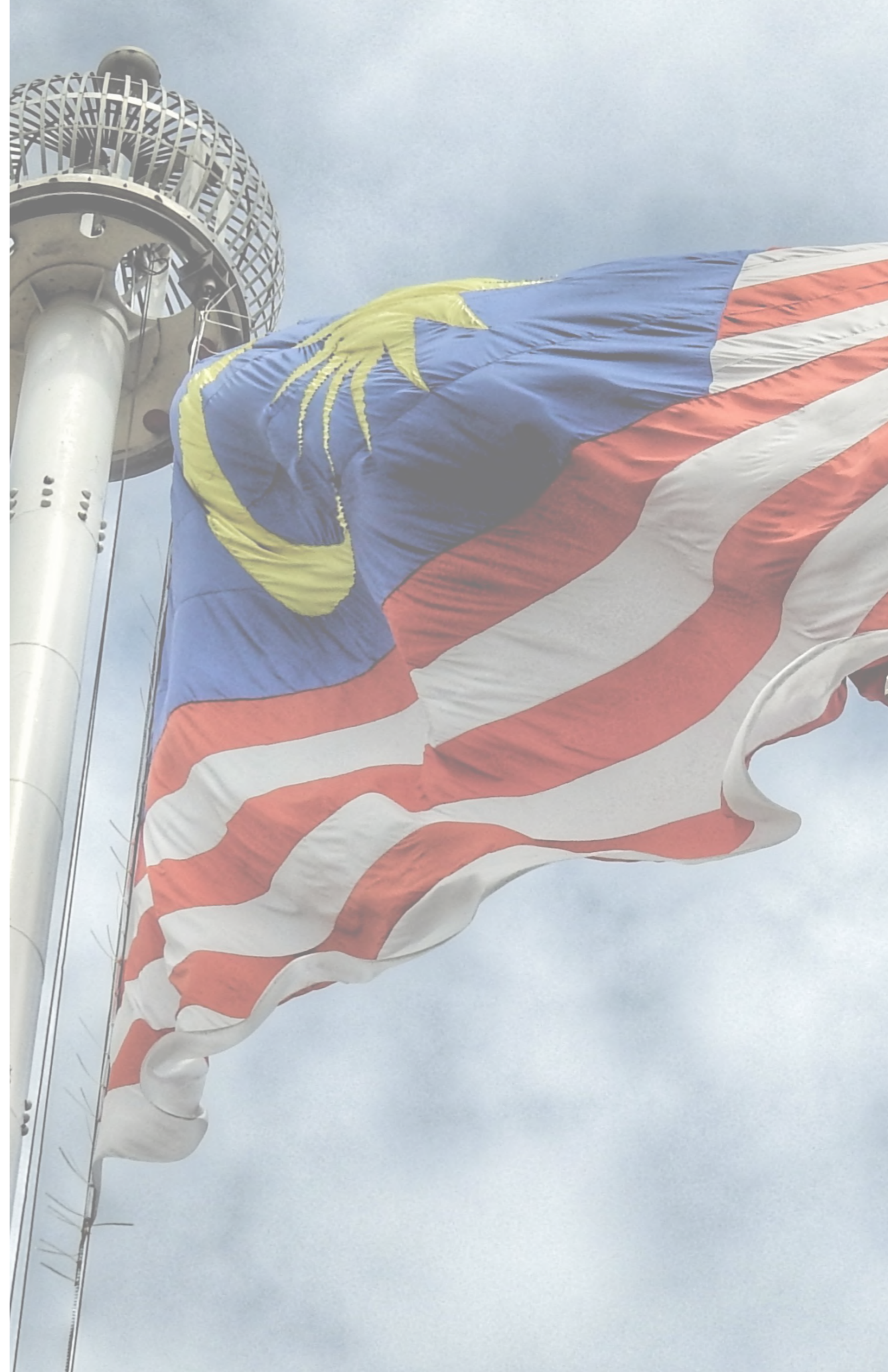11th Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures & Cultures

Embracing Cultural Diversity through
Languages and Literature

Table of Contents

Foreword by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Assalamualaikum w.b.t and greetings to all,

I wish to extend a warm welcome to all distinguished guests, speakers and participants from Malaysia and abroad to the 11th Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MICOLLAC) 2020. I wish to extend a warm welcome to all distinguished guests, speakers and participants from Malaysia and abroad to the 11th Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MICOLLAC) 2020.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had profound consequences on the social, economic and cultural life at the global level. In the context of academia, the pandemic has inevitably transformed our educational practices and the ways in which we communicate, disseminate and share knowledge.

For the first time in its history, MICOLLAC 2020 is held virtually this year. This shows the resilience of the organising committee in adapting and responding to the new normal of higher education and conference events.

This year also marks UPM's celebration of golden jubilee in conjunction with its 50 years of establishment (1971-2021). I believe that the theme of MICOLLAC 2020, ""Embracing Cultural Diversity through Languages and Literature" reflects the aspiration of the university in promoting a more global and inclusive education. Indeed, research through the lens of languages, literatures and cultures is crucial in giving us a deeper and renewed understanding of the current world.

The Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication is responsible in spearheading research in areas of languages, literatures, cultures and communication. It is hoped that MICOLLAC 2020 will provide an avenue for stimulating discussions and potential research collaborations among researchers and participants alike. I would also like to express my gratitude to thank all organising committee members of MICOLLAC 2020 for their strong dedication and commitment in ensuring that this virtual conference runs smoothly. Finally, I hope that MICOLLAC 2020 will bring us together in paving the path towards excellent achievements in our fields.

Thank you.

"With Knowledge We Serve"

YBHG PROF DATO' DR ZULKIFLI IDRUS
Deputy Vice Chancellor of Research and Innovation
Exercising the Function of Vice Chancellor

Foreword by the Dean of Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication Universiti Putra Malaysia

Assalamualaikum w.b.t and greetings to all,

It gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all presenters and participants to the Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MICOLLAC), March 23 -25, 2021. Despite the unprecedented challenges faced due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department of English of the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and the organising committee of MICOLLAC 2020 are committed in making this virtual conference possible.

MICOLLAC is organised by the Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, UPM and has always been steadfast in creating interconnections between theory and practice by breaking boundaries and welcoming fresh ideas in research related to languages, literatures and cultures. The aim of MICOLLAC 2020 is to offer a platform for local and international academics, educators, planners and teaching professionals to meet, discuss and share latest research and fundamental advances in the field of language, literature and culture. It also aims to encourage engagement between those practicing in a wide variety of scientific areas and industries to collaborate towards improving language and literature related applications.

The presence of many researchers from their respective fields provides excellent opportunities to explore potential industry-academia collaboration. I strongly encourage early career researchers to make efforts to expand their networking and seek training prospects. I highly appreciate the excellent contributions of the keynote, plenary and oral speakers, and participants in this conference. I wish to thank the committee members of MICOLLAC 2020 for the high level of motivation and perseverance that they have shown in organising this conference event via a virtual platform. I wish you all a very successful conference.

Thank you.

"With Knowledge We Serve"

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR. MOHD AZIDAN BIN ABDUL JABAR

Foreword by the Chair of
MICOLLAC 2020

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR DR. ARBAAYAH ALI TERMIZI

This year we celebrate the 11th Malaysia International Conference on Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MICOLLAC) 2020, the bi-annual conference organised by the Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia. It is no surprise that the pandemic affected our plan in a big way. Originally scheduled for August 2020, held at a prestigious hotel in the heart of our capital city Kuala Lumpur, we had to take the inevitable and safer route by organising it virtually albeit this year.

Having said that, organising MICOLLAC 2020 virtually is an essential learning curve for the organising committee. I believe that, through the online platform, we are able to reach a wider audience and engage with various speakers across the globe. With the theme of "Embracing Cultural Diversity through Languages and Literature", the conference offers an exciting programme with 1 keynote address, 7 plenaries, 4 workshops, 2 pre-conference events and more than 100 paper presentations, the last of which exceeded our expectation. In addition to that, delegates will have the chance to witness the first ever virtual play production project, produced by our own 3rd year BA (English Literature) students from the Department of English. We adapted well indeed!

In this completely revamped conference, innovatively devised by the current Organising Committee, the speeches delivered by our esteemed scholars will be streamed live via our official MICOLLAC Facebook page. It looks like our online teaching experience for the past two semesters contributed a lot to this extreme confidence. We were sceptical to move bravely, at first, but we persevered. This effort deserves a special mention of gratitude from me, the Chair of MICOLLAC 2020.

Once again, I would like to thank all of you for your participation in MICOLLAC 2020. Hopefully, the pleasure and action you will experience with us throughout the 3 days will make the hours seem short.

Happy conferencing!

Sponsors

MICOLLAC 2020 Sponsors

Important Information

Important Information

ACCESSING CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The video meeting platform used in this conference is ZOOM. The meeting link for every session is provided in the Presentation Schedule. Click on the meeting link provided for the session you wish to attend.

Session registration

If you are prompted to fill in a registration form, **type your full name** in the "First Name" field. The "Last Name" field need not be filled. Please use the name you had registered with the secretariat when making your payment previously. This is to ensure that the secretariat will be able to identify you as a registered presenter.

If you are a presenter, type the code for your paper preceding your name. Please refer to the Presentation Schedule for the code of your paper. Example: P32-Henry Lee VK

If you are a listener (non-presenter), precede your name with the letter "L-". Example: L-Gary Smith

After completing the session registration, a link will be sent to your e-mail address to allow you to enter one of the three main rooms. There are three main rooms, named MICOLLAC Main Room 1, 2, and 3.

Entering the Main Rooms

Clicking on the meeting link will allow you to enter one of the Main Room venues. You may now attend sessions in the Main Room. You are also free to move to the Breakout Rooms at any time.

Entering the Breakout Rooms

If a session you wish to attend is held in a Breakout Room, click on the link corresponding to the session provided in the Presentation Schedule. This will bring you to the corresponding MICOLLAC Main Room. From the Main Room, proceed to the Breakout Room.

How to locate Breakout Rooms on Zoom

Once you have entered a Main Room, click on the "Breakout Rooms" icon on the task bar at the bottom of the screen.

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You will see a list of available Breakout Rooms. To enter a Breakout Room, click on the link "Join" next to the room.

You are free to move between Breakout Rooms and the Main Room at any time.

See illustration in Figure 1.

Attending Workshop Sessions

Click on the link provided in the Presentation Schedule next to the workshop session

Figure 1

you wish to attend. For session registration, type your full name in the "First Name" field. Please use the name you had registered with the secretariat when making your payment previously. This is to ensure that the secretariat will be able to identify you as a registered participant.
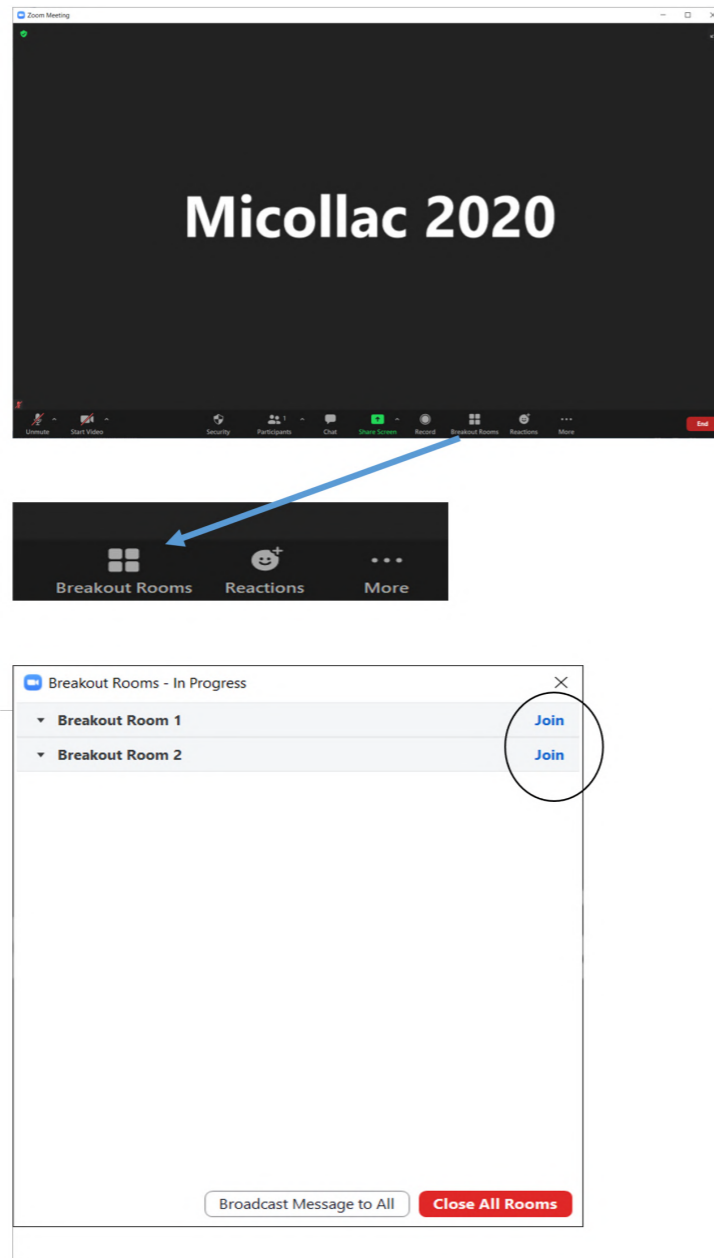
Please note that workshop sessions are available only to participants who have paid either the conference fee or the workshop fee. The workshop session links will be e-mailed directly to you.

Photo by Chris Montgomery on Unsplash

Itinerary Overview

Itinerary Overview

23 March, 2021

Time (GMT +8)		Venue
9.00 – 9.10 am	Welcoming speech: • Associate Professor Dr Arbaayah Ali Termizi, the Chair of MICOLLAC 2020 • Professor Dato' Dr Zulkifli Idrus, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Research and Innovation, exercising the function of Vice Chancellor, Universiti Putra Malaysia	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
9.15 – 10.30 am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS Emeritus Professor Dr Dennis Haskell (University of Western Australia)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
10.35 – 11.45 am	Parallel sessions	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 BREAKOUT ROOMS 1, 2, 3, 4
12.00 – 1.00 pm	PLENARY 1 Associate Professor Dr Shamala Paramasivam (Universiti Putra Malaysia)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
1.00 – 2.00 pm	BREAK	See our sponsors' and advertisers' messages in MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1, 2 and 3.
2.00 – 3.10 pm	Parallel sessions	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 BREAKOUT ROOMS 1, 2, 3, 4
3.30 – 4.30 pm	WORKSHOP 1 Associate Professor Dr Noritah Omar (Universiti Putra Malaysia)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
4.30 – 5.00 pm	BREAK	
5.00 – 6.00 pm	PLENARY 2 Professor Dr Graham Huggan (University of Leeds)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1

24 March, 2021

Time (GMT +8)		Venue
9.00 – 10.00 am	PLENARY 3 Professor Dr Simon Gikandi (Princeton University)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
10.05 – 12.55 pm	Parallel sessions	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 BREAKOUT ROOMS 1, 2, 3, 4
1.00 – 2.00 pm	BREAK	See our sponsors' and advertisers' messages in MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1, 2 and 3.
2.00 – 3.00 pm	PLENARY 4 Dr Norzizi Zulkifli (University Teknologi MARA)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
3.05 – 4.15 pm	Parallel sessions	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 BREAKOUT ROOMS 1, 2, 3, 4
4.15 – 4.30 pm	BREAK	
4.30 – 5.30 pm	WORKSHOP 2 Emeritus Professor Dr Dennis Haskell (University of Western Australia)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1

Itinerary Overview

25 March, 2021

Time (GMT +8)		Venue
9.00 – 10.00 am	PLENARY 5 Professor Dr Abdul Mu'ati @ Zamri Ahmad (Universiti Putra Malaysia)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
10.05 – 12.05 pm	Parallel sessions	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 BREAKOUT ROOMS 1, 2, 3, 4
12.10 – 1.00 pm	WORKSHOP 3 Associate Professor Dr Shamala Paramasivam (Universiti Putra Malaysia)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
1.00 – 2.00 pm	BREAK	See our sponsors' and advertisers' messages in MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1, 2 and 3.
2.00 – 3.00 pm	PLENARY 6 Associate Professor Dr Hossein Farhady (Yeditepe University)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
3.10 – 4.10 pm	PLENARY 7 Emeritus Professor Dr Zoltán Kövecses (Eötvös Loránd University)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
4.10 – 4.30 pm	Closing speech: • Associate Professor Dr. Zalina Mohd Kasim, Head of Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1
4.30 – 5.30 pm	WORKSHOP 4 Emeritus Professor Dr Zoltán Kövecses (Eötvös Loránd University)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1

23 March – 25 March, 2021

SPECIAL PLAY PRODUCTION SCREENING

Delegates are invited to watch a special screening of "**Zoom-Ed! A Musical Showcase**", the first virtual play production project by the Year 3 English Literature students of the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia. The play will be screened continuously over 48 hours on You Tube, from 8.00 pm, 23 March to 8.00 pm, 25 March.

Link: https://youtu.be/IPcO_W5aHcc

Disclaimer: This event is strictly for viewing only. Downloading is prohibited due to copyright issues.

Presentation Schedule

KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND PLENARY SESSIONS

*Participants who are unable to access the keynote address and plenary sessions may attend the sessions streamed on the MICOLLAC FaceBook at this link: https://www.facebook.com/UPMicollac/

*Meetings are on ZOOM platform.

23 MARCH, 2021 TIME (GMT +8)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1	MEETING LINK
9.00 - 9.15 am	Welcoming speech: • Associate Professor Dr Arbaayah Ali Termizi, the Chair of MICOLLAC 2020 • Professor Dato' Dr Zulkifli Idrus, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Research and Innovation, exercising the function of Vice Chancellor, Universiti Putra Malaysia	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvfuuorTwtHNWoWktv-ZG7ilCvToio3IFAV
9.15 – 10.30 am	KEYNOTE ADDRESS **Emeritus Professor Dr Dennis Haskell** (University of Western Australia) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Rosli Talif	
12.00 – 1.00 pm	PLENARY 1 **Associate Professor Dr Shamala Paramasivam** (Universiti Putra Malaysia) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Ngee Thai Yap	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvfuuorTwtHNWoWktv-ZG7ilCvToio3IFAV
5.00 – 6.00 pm	PLENARY 2 **Professor Dr Graham Huggan** (University of Leeds) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Hardev Kaur Jujar Singh	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvfuuorTwtHNWoWktv-ZG7ilCvToio3IFAV

24 MARCH, 2021 TIME (GMT +8)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1	MEETING LINK
9.00–10.00 am	PLENARY 3 **Professor Dr Simon Gikandi** (Princeton University) Session Chair: Dr Muhammad Ewan Awang	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYuduCsrzwqGN20E-Ho5nhKqWva7Ev7Fkv-p
2.00 – 3.00 pm	PLENARY 4 **Dr Norzizi Zulkifli** (University Teknologi MARA) Session Chair: Dr Ida Baizura Bahar	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYuduCsrzwq-GN20EHo5nhKqW-va7Ev7Fkv-p
25 MARCH, 2021 TIME (GMT +8)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1	MEETING LINK
9.00–10.00 am	PLENARY 5 **Professor Dr Abdul Mu'ati @ Zamri Ahmad** (Universiti Putra Malaysia) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Afida Mohd Ali	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUtceytrDssGNCJp-K8xyqj_6doZHSplKfd_
2.00 – 3.00 pm	PLENARY 6 **Associate Professor Dr Hossein Farhady** (Yeditepe University) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Vahid Nimehchisalem	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUtceytrDss-GNCJpK8xyqj_6doZHSpl-Kfd_
3.10 – 4.10 pm	PLENARY 7 **Emeritus Professor Dr Zoltán Kövecses** (Eötvös Loránd University) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Sabariah Md Rashid	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUtceytrDss-GNCJpK8xyqj_6doZHSpl-Kfd_
4.10 – 4.30 pm	Closing speech by the Head, Department of English, Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Associate Professor Dr Zalina Mohd Kasim	

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

Note: Workshops are available only to participants who have paid either the conference fee or the workshop fee.

DATE/TIME (GMT +8)	MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 1	MEETING LINK
23 March, 2021 3.30 – 4.30 pm	WORKSHOP 1 **Associate Professor Dr Noritah Omar** (Universiti Putra Malaysia) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Helen Tan	Meeting links for workshops will be e-mailed to registered participants.
24 March, 2021 4.30 – 5.30 pm	WORKSHOP 2 **Emeritus Professor Dr Dennis Haskell** (University of Western Australia) Session Chair: Dr Ilyana Jalaluddin	
25 March, 2021 12.10 – 1.00 pm	WORKSHOP 3 **Associate Professor Dr Shamala Paramasivam** (Universiti Putra Malaysia) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Yong Mei Fung	
25 March, 2021 4.30 – 5.30 pm	WORKSHOP 4 **Emeritus Professor Dr Zoltán Kövecses** (Eötvös Loránd University) Session Chair: Associate Professor Dr Zalina Mohd Kasim	Meeting links for workshops will be e-mailed to registered participants.

*The schedule is subject to change for administrative purposes.

<div style="text-align:center">

PARALLEL SESSIONS

23 MARCH 2021

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Sessions A – E:10.35 – 11.45 am
Sessions F – J, Z-0: 2.00 – 3.10 pm

SESSION A TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team A	MEETING LINK
10.35 – 10.55 am	P1	Racial Prejudice and Marginalisation of the Irish Female Migrants in Mary Anne Sadlier's Selected Novels through the Standpoint Theory **A. Alashjaai Nouf Fahad, Ida Baizura Bahar, Manimanggai Mani, Florence Toh Haw Ching**	
11.00 – 11.20 am	P2	A Review of Ben Okri's In Arcadia and The Age of Magic **Aoqi, Florence Toh Haw Ching**	https://us02web.-zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAldO2hrT8iGdAs-FAPPnCwV4vmvEQsh-JwH-
11.25 – 11.45 am	P3	Interrogating Gender Within Chinese Culture through Female Abjection in Lisa See's Peony In Love **Chin Koon Poh, Mohammad Ewan Awang, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Florence Toh Haw Ching**	

SESSION B TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 1 Session Admin: Team B	MEETING LINK ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 1)
10.35 – 10.55 am	P4	Comics in the World of Modern Media and Internet-Outrage Economy **Andrii Anisimov**	
11.00 – 11.20 am	P5	Young Adult Literature in the Malaysian English Language Classroom: Exploring Reader Responses **Mallika V. Govindarajoo, Shakina Rajendram, N. Sundari Subasini**	https://us02web.-zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAldO2hrT8iGdAs-FAPPnCwV4vmvEQsh-JwH-
11.25 – 11.45 am	P6	Human Puzzles: Glocal Self- Affirmation Via Place-Identity in Contemporary Filipino Crime Fiction **Maria Rhodora G. Ancheta**	

SESSION C TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team C	MEETING LINK
10.35 – 10.55 am	P7	Language Use in Scammer Dating Profiles: How is Identity Constructed in Scammer Profiles Compared to General User Dating Profiles? **Kam-Fong Lee, Mei-Yuit Chan, Helen Tan, Afida Mohd Ali**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rq-TgpGtBsKdmX8_ZRhgo-_c4IEYeC
11.00 – 11.20 am	P8	Cyberbullying in the Name of God: A Critical Discourse Analysis **Natrah Noor**	
11.25 – 11.45 am	P9	The Representation of Non-Communicable Diseases in Malaysia: A Critical Discourse Analysis **Lee Ling Khai**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rq-TgpGtBsKdmX8_ZRhgo-_c4IEYeC

SESSION D TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team D	MEETING LINK ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 3)
10.35 – 10.55 am	P10	Malala's Journey from Village to Nobel Peace Prize: Exploring Culture, Right to Education and Universal Values that Spark Thinking and Reasoning in Upper Secondary Students **Indranee Liew**	
11.00 – 11.20 am	P11	The Investigation of National and Religious Identities of Canadian-Born Muslim Students in Postsecondary Education **Yasmeen A. Hakooz**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rqTgp-GtBsKdmX8_ZRhg0-_c4IEYeC
11.25 – 11.45 am	P12	Instructional Strategy as a Factor for Understanding Teacher Self-Disclosure in a Malaysian ESL Writing Classroom **Paul GnanaSelvam Pakirnathan**	

SESSION E TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 4 Session Admin: Team E	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 4)
10.35 – 10.55 am	P13	Lexical Bundles in Rhetorical Moves of Introductions in High Impact Chinese and International English Linguistic Journals **Geng Hui, Lee Geok Imm, Helen Tan, Ilyana Jalaluddin**	
11.00 – 11.20 am	P14	Developing English Language Skills of Engineering Teachers: Relevance of Virtual Training Sessions **George Mathew Nalliveettil**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rqTgp-GtBsKdmX8_ZRhg0-_c4IEYeC
11.25 – 11.45 am	P15	Move Structures and Linguistic Realizations in English Linguistics and Literature Abstracts **Chooi Mun Yee, Helen Tan**	

SESSION F TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team F	MEETING LINK
2.00 – 2.20 pm	P16	Using Young Adult Literature: The Weight of Our Sky to Teach Multi-culturalism among TESL Trainees in UKM **Faiza Rostam Affendi, Azlina Abdul Aziz**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAld-O2hrT8iGdAsFAPPnCw-V4vmvEQshJwH-
2.25 – 2.45 pm	P17	Transcending Time and Space: Comparative Traumatic Research on The Harmony Silk Factory and The Garden of Evening Mist **Hou Xia**	
2.50 – 3.10 pm	P18	The Motivation of Students to Study Arabic in Nanyang Technological University, Singapore **Mariyam Bee Abu Bakar**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAld-O2hrT8iGdAsFAPPnCw-V4vmvEQshJwH-

SESSION G TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 1 Session Admin: Team G	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 1)
2.00 – 2.20 pm	P19	Space in Mario Vargas Llosa's The War of The End of The World **Mohammad Safaei**	
2.25 – 2.45 pm	P20	The Conflict of Worldviews and the Birth of Anxiety: An Interpretation of the Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock **Mohammed Sarwar Alamand, Mohd Muzhafar Idrus**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAld-O2hrT8iGdAsFAPPnCw-V4vmvEQshJwH-
2.50 – 3.10 pm	P21	Discussing How and Why M. K Limbu Used Nepal's Cultural and Political Turmoil as a Setting in His Novel Fragile Mountains **Zahraa Abdullah Mohan, Ida Baizura Binti Bahar**	

SESSION Z-0 TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team Z-0	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 2)
2.00 – 2.20 pm	P22	Marine Engineering Cadets' Learning Preferences, Perception and Motivation towards the Integration of Kahoot! in Learning Maritime Vocabulary **Normaizura Mat Rom, Afida Mohd Ali**	
2.25 – 2.45 pm	P23	Genre Analysis of Academic Departmental Presentations among University Students **Ma Yuepeng, Ilyana Binti Jalaluddin**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAld-O2hrT8iGdAsFAPPnCw-V4vmvEQshJwH-
2.50 – 3.10 pm	P24	The Use of Persuasive Strategies in Political Discourse of Female Leaders' COVID-19 Speeches **Tang Kui Lin, Sharon Sharmini, Muhammad Yasir Yahya**	

SESSION H TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team H	MEETING LINK
2.00 – 2.20 pm	P25	Moving the Boundaries: Reconstruction of Stereotyped Identities by Targets of Stereotyping **Hui Zanne Seng, Mei Yuit Chan, Ngee Thai Yap**	
2.25 – 2.45 pm	P26	Sequencing Social Media Actions in Facebook Advocacy Group **Intan Azreen Basiron, Sharon Sharmini V. Danarajan**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rqTgp-GtBsKdmX8_ZRhg0-_c4IEYeC
2.50 – 3.10 pm	P27	Women's Representation in "The Economist" 2001 and 2008: A Contrastive Case Study **Galyna Tsapro**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rqTgp-GtBsKdmX8_ZRhg0-_c4IEYeC

SESSION I TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team I	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 3)
2.00 – 2.20 pm	P28	Just Zip It 'bout Being a Pahlawan!': Discourse of Leadership on Twitter **Fazleen Md Ruslan, Jariah Mohd Jan**	
2.25 – 2.45 pm	P29	Semantic Extensions of Visual and Auditory Perception Verbs in Hausa Fiction Writings **Mohammed Sani Ya'u, Sabariah Md Rashid, Afida Mohammed Ali, Hardev Kaur**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rqTgp-GtBsKdmX8_ZRhg0-_c4IEYeC
2.50 – 3.10 pm	P30	Learning a Second Language: A Vehicle to Another Self? **Al Shuhail, Muneerah**	

SESSION J TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 4 Session Admin: Team J	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 4)
2.00 – 2.20 pm	P31	The Use of Modal Verb Can in CGTN Articles: How does CGTN Construct the Identity of the U.S. in Handling the Covid-19 Crisis **Tianyang Lu**	
2.25 – 2.45 pm	P32	Use of Code-Switching among Bilingual ESL Learners **Bazrina Ramly, Yap Ngee Thai, Ilyana Jamaluddin, Hamidon Basri, Firdaus Mukhtar**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvdO6rqTgp-GtBsKdmX8_ZRhg0-_c4IEYeC
2.50 – 3.10 pm	P33	The Use of Talk for Writing, Peer Feedback and Storyjumper in Coping with Writing Anxiety among Year 6 Students **Hindu Karunagaran, Sharon Sharmini, Ateff Yusof, Ilyana Jalaluddin**	

PARALLEL SESSIONS

24 MARCH 2021

Sessions K – O, Z-1: 10.05 – 12.55 pm
Sessions P – T: 3.05 – 4.15 pm

SESSION K TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team K	MEETING LINK
10.05 – 10.25 am	P34	Diffracted States: New Materialism and Malaysian Cyberpunk **Netty Mattar**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P35	Mother: A Saviour or an Enemy? **Norhaniza Bt Md Ismail, Hardev Kaur**	
10.55 – 11.15 am	P36	Joel's Redemption Arc in the Unnatural Narrative Structure of Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind **Nur Aainaa Amira Mohd Said, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Mohammad Ewan Awang**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfuur-rzsiE9McmP3kmlCdSYb-AG_VMi53d
11.20 – 11. 40 am		-	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P38	Niger-Delta Women and Nature In Christie Watson's Tiny Sunbirds Far Away **Ikechi Chioma Elizabeth, Rohimmi Noor, Rosli Talif**	
12.10 – 12.30 pm	P39	Issues on the Study of Sinophone Malaysian Literature by the Academic Circles in Mainland China — Taking "Journal Of Literatures in Chinese" as an Example **Wang Jiaqi**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfuur-rzsiE9McmP3kmlCdSYb-AG_VMi53d
12.35 – 12.55 pm	P40	Revisiting China and Malaya in the Narrative of Psychogeographic Antiquarianism in Chan Ling Yap's New Beginnings **Nurul Atiqah Amran, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Rosli Talif, Mohammad Ewan Bin Awang**	

SESSION L TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 1 Session Admin: Team L	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 1)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P41	Power against Patriarchy in Children's Novel Lily Alone **Florence Toh Haw Ching, Agnes Liau Wei Lin**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P42	Undoing Trauma through Death Instinct in Psychotic by Xeus **Nurul Soleha Mohd Noor, Arbaayah Ali Termizi**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfu-urrzsiE9McmP3kmlCdSY-bAG_VMi53d
10.55 – 11.15 am	P43	Afrofuturism and Transhumanism: New Insight into the African American Identity in Octavia Butler's Dawn **Sami Abdullah Al-Nuaimi, Zainor Izat Zainal, Mohammad Ewan Awang, Noritah Omar**	
11.20 – 11. 40 am	P44	Negotiating Existential Concerns through the Grotesque in Yukio Mishima'sForbidden Colours **Seach Jin Beng, Arbaayah Ali Termizi**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P45	The Role of Poetry in Language Teaching **Siamir Marulafau**	
12.10 – 12.30 pm	P46	Non-Violent Strategies of Resistance in MalalaYousafzai's I Am Malala: A Foucauldian Reading **Nurul Aqilah Binti Sumali, Moussa Pourya Asl**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfuur-rzsiE9McmP3kmlCdSYb-AG_VMi53d
12.35 – 12.55 pm	P47	Animal Tropes and Human-Animal Relationship in Selected Malaysian Indigenous Literature in English **Izzat Najmi Abdullah, Zainor Izat Zainal, Florence Toh Haw Ching, Ida Baizura Bahar**	

SESSION Z-1 TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team Z-1	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 AND PROCEED TO BREAK-OUT ROOM 2)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P48	The Arabian Night in the Nineteenth Century and Modern English Literature **Haitham Abdulraheem Odeh Abu Khamash**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfuurrzsiE9Mcm-P3kmlCdSYbAG_VMi53d
10.30 – 10.50 am	P49	Social Oppression as an Impetus of American Cultural Imperialism in John Updike's Terrorist **Fakhrulddin Saif Raed Nafia, Ida Baizura Bahar, Zainor Izat Bt Zainal, Mohammad Ewan Bin Awang**	
10.55 – 11.15 am	P50	Renegotiating the East Asian Female Identity through the Fluid and the Transcultural SelfinThe Stone Goddess by MinfongHo **Syamsina Zahurin Shamsuddin, Ida Baizura Bahar, Manimangai Mani, Mohammad Ewan Awang**	
11.20 – 11. 40 am	P51	A Review of Larissa Lai's When Fox Is A Thousand and Salt Fish Girl **Wang Jue, Florence Toh Haw Ching**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqfuurrzsiE9Mcm-P3kmlCdSYbAG_VMi53d
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P52	Alchemy of the Word: Sinophone Malaysian Literature as Minor Literature **Wang Weizhou**	
12.10 – 12.30 pm	P53	The Politics of Space in Life Writings by Middle Eastern Diasporic Women Writers: A Topic Modeling and Sentiment Analysis **Nurul Najiha Binti Jafery, Pantea Keikhosrokiani, Moussa Pourya Asl**	
12.35 – 12.55 pm	P115	The Expression of Traditional Malay and Islamic Culture Through the Artworks of Mastura Abdul Rahman, Ruzaika Omar Basareee and Haron Mokhtar **Ahmad Hakim Abdullah, Yuhanis Ibrahim, Iqbal Badaruddin**	

SESSION M TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team M	MEETING LINK
10.05 – 10.25 am	P54	A Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Gender Dynamics in Popular Malay TV Dramas: A Case Study of "Rindu Awak 200%" **Shazna Abu Bakar, Jariah Mohd Jan, Emily Lau**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P55	Exploring Liquid Interculturality in EFL: Examining Teachers' Perceptions of Intercultural Competence **Hamza R'boul**	
10.55 – 11.15 am	P56	Subcortical Restructuring in Bilinguals and Trilinguals **J. Yee, N. T. Yap, C. Pliatsikas**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJotdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
11.20 – 11. 40 am	P57	Cognitive Load of Instructor Questions in the Online Synchronous Videoconferencing Classroom **Obaida Chaqmaqchee, Shamala Paramasivam**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P58	The Role of Working Memory Capacity and Linguistic Proficiency in Scalar Implicature Computation among Adult Bilinguals **Sabariah Md. Rashid, Ahmed Khorsheed, Vahid Nimehchisalem, Lee Geok Imm, Jessica Price**	
12.10 – 12.30 pm	P59	Predicting the EFL Expository Writing Quality from the Measures of Lexical Richness **Yang Yang, Yap Ngee Thai, Afida Mohamad Ali, Helen Tan**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJotdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
12.35 – 12.55 pm	P60	A Case Study of Gender-Based Violence in Public Transport in Sri Lanka **Isurinie Anuradha Mallawaarachchi**	

SESSION N TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team N	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 3)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P61	Genre Analysis of Risk Management Reports by an Islamic Financial Institution in Malaysia **Roslina Abdul Aziz, Nadhratunnaim Abas, Khairul Firhan Yusob, Norhidayah Md Yusof**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P62	Islamic Lexicon: Reflections in Early Malay Dictionaries **Norazlina Mohd Noor**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
10.55 – 11.15 am	P63	Visual Coherence on Malaysian Travel Brochures: A Genre Multimodal Analysis **Ahlam Muhammed Lutf Al-Najhi, Zalina Binti Mohd Kasim, Ramiza Binti Darmi, Sharon Sharmini**	
11.20 – 11. 40 am	P64	Teamwork Makes Dream Works: PBL in Grammar Class **Yong Mei Fung**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P65	Stance Nouns in L2 Argumentative Essays by First-Year Business Undergraduate Students **Teh Hui Lin, Lee Geok Imm, Helen Tan, Ain Nadzimah Abdullah, Vahid Nimehchisalem**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
12.10 – 12.30 pm	P66	War Metaphors and Their Usage in the Religious Tweets of a Nigerian Politician **Adamma M. Amadi, Zalina Mohd Kasim**	
12.35 – 12.55 pm	P67	Use of Digital Technologies for Creative Projects: Perception of Creative Arts Practitioners on Student Works in Institutions of Higher Learning **Gene Lim Jing Yi, Shanthi Balraj Baboo**	

SESSION O TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 4 Session Admin: Team O	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 4)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P68	Digital Technologies for Digital Story-telling: Digital Competency among Young Malaysians **Gene Lim Jing Yi, Shanthi Balraj Baboo**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P100	Hotel Responses to Online Reviews: Building Rapport by Thanking **Ly Wen Taw, Shamala Paramasivam, Alan Libert, Ramiza Binti Darmi, Ilyana Binti Jalaluddin**	
10.55 – 11.15 am	P70	The Needs of Intercultural Competence for 21st Century of Higher Education in Malaysia **Nur Asyrani binti Che Ismail, Mohd Amir Izuddin bin Mohd Ghazali, Ranjini Kunalan**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0td-O2przsrGt2sgSzGScgx-hHkE3tS3VVzX
11.20 – 11. 40 am	P71	Jordanian Teachers' Attitudes towards Linguistic Globalization in Jordan: A Sociolinguistic Study **Samaher Amin Abdel Rahman Fakhouri**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P72	Metaphorical Expression of 'Guest House' in the Writings of Mewlana Rumi and Said Nursi **Nur Sakinah Thomas, Zalina Mohd Kasim, Ahmad Nabil Md Rosli, Nur Jehaada Ibrahim**	
12.10 – 12.30 pm	P73	Combining Reciprocal Perspectives with Salient Features to Individuate Referents using Spoken Jordanian Arabic **Samer Omar Jarbou**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0td-O2przsrGt2sgSzGScgx-hHkE3tS3VVzX
12.35 – 12.55 pm	P74	Citation Types and Reporting Verbs in the Literature Review Section by Post-graduate Writers **Geok Imm Lee, Helen Tan**	

SESSION P TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team P	MEETING LINK
3.05 – 3.25 pm		-	
3.30 – 3.50 pm	P76	Freedom and Choice in Doris Lessing's Mara And Dann: An Adventure **Zahra Rezaei, Ida Baizura Bahar, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Manimanggai Mani**	https://us02web.zoom.us/ meeting/register/tZEqfu-urrzsiE9McmP3kmlCdSY-bAG_VMi53d
3.55 – 4.15 pm	P77	Scapegoating Effect and Sense of Guilt Behind Trauma Recovery in Kazuo Ishiguro's The Remains Of The Day **Li Fan, Ida Baizura Bahar, Florence Toh Haw Ching, Diana Abu Ujum**	

SESSION Q TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 1 Session Admin: Team Q	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 1)
3.05 – 3.25 pm	P78	Construction of Self Identity of Female Criminal from Psychosocial Perspective in Blood Mother by Mitchell **Zanirah Wahab, Rosli Talif, Hardev Kaur, Arbaayah Ali Termizi**	https://us02web.zoom.us/ meeting/register/tZEqfu-urrzsiE9McmP3kmlCdSY-bAG_VMi53d
3.30 – 3.50 pm	P79	Social Melancholy and Colonisation of Psychic Space in Celeste Ng's Everything I Never Told You **Zhou Qiaoqiao, Noritah Omar**	
3.55 – 4.15 pm	P80	A Trauma Study in McEwan's Selected Novels from The Perpetrators' View **He Qijia, Hardev Kaur, Florence Toh Haw Ching, Diana Abu Ujum**	

SESSION R TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team R	MEETING LINK
3.05 – 3.25 pm	P81	Metaphorical Aspects in the Malaysian Education Blueprint **Linggatharani a/p Kesavan, Siti Rohana Mohd Thani**	https://zoom.us/meeting/ register/tJ0tdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
3.30 – 3.50 pm	P82	An Ecolinguistics Perspective of Language Use and Attitude of Soochow Youths **Ge Shuanglin, Sharon Sharmini**	
3.55 – 4.15 pm	P83	A Comparative Study of Conceptual Metaphors of English verb eat and Chinese verb 吃chī **Zhang Cancan, Sabariah Md Rashid**	

SESSION S TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team S	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 3)
3.05 – 3.25 pm	P84	English Language Use of the Malaysian Tamil Diaspora **M. Raadha Krishnan, Sharon Sharmini**	https://zoom.us/meeting/ register/tJ0tdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
3.30 – 3.50 pm	P85	An Insight to the Dynamic Variables of English as Second Language (ESL) Anxiety in Daily Communication of an ESL Country: Malaysia **Chong Kai Hao, Christine Xiang Ru Leong, Jessica Price**	
3.55 – 4.15 pm	P86	Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis of Facebook Pages on The Great Return March Protest **Abeer Z. Alhossary, Afida Mohamad Ali, Zalina Mohd Kasim, Sabariah Md Rashid**	https://zoom.us/meeting/ register/tJ0tdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX

SESSION T TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 4 Session Admin: Team T	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 4)
3.05 – 3.25 pm	P87	Spelling Performance of Primary School Students in Private and Government Schools: A Pilot Study **Azwin Hasyana Azhar, Yap Ngee Thai**	
3.30 – 3.50 pm	P88	The Use of English Lexical Elements in Bangla Speeches and Conversations **Muhammad Azizul Hoque**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tdO2przsr-Gt2sgSzGScgxhHkE3t-S3VVzX
3.55 – 4.15 pm	P89	A Corpus-Based Study of the Use of Engagement Markers in Argumentative Writing of Arab First Year Undergraduate Students **Zina Ali Hussein, Sharon Sharmini, Lee Geok Imm, Muhammad Yasir Yahya**	

Sessions U – Y: 10.05 – 12.05 pm

SESSION U TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 Session Admin: Team U	MEETING LINK
10.05 – 10.25 am	P90	Cultural Remembrances in Comparative Study on John Donne's and Li Shang-Yin's Selected Poems **Hu Xiaoling, Arbaayah Ali Termizi**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P91	Metaphorical Symbolization of Nonhumans in PgazK'nyau Oral Poetry: Examples from a Recent Field Research Study **Ignasi Ribó**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtf-ypqz4iHdLOK5DA1YPKy-UxYqXV0gvA-
10.55 – 11.15 am	P92	Cultural Diversity and Literary Studies in Critical Times: Hegemony and Contestation **Muhammad Safiur Rahman, Mohd Muzhafar Idrus**	
11.20 – 11.40 am	P93	Globalized English and Speakers' Cross-Cultural Intelligence: New Frontiers, Fresh Challenges **Abdelrahman Abdalla Salih, Lamis Ismail Omar**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P94	Negotiating Culture Using Lo and Gilbert's Model of Interculturalism In KeeThuanChye's Swordfish + Concubine and James Fenton's The Orphan of Zhao **Faris Abdullah Sani, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Mohammad Ewan Awang**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtf-ypqz4iHdLOK5DA1YPKy-UxYqXV0gvA-

SESSION V TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 1 Session Admin: Team V	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 2 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 1)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P95	Male Characters' Feminist Thought through Androgyny in Selected Novels by A.S. Byatt **Fan Yingying, Hardev Kaur, Ida Baizura Bahar, Mohammad Ewan Awang**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P96	Trauma and Consciousness of Anxiety in Kazuo Ishiguro's Selected Novels **Chi Qiuya, Ida Baizura Bahar**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtf-ypqz4iHdLOK5DA1YPKy-UxYqXV0gvA-
10.55 – 11.15 am	P97	Racism and Xenophobia in Susan Kiguli's Selected Poems **Nafiu Abdullahi, Arbaayah Ali Termizi, Hardev Kaur, Hasyimah Muhammad Amin**	
11.20 – 11.40 am	P98	Variation of Meaning of Chinese Words in Malaysia : A Case of Malaysian Chinese Literature Words **Luo Qin**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P99	Noer's Moths and The Meaning of Gotong-Royong Democracy Indonesia: Espousing Views of Power and Providing Rooms for Critique **Antonius Herujiyanto**	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYtf-ypqz4iHdLOK5DA1YPKy-UxYqXV0gvA-

SESSION W TIME (GMT +8)		MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team W	MEETING LINK
10.05 – 10.25 am	P69	A Systematic Literature Review: Storybook Reading to Young Non-nattive Learners of English **Ramiza Haji Darmi, Supyan Hussin**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P101	Cohesion in Dengue Promotional Messages: A Multimodal Discourse Analysis **Shabbir Ahmed, Afida binti Mohamad Ali, Zalina Mohd Kasim, Nor Afiah binti Mohd Zulkefli**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0lceytrz8j-GtxwBrkAbQnsAJVSm6oj-jAnh
10.55 – 11.15 am	P102	An Overview of the Utilization Of TikTok to Improve Oral English Communication Competence among International Chinese EFL Undergraduate Students **Zhai Xiuwen, Abu Bakar Razali**	
11.20 – 11.40 am	P103	Writers' Awareness Of Metadiscourse Features in The Star Online and Focus Malaysia Business News **Hooi Chee Mei, Helen Tan, Lee Geok Imm, Sharon Sharmini**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P104	Difficulties Faced by Nigerian Learners in the Use of English Language **Hadiza Lawan Ismail**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0lceytrz8j-GtxwBrkAbQnsAJVSm6oj-jAnh

SESSION X TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 3 Session Admin: Team X	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 3)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P105	Use of Politeness Strategies between Groomers and Victims in Online Grooming **Maswanhizzly bin Masri, Sharon Sharmini Danarajan Victor**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P106	A Genre Analysis of Medical Students' Oral Case Presentations (OCPs) in Community Health (CH) Posting **Sharmilah Deviy, Afida Mohamad Ali, Mei Yuit Chan, Suhainizam Muhammad Saliluddin**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJolceytrz8jGtxw-BrkAbQnsAJVSm6ojjAnh
10.55 – 11.15 am	P107	Self-Regulated Learning Development in Undergraduate ESL Writing Classrooms: Teacher Feedback vs Self-Assessment **Kayatri Vasu, Vahid Nimehchisalem, Yong Mei Fung, Sabariah Md Rashid**	
11.20 – 11.40 am	P108	The Impact Of Using PBL in an Academic English Context **Persis Dineen Rodrigues, Ooi Pei Boon, Ann Rosnida Md. Deni**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P109	Developing Bahasa Malaysia (BM) Translation Norms for English **Soon Tat Lee, Walter van Heuven, Jessica Price, Christine Leong Xiang Ru**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJolceytrz8jGtxw-BrkAbQnsAJVSm6ojjAnh

SESSION Y TIME (GMT +8)		BREAKOUT ROOM 4 Session Admin: Team Y	MEETING LINK (ENTER MICOLLAC MAIN ROOM 3 AND PROCEED TO BREAKOUT ROOM 4)
10.05 – 10.25 am	P110	The Impact of Covid-19 on Education: The Disappointment in Pakistani Learners **Sidra Mahmood, Surinderpal Kaur, Ali Jalalian Daghigh**	
10.30 – 10.50 am	P111	Multicultural Malaysia: Pronunciation Targets and Norms **Paramjit Kaur**	
10.55 – 11.15 am	P112	Representation of Malay Women in the Malaysian Social Media **Nurul Balqish K., Zalina Mohd Kasim, Afida Mohamad Ali**	https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJolceytrz8j-GtxwBrkAbQnsAJVSm6oj-jAnh
11.20 – 11.40 am	P113	Variability in Interpreting Scalar Implicatures among Adult Bilinguals **Ahmed Khorsheed, Sabariah Md. Rashid, Vahid Nimehchisalem, Lee Geok Imm, Jessica Price**	
11.45 – 12.05 pm	P114	Use of Power Asymmetry and Turn-Taking Strategies of Examiners' Oral Feedback in Oral Examinations **Saifaldeen Thaar, Sharon Sharmini, Zalina Binti Mohd Kasim, Lee Geok Imm**	

MICOLLAC 2020

Pre-conference Workshop

Keynote Speaker

Emeritus Professor Denis Haskell, AM

University of Western Australia

Abstract

Form and Formlessness in English Language Poetry

"Form" is a small word with large and fundamental meanings, and it has uses in every aspect of life. It is not just in art that "form" refers to structure, the patterning which provides not only recognisability but meaning itself. Any situation or event in which we cannot find the connections that constitute a pattern is meaningless. When we learn something about it we are in-formed. Poetry is the literary genre with the longest history, and it is also the genre with the most elaborate structures — that is, evidences of form. Those forms range from the large, such as the designation of poetic genres such as elegy or ode, to the small, such as the metre in a poetic line. In this talk I will trace the changes in attitude to form through the history of English language poetry, and attempt to relate these attitudes to the broader philosophical beliefs prevailing when the poetry was written. In its early centuries English language poetry adhered to fairly strict line and stanza forms, but over time these have loosened to the point that there is now a strong move towards "prose poetry". Why is this so? What are the strengths and limitations of both formal and informal poetic styles? I aim to reflect on these questions and draw on my own work — which includes both formal poems and free verse — to also consider whether the value of form depends on a poem's subject-matter and attitudes.

DENIS HASKELL is the author of 8 collections of poetry and 14 volumes of literary scholarship. He is the recipient of the Western Australia Premier's Prize for Poetry, the A A Phillips Prize, an Honorary Doctorate of Letters, and Membership of the Order of Australia for "services to literature, ... to education and to intercultural understanding".

Plenary Speakers

Associate Professor Dr Shamala Paramasivam

Faculty of Modern Languages and
Communication
Universiti Putra Malaysia

Abstract

Chatting to Learn
on *WHATSAPP* Synchronous
Group Discussion

Group discussion is a key feature in education. In the context of higher education, the role of group discussion is even more pronounced; firstly, as a result of group work being viewed as an approach to cope with the high and ever increasing student enrolment in universities, and secondly, because of the need of universities to prepare students for the world of employment where teamwork is vital for work and business. Despite the importance of group work, its potential for teaching and learning in higher education is under-researched. With the advent of CMC and the vision for 21st century learning, and recently as a result of the Covid-19 global pandemic, innovative use of computer- and mobile-based technologies has become a necessity in teaching and learning. Having to get on the bandwagon, I examined WhatsApp as a tool for synchronous group discussion in class and how it could promote communication and learning among undergraduate learners in the teaching of content courses. I used the app in a blended delivery design to teach a content course called Discourse Analysis in the undergraduate program for Applied Linguistics in a public university. The study showed that WhatsApp chatting helped student understanding of content knowledge, encouraged informing skills, facilitated group learning, and promoted learner autonomy and learner collaboration. The students used one another as resources and made sense of the course content together based on their subject matter knowledge and life experiences. They pooled their knowledge and experiences and helped each other figure out the concepts, theories and issues through a negotiation of meaning that involved active participation in the form of questions and responses that justify, explain and clarify meanings. In this new age of digital literacy, my talk is on how WhatsApp synchronous group discussion can encourage cumulative learning as a way to

SHAMALA PARAMASIVAM is an associate professor specialising in discourse analysis, language, culture and communication, ESP and TESOL. She serves as associate editor on Asian ESP and actively reviews papers for other journals. She works keenly in educational and professional settings and has published widely on these topics. Her current projects are in oral communication and technology in higher education.

Professor Graham Huggan

University of Leeds, UK

Abstract

The gospel according to Ah Meng: conservation, celebrity, and the Singapore Story

The UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity states that cultural diversity is as important for humankind as biodiversity is for nature. The two are also linked as, more generally, are human and animal welfare, and as the Covid crisis has starkly brought home to us, there are severe penalties to be paid when animals are not treated properly by humans, or when human-animal interdependencies are not taken as seriously as they should. This paper traces connections between cultural diversity and biodiversity by looking at the life story of one particular animal, probably the world's most famous orangutan and certainly Singapore Zoo's most celebrated 'ambassador animal', the late Ah Meng. Ostensibly a 'good news' story – a gospel of a kind – the exemplary life of Ah Meng sheds light on the successes of modern-day Singapore in matching environmental concern to economic prosperity. But as I will show, Ah Meng's life also reveals other, more hidden stories: stories about the hidden costs of global conservation, or about the unofficial price to be paid for official messages of collective national success. What is hidden beneath the conservationist gospel of Ah Meng? What is at stake when endangered animals' lives are turned into commodities; when endangerment itself becomes a commodity? And what is concealed beneath that most visible of markers, the seemingly unique, but actually replaceable, celebrity name?

GRAHAM HUGGAN is Professor and Chair of Commonwealth and Postcolonial Literatures at the University of Leeds, UK. He has a PhD in Comparative Literature from the University of British Columbia, and has taught in the US (Harvard University) and Europe (LMU Munich) before joining the University of Leeds.

Professor Simon Gikandi

Princeton University

Abstract

Literature and Utopian Thinking

The concept of utopia, which seems to have lost its conceptual power in the second half of the twentieth century, is increasingly returning to the center of debates on the relationship between literature and social change. Utopian thinking is now seen as a fundamental space for coming to terms with the present age—an age defined by pandemics, environmental destruction, and the threat to the narrative of freedom. But how do we go about rehabilitating utopia—itself a product of the long history of European domination—and make it adaptable to our postcolonial situation? How can the utopic be harnessed as an alternative way of imagining postcolonial futures? And is it capable of restoring idealism as a horizon of our expectations and as a precondition for freedom? Drawing on texts from the discourse of decolonization debates about utopian thinking in works of postcolonial literature and neo-Marxist criticism, my paper will address some of the ways in which the imaginative is asked to sustain the idea of an alternative society in moments of crisis and atrophy.
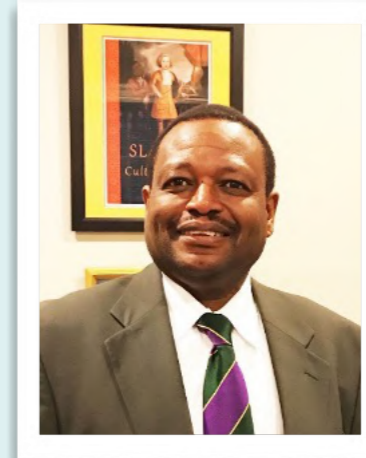
SIMON GIKANDI is Robert Schirmer Professor and Chair of English at Princeton University. Gikandi was elected second vice president of the Modern Language Association (MLA) in December 2016. He was the first vice-president of the MLA in 2018 and became the association's president in 2019. He served as editor of PMLA, the official journal of the MLA, from 2011 to 2016. He is the author of many books and articles, including Writing in Limbo: Modernism and Caribbean Literature; Maps of Englishness: Writing Identity in the Culture of Colonialism; and Ngugi wa Thiong'o, a Choice Outstanding Academic Publication for 2004. His book Slavery and the Culture of Taste was winner of the MLA's James Russell Lowell Award; winner of the Melville J. Herskovits Award, given by the African Studies Association for the most important scholarly work in African studies; and a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. His current research projects are on slavery and modernity, African philology, and cultures of the novel.

Dr Norzizi Zulkafli

Universiti Teknologi MARA

Abstract

Intercultural Theatre: Adapting *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to *Mak Yong Titis Sakti*

This paper provides an overview of adapting the text of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* into a production of *Mak Yong Titis Sakti*. *Mak Yong* is a traditional Malay theatre from Kelantan, which includes acting, singing, dancing, music, and story, whereas, *Titis Sakti* was created and directed by Norzizi Zulkifli, produced by The Actors Studio *Teater Rakyat,* and performed at the Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPAC) in 2009 and 2018 respectively. The focus of this paper is on the 2018's production which explored the use of both English and Malay while attempting to retain the power of Shakespeare's language fused with the Kelantanese accents which is in accordance to *Mak Yong* classical dialogues. The fusion of two different cultural contexts entails the reinvention of Shakespearian style text in order to adapt to *Mak Yong's* traditional form and structure. This paper also discusses the challenges inherent in this adaption process by endeavouring to align the text with the traditional *Mak Yong* while still conveying the story of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to the local audience.
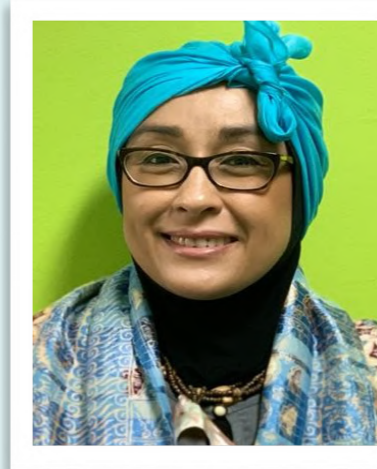
NORZIZI ZULKAFLI is a senior lecturer at Universiti Teknologi MARA, Malaysia. She received her Diploma in Theatre from ASWARA, Bachelors in Screen Arts (Hons) from Universiti Teknologi MARA, Master of Fine Art (MFA) Theatre Directing from Middlesex University and Doctor of Philosophy from University of Wollongong, Australia. She is also an actor and theatre director. She won Best Director in BOH 10th Cameronian Arts Award and Best Actor in a Supporting Role in BOH 13th Cameronian Arts Award. Norzizi is currently the Head of Theatre Program in Faculty Film, Theatre and Animation, Universiti Teknologi MARA.

Professor Dr Abdul Mu'ati @ Zamri Ahmad

Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication
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Abstract

Heritage Communication: Articulating the Great Civilization of the Nation

The Malays have established a great civilization in the course of its long history. Henceforth Malay civilization that cover various aspects of life. Unfortunately, over a long period of time, the eminence is increasingly vanished from the knowledge of its own successor generation. This is because the greatness of the nation's cultural heritage is not communicated. Only a few products of the nation's heritage, especially those related to art, are often publicized to the community while the more important vestiges are sunk and even continue to disappear in the folds of history. This paper attempts to comment on and recommend heritage communication that may be used to disseminate information on the greatness of the nation's cultural heritage so that the children of the nation are again cognizant of the greatness of their ancestors.

ABDUL MU'ATI @ ZAMRI AHMAD is a professor and former dean at the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia. His field of expertise is Communications and he has established Heritage Communication as a sub-discipline under the field of communication to uncover and disseminate information on cultural heritage to local and international communities.

Associate Professor Hossein Farhady

Yeditepe University, Istanbul, Turkey

Abstract

Learning Oriented Assessment in Virtual Classroom Contexts

The COVID19 Pandemic has forced education into an online system that has intensified concerns among teachers about the validity and reliability of assessing their students' achievement with some confidence. To alleviate some of the problems, educators have turned into various forms of assessment over traditional testing. Among different types of assessment processes, the concept of learning-oriented-assessment (LOA), proposed by Kane (2012) in general education and followed by Turner and Purpura (2014) in Applied Linguistics, has become a promising framework. The purpose of this talk is to make some arguments that LOA could serve as a powerful and efficient framework to alleviate some of the testing-driven problems that we face in assessing student achievement. More specifically, I will first argue that the undesirable consequences of high stakes and external tests have convinced educators that such tests are no longer efficient for classroom contexts (Rea-Dickins and Scott 2007; Scott et al. 2016). Second, I will present a working framework for LOA as a viable alternative to the often-practiced midterm and final test tradition. Third, I will suggest some LOA-related tasks and argue that they would help teachers feel confident about students' independent performance in online instruction. Fourth, I will discuss the findings of data from graduate and undergraduate students' weekly reflections to demonstrate that they, indeed, develop a positive attitude towards the assessment system, both in real-time and virtual instruction. I will end the paper with the implications for learner autonomy and self-regulation that would develop mutual trust and confidence between learners and teachers.

HOSSEIN FARHADY is an associate professor of applied linguistics who received his MA in TESL and PhD in Applied Linguistics from UCLA in 1978 and 1980, respectively. His major area of interest is research on various aspects of language testing and assessment. He has taught courses on language testing, research methods, and ESP at the MA and PhD levels for the last four decades in Iran, Canada, Armenia, and USA. He has worked as a senior scholar and project manager for organizations such as Ordinate and Lidget Green Corporations in California, Avant Assessment, and Second Language Testing, Inc., in Rockville, Maryland. From 2008 to 2010, he worked as the Associate Dean of the Department of English Programs at the American University of Armenia. He has directed projects related to the scoring of Pearson's new automated language proficiency test and validating Versant test, and received grants from Pearson, ETS, and ILTA.

Emeritus Professor Dr. Zoltán Kövecses

Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

Abstract

Extended Conceptual Metaphor Theory

In the talk, I propose an extended version of conceptual metaphor theory. The extended version of CMT consists of a number of distinctions relating to meaning, conceptual structure, memory, ontological level (or realm), and context. After discussing the relevant distinctions each of these categories involve, I describe the issue of how they are related to one another. Finally, given the distinctions required for metaphorical meaning making, I suggest a hypothetical process model for the construction and comprehension of metaphors used in natural discourse. The talk will be based on my forthcoming book with the same title: Kovecses, Zoltan. (2020). *Extended Conceptual Metaphor Theory*. Cambridge University Press.
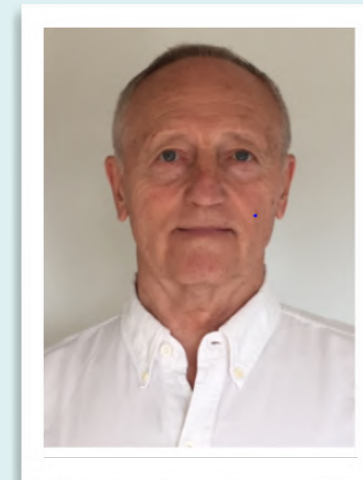
ZOLTÁN KÖVECSES is Professor Emeritus in the Department of American Studies at Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary. His research focuses on conceptual metaphor theory, the language of emotions, and the relationship between metaphor and culture. His major publications include Metaphor and Emotion (2000, Cambridge UP), Metaphor in Culture (2005, Cambridge UP), Language, Mind, and Culture (2006, Oxford UP), Metaphor. A Practical Introduction (2002/2010, Oxford UP), Where Metaphors Come From (2015, Oxford UP), and Extended Conceptual Metaphor Theory (2020, Cambridge UP).

Workshop

WORKSHOP 1
Associate Professor Dr. Noritah Omar

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Abstract

**Theory into Practice:
Are conceptual and theoretical
frameworks important?**

Experience without theory is blind, but theory without experience is mere intellectual play. (Immanuel Kant)

One of the challenges in doing quality research is to understand, choose, locate and apply the theoretical and conceptual theories which work well, and do not disrupt the research analysis. For novice researchers, the issue of the applicability of conceptual and theoretical frameworks becomes the first stage or initial process of doing research. Is choosing the right theoretical framework the most important step in doing quality research? The purpose of conceptual and theoretical frameworks in the social science and humanities can be complicated. This workshop will guide participants in their understanding of conceptual and theoretical connections and their contribution to the researchers' work and the knowledge formation in their fields of study. The workshop will involve students' self-evaluation of their own strategies and understanding of the purpose of conceptual and theoretical frameworks. The workshop will also discuss the significance of integrating theories in a study, and differentiating between conceptual and theoretical frameworks. Further, the workshop will share strategies in determining amicable concepts and theories that logically fit in with the selected research methodology, and in forming conceptual frameworks. Some attention will be given to how integration of conceptual or theoretical frameworks can be haphazard to research.

NORITAH OMAR received her Ph.D. from Indiana University, Bloomington, USA. She is currently an Associate Professor with the English Department of the Faculty of Modern Languages and Communication, Universiti Putra Malaysia. Her areas of specialisation are in literature and English studies, critical theory and methodology, narrative inquiry, and gender studies. She has also conducted research and published articles and book chapters on gender and Islam, Malaysian and Singapore Literature, Islam and modern Malay literature, Islam and contemporary popular culture, issues in higher education, methodology in literary research, and ethics in research. Her current work focuses on new forms of intellectualism and its trajectories in literature, and addresses questions of literature's intellectual place in the world.

The University of Western Australia

Abstract

The Future of Literary Criticism

The twentieth century saw an enormous expansion in the nature and practice of literary criticism as it became professionalised through the foundation of university English departments. Previously literary criticism, which has a relatively short history, was practised primarily by a few creative writers – Samuel Johnson, Coleridge and Matthew Arnold among them. T S Eliot may be seen as continuing that tradition but his essays and ideas provided a key foundation for the study of literature in English departments. Eliot consequently observed that "the critic today may have a somewhat different contact with the world, and be writing for a somewhat different audience from that of his predecessors". In the same essay, "The Frontiers of Criticism", written in 1956, Eliot asserted that "every generation must provide its own literary criticism".

In the English-speaking world English departments are finding fewer and fewer students interested in literary criticism; instead students are turning to the more employment-oriented areas of Communication and Media Studies, and to Creative Writing. Literary studies are going the way of Classics – a niche area for the interested few. Outside universities, literary books are struggling to maintain their sales; writers festivals are popular but they increasingly focus on political and social issues and on celebrities and popular culture. More and more people watch television and films rather than read. Board any train or bus and you will see more people looking at their smartphones than reading books of any kind.

Consequently, in this seminar-workshop I will seek to initiate a discussion concerning: What literary criticism must we provide? What is the purpose of literary criticism and literary studies in our time? Do they have a future and if so, what sort of future will it be? Do these questions have implications for the writing of literature itself? Are we once again heading towards an oral culture, in which many people will be functionally illiterate?

Universiti Putra Malaysia

Abstract

Doing Discourse Analysis

In this workshop, we will discuss about discourse and discourse analysis, the kinds of questions that discourse analysts ask when doing research, and the way these questions can be systematically answered through the variety of approaches in discourse analysis. We will look at examples of transcripts of actual discourse, both spoken and written, from different disciplines, and we will attempt to do the analysis using the various approaches in discourse analysis. The workshop hopes to show that the theoretical and methodological diversity of discourse analysis is not to be lamented about but to be seen as an asset and strength for research.

Emeritus Professor Zoltán Kövecses

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Abstract

Language and Culture

In the workshop, we discuss a number of issues that concern the relationship between language and culture from a cognitive linguistic perspective. We suggest that both language and culture are forms of meaning making. Meaning making is a complex cognitive operation the study of which has changed considerably with the advent of cognitive linguistics. We examine some of the key cognitive factors and operations that play a major role in how humans make sense of their experiences, such as embodiment, categorization, framing, and metaphor. We pay close attention to the neglected notion of context in conceptualization and its relationship to culture. We also distinguish the cognitive linguistic approach to language and culture from postmodern approaches.

ABSTRACTS

Language

GLOBALIZED ENGLISH AND SPEAKERS' CROSS-CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE:

NEW FRONTIERS, FRESH CHALLENGES

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Today's globalized English offers potential platforms, including cyber-based settings, for interaction among speakers of diverse linguistic backgrounds and cultures, particularly in the ESL/EFL contexts. Holding the goal of communicating and interacting with each other, speakers of English form different perspectives about each other, which may pose challenges and threat for effective communication and interaction. Arguing for the necessity of constructing mutual understanding of the value of cultural diversity, this paper explores the English language speakers' awareness of the significance of cultural intelligence in bridging the gaps of communication among diverse cultures within the global English communicative settings.

Keywords: global English, cultural intelligence, communication

MULTIMODAL CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF THE GREAT RETURN MARCH PROTEST

ON THE BORDERS OF GAZA

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The Great Return March (GRM) is a protest that flared on the borders of the besieged Gaza Strip, Palestine, on March 30, 2018. That day was entitled the Land Day, which is considered a national day for the Palestinians, as it commemorates the 42nd anniversary of assassinating six unarmed Palestinians who protested against the Israeli government's pronouncement to confiscate more Palestinian land. The GRM was launched by the population of the Gaza Strip to highlight the adversities of the living conditions that people were enduring due to the blockade imposed on the Strip, for more than 10 years. This study aims at investigating the discursive strategies of the discourse on online news media, namely *Aljazeera*, *Haaretz*, and the Guardian pertaining to the issue of GRM Protests on the Strip borders to proclaim the Palestinians Right to Return. The study adopts the qualitative approach and implements both the Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis and the Systemic Functional Linguistics as theoretical frameworks. Both frameworks were employed to analyse the linguistic and semiotic discourse of the selected online news websites. The data were collected from the news websites in the early two months period of March from 30th March 2018 to 15th May 2018. The data were coded according to Halliday's Transitivity theory and the visual design framework of Kress and Van Leeuwen's.

Keywords: Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis, Great Return March Protest

WAR METAPHORS AND THEIR USAGE IN THE RELIGIOUS TWEETS OF A NIGERIAN POLITICIAN

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War metaphors have been predominantly used in the description of abstract concepts such as argument, politics, diseases and even terrorism. This paper investigates war metaphors in the religious tweets of a Nigerian politician. The major focus in this paper are metaphorical expressions involving the target domains life and God. Lakoff and Johnson's (1980) Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) and the Metaphor Identification Procedure by Pragglejaz Group (2007) are used in identifying the metaphorical linguistic expressions and the underlying conceptual metaphors. The analysis and its elucidation show that life is war and god is a warrior are the two conceptual metaphors that are prevalent in the data. These metaphors presuppose that life is a war where people need to keep fighting for justice and their rights. In essence, the metaphors as used in the tweets reveal that people are warriors who participate in life battles and also have God as a supporting warrior. War metaphors in the religious tweets seem to evoke a notion of urgency because war is fought to achieve a purpose and is an intense activity. Through the use of war metaphors in the religious tweets people may be motivated to see themselves as strong and powerful.

Keywords: war metaphors, religious tweets, politician, life

VISUAL COHERENCE ON MALAYSIAN TRAVEL BROCHURES: A GENRE MULTIMODAL ANALYSIS

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Visual coherence on multimodal documents is related to the layout structure organisation created by designers. As part of the rhetorical structure of multimodal documents' content, textual and visual elements contribute to the overall visual coherence when these elements hold a meaningful relation. For example, travel brochures are generally designed rhetorically through typical moves so as to be coherent and persuasive. However, lack of balance between the elements or the presence of unrelated ones within the text may result in distraction to the audience. This study aims to investigate how visual coherence is affected by the spatial position of contents' elements and the relation between rhetorical moves and visual structure in Malaysian travel brochures. Fifteen Malaysian travel brochures have been conveniently selected. Structural Move Analysis model of Bhatia (1993) has been used to extract the rhetorical moves. By employing the Rhetorical Structure Theory annotation process using the schema proposed in the Genre and Multimodality (GeM) model, the findings reveal meaningful relations of the content. Generally, the most explicit reliable signals of coherence relations are the ELABORATION (77%), ENABLEMENT (23%) and BACKGROUND (33%) relations. The graphical elements elaborate the rhetorical move 'detailing the product' through numbers, tables and images. Rhetorical moves are generally impacted by the visual coherence in the process of design. This study is significant as it offers a return to rhetorical principles in relation to visual design to improve the coherence in Malaysian travel brochures.

Keywords: travel brochures, multimodal analysis, rhetorical moves, coherence, rhetorical relations

VARIABILITY IN INTERPRETING SCALAR IMPLICATURES AMONG ADULT BILINGUALS

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Speakers vary in their ability to interpret underinformative sentences. While some people tend to be consistently pragmatic in their interpretations, others tend to be consistently logical and often equivocal. It is undeniable that there are numerous subtle factors that could induce this variability, but some propositions suggest that this variation in responding to under-informative utterances is possibly motivated by individual differences in participants' personality traits and/or their linguistic skills. To investigate this claim, L2 Malay adults at two proficiency levels, modest and competent, were recruited. All were presented with underinformative sentences for which they were asked to provide time-recorded truth-value judgments and then to respond to three personality questionnaires. The results revealed that the modest participants were significantly less sensitive to the pragmatic meaning of scalar implicatures compared to their competent peers. The results for the modest proficiency group also indicated that both the traits *Systemizing Skill* and autistic trait *Attention to Detail* played a significant role in participants' pragmatic judgments. The participants with stronger systemizing skills tended to make more pragmatic interpretations, whereas those with autistic-like attention to detail tended to have weaker tendencies to draw the implicature. In the competent group, the two autistic traits *Social Skill* and *Imagination* were significantly and negatively correlated with the proportion of pragmatic interpretations. These findings lend empirical evidence to the literature on variables that predict implicature comprehension among adult bilinguals and therefore implications for the processing theories in experimental pragmatics.

Keywords: implicature, linguistic differences, personality differences, informativeness

LEARNING A SECOND LANGUAGE: A VEHICLE TO ANOTHER SELF?

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Learning a new language has implications on the learner's sense of self i.e. identity and on his/her social and cultural views (Duff, 2013; Norton & Toohey, 2011). Although research on the relationship between language learning and identity has gained attention in recent years, most studies focused on how learners affect the learning process and its outcomes. However, not much attention has been paid to how language learning may lead to changes in how a person views themselves and their society. In this sociolinguistic study, the goal is to investigate whether learning English as a foreign language (EFL) affects how Saudi female learners view themselves, society and culture. The study uses second language socialization as a theoretical framework because of its comprehensive approach that acknowledges the dynamic nature of identity. A longitudinal multiple case study design was used in this study. Data from interviews and monthly diaries indicated that participants associated learning EFL with being more knowledgeable, confident, and understanding. As they learned English language and learned through English they were able to establish an identity for themselves as successful, respectful and respected individuals. These changes appear to be linked to the participants' agency in learning English which is triggered by their investment in it due to globalization and personal aspirations. These findings signal that socialization takes place in foreign language settings and has implications for the identity of the learner.

Keywords: identity, second language socialization, case study, foreign language learning

SPELLING PERFORMANCE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS:

A PILOT STUDY

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Spelling has been an essential element in the language curriculum as it plays an important role in the development of reading and writing skills. Spelling performance is an important indicator of progress in the acquisition of literacy skills. This study uses spelling performance as a measure to compare the performance of children in government and private schools in Malaysia. Spelling performance was measured using the Schonell Spelling Test. The test consists of 100 words, and the words range from simple words with only consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC) structure that are high-frequency words to polymorphic and low-frequency words. A total of 120 primary school students from the same age group were recruited for the study: 60 from private schools and 60 from government schools. The spelling age of the students was calculated by using the Schonell Spelling scores and analysed using descriptive and inferential statistics. This study also evaluated the teachers' spelling instruction practices in the schools using a survey questionnaire which elicited information about the teacher's spelling instruction practices, theoretical beliefs and educational issues. The result for the spelling performance shows that there is a significant difference between the spelling age obtained for students in the government and primary school students. The students' spelling performance was better for government schools compared to the private schools. The findings showed that teachers in both types of schools implement percentage spelling grading, practice whole class participation, follow the curriculum, and use post-test for spelling assessment. There were also differences as the government schools place emphasis on words with suffixes and prefixes, practice word sorting and organize mini lessons on spelling whilst the private schools place emphasis on syllabification, spelling games and weekly spelling activities. In terms of theoretical beliefs, both teachers from the private and government schools believe in the use of teacher administered and repetitive spelling assessment. However, in practice, private- and government-school teachers hold different best practice beliefs on how to develop spelling skills.

Keywords: spelling instruction, spelling age, school, theoretical beliefs

USE OF CODE-SWITCHING AMONG BILINGUAL ESL LEARNERS

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Several studies have shown that bilingualism could be related with enhanced cognitive control functions (Bialystok & Luk, 2012), resulting possibly from the frequency of interference suppression of the first language when a bilingual speaker chooses to speak in the second language and vice versa. However, the causal relation was not replicated in some studies, throwing into question the claim of earlier studies (e.g., Paap & Greenberg, 2013), which resulted in more studies exploring other facets of a bilingual speaker's experience that could modulate the cognitive control functions. Iluz-Cohen and Armon-Lotem (2013) argued that language proficiency has a positive relationship with the inhibition ability of bilinguals that result in enhanced cognitive control capacity while Hofweber, Marinis and Treffers-Daller (2016) propose that code-switching expericne among bilinguals could also modulate the cognitive control mechanisms. Previous studies also claimed that bilinguals who have better proficiency in both of the languages tend to code-switch more frequently resulting in better cognitive control capacity. The interaction of these factors, however, has not been examined in the bilingual population in Malaysia. Hence, this paper will examine the relationship between language proficiency of the Malay-English bilinguals and the four types of code-switching commonly used, namely, insertion (elements from one language into the grammar of the matrix language, but not vice versa), alternation (independent stretches of the two languages), congruent lexicalisation (when vocabulary from both languages are incorporated into a shared grammar structure), and back-flagging (a discourse marker from the first language is attached to the speech of the second language).

Keywords: bilingualism, language proficiency, code-switching

MOVE STRUCTURES AND LINGUISTIC REALIZATIONS IN ENGLISH LINGUISTICS AND LITERATURE ABSTRACTS

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Abstract of an article is a concise text that provides the readers a quick preview of the whole article. Its importance in article writing has prompted many researchers over the past few decades to investigate various aspects of abstract writing across disciplines and cultures yet very little study has been contributed on comparing closely related disciplines. This study attempts to examine the patterns of move structures and linguistics realization in the abstracts of English Linguistics and Literature disciplines. To realize the objectives of this study, a corpus of Linguistics (N=15) and Literature (N=15) abstracts were selected and analyzed based on Santos (1996) model. The results showed that Move 2 in both fields of abstracts was marked as obligatory move while the other moves in both disciplines were regarded as conventional moves. The sequence of moves 2-3-4-5 is found to be the most prevalent in English Linguistics abstracts whereas in English Literature abstracts, the moves sequence were inconsistent and such variation mostly involve certain moves being repeated, embedded, and cycled. To realize each move, writers from both fields has constructed distinctively from introducing topic-based study, reporting verbs with embedded patterns, employing scientific-based and theory approach, incorporating authors' stance, to concluding remarks with cohesive devices. To conclude, knowledge of the move structures and linguistic realization in abstract writing will heighten the awareness of novice writer and writing instructors on the importance of moves structures and linguistic realization in effecting a successful abstract writing.

Keywords: abstracts, move structures, linguistics realization, linguistics, literature

JUST ZIP IT 'BOUT BEING A *PAHLAWAN*!

DISCOURSE OF LEADERSHIP ON TWITTER

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The rise and popularity of social media over the past two decades has conveniently enabled content sharing, public communication, and interpersonal connection among millions of users globally. As observed on Twitter, users are free to publicly express their sentiments on a variety of topics from emerging crisis events to political preferences. Digital media content, thus, has presented researchers the opportunity to investigate various phenomena in a natural occurring setting, in particular, the discourse of leadership. Against a backdrop of the Malaysian 14th General Election (GE14), this study aims to investigate linguistic forms that contribute to the theory of the meaning of leadership. In order to assess meaning in computer-mediated discourse (Herring, 2004), the framework includes an annotation of words and phrases categorised in Martin and White's Appraisal Theory (2005) and Speech Act Theory (Austin, 1962 and Searle, 1975). Findings of the study reveals a variety of creative and playful uses of linguistic resources, including profanity, in discussing the leaders' public image, as well as related national and global issues. Undeniably, Twitter provides a viable avenue for engaging public opinion and shape the society in becoming informed citizens. As this research demonstrates the link between leadership, the modern society and linguistics, the findings would make some contribution to the growing literature on computer mediated discourse analysis (CMDA).

Keywords: GE14, CMDA, discourse analysis, Twitter, leadership

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN "THE ECONOMIST" 2001 AND 2008: A CONTRASTIVE CASE STUDY

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This study presents a comparative corpus-based analysis of representation of women in "The Economist" issues of years 2001 and 2008. Newspaper discourse reflects ongoing events at the certain period of time revealing society's interests to some specific topics and also demonstrating stereotypical gender portraits created in the media. In order to analyze women's portrayals in the media texts, two corpora have been compiled, each corpus contains 25 random "The Economist" issues of 2001 and 2008. The findings show that though some main topics such as women's rights and employment prove to be common for both 2001 and 2008 issues, there is still a clear shift in main topics depicting women in media texts of 2008 concentrating on stronger women's position at working places and in the society in general. Collocates with "women" have been analyzed to provide a comparative picture of issues closely connected with women and raised in the media in years 2001 and 2008. Topics vary from women's political activity, work problems, crime rates to women's clothe in different parts of the world.

Keywords: gender, corpus linguistics, newspaper discourse

AN ECOLINGUISTICS PERSPECTIVE OF LANGUAGE USE AND ATTITUDE OF SOOCHOW YOUTHS

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Language diversity is very important, as it keeps the language ecosystem in balance. Nevertheless, the diversity of languages in its own ecosystem has not received enough attention. Haugen's (1972) ecological metaphor explains that it is important to interact in any given language in its own environment itself. With this ecological understanding, there has been a growing interest in the study of ecolinguistics lately. Past studies in ecolinguistic have emphasised the importance of language diversity and the complexity of language ecology in the environment. Thus, this study is interested to employ Haugen's view towards language ecology in the study of Soochow's speech community. Specifically, it aims (1) to explore their language choice and language attitudes towards English, Mandarin and the Soochow's dialect among the youths and (2) to gain insights of their attitudes towards these languages from an ecolinguistics perspective and define whether there is a language ecology crisis. A mixed-method approach was employed in this study, gathering data from interviews and questionnaires. The findings of the study showed that the young people in Soochow preferred to use Mandarin as their language choice and English seemed to play an important role in communicating, which urged the young people in Soochow to pay more attention to the use of that language. Sadly, Soochow's dialect diminished among the young people, and its survival and development can be challenging. Therefore, it is essential to protect the linguistic diversity in Soochow and maintaining the language ecosystem and it usage.

Keywords: ecolinguistics, language choice, language attitude, Soochow's dialect

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR DIGITAL STORYTELLING: DIGITAL COMPETENCY AMOUNG YOUNG MALAYSIANS

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Digital devices have become a fundamental aspect of the life of most young Malaysians. With access to digital devices, the young Malaysians are now participating in creation as well as consumption of digital content. This paper explores digital competency of the young Malaysians through an exploratory research where secondary school students from Sabah and Sarawak were invited to participate in a digital storytelling project. Data was collected through direct observation by project researchers. Discussion in this paper is based on young Malaysians' skills and knowledge in (1) operational; (2)information navigation; (3) social; (4) mobile; (5) creative; (6) critical understanding; (7) digital citizenship; (8) safety; (9) regulation and (10) problem solving. The findings of observation revealed that majority of the young Sabahans and Sarawakians are capable in operational skills and enjoy using their mobile phones for digital storytelling. Findings also revealed that these young Malaysians are moderately capable in information navigation skills and at the same time, open to ideas and are willing to take advice from others as part of their project development. While young Malaysians are delighted to participate in online sharing, their creativity in project development, critical understanding towards information found, and awareness on safety and regulation issues are generally unsatisfactory or lacking. As digital competency is now essential for education, employment and participation in an information society, discussion on young Malaysians' digital competency is therefore of significant importance.

Keywords: digital technologies, digital storytelling, digital competency, young

USE OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR CREATIVE PROJECTS: PERCEPTION OF CREATIVE ARTS PRACTITIONERS ON STUDENT WORKS IN INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

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Innovation and continuous development of digital technologies has brought significant change to learning. Usage of digital technologies allow access to a vast array of information and provide students the opportunities to learn and grow in different ways. The Malaysian government has constantly put in huge investment for developing ICT facilities in higher learning institutions to prepare students for new technologies and 'new' workplaces. This paper explores the use of digital technologies by creative arts students for creative project development. The finding of this study is collected through in-depth interview sessions with five creative art practitioners in Malaysia. While students in this day and age are known as 'digital natives', creative arts practitioners have different views on creative arts students' digital competency in creative project development; Majority of the respondents noted that digital technologies are helpful for creative arts students, however they also expressed their concerns on the challenges faced by the students. The interviews reveal that practitioners associated several issues in students' creative projects such as building collaboration, obtaining constructive and helpful information, identifying goals and copyright concerns. At the end of this paper, the authors argue for action strategies that will prepare better learning for students who aim to join the creative industry upon completing their studies.

Keywords: digital technologies, creative arts students and practitioners, creative project

LEXICAL BUNDLES IN RHETORICAL MOVES OF INTRODUCTIONS IN HIGH-IMPACT CHINESE AND INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LINGUISTIC JOURNALS

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The introduction section plays a leading role in the construction of a research article (RA). It typically leaves the first impression and informs the readers about the scope, context, and significance of the research. A well-crafted and organized introduction is thus necessary for writers in the academic community. To access the gate of successful writing, the building blocks of discourse – rhetorical moves and lexical bundles are indispensable. This study firstly investigates the lexical bundles in rhetorical moves of linguistic RA introductions in English from high-impact Chinese and international journals. Secondly, it identifies the structural features of lexical bundles that indicate each move and step. The patterns of rhetorical moves are also explored. Following the adapted Swales' (1990) CARS model and the adapted Biber et al's (1999) structural classification of lexical bundles, a total of 20 introductions are analyzed by using corpus-based approach and mixed quantitative and qualitative methods. The findings reveal that the most widely used structural type of lexical bundles that indicate certain moves in both corpora is the *verb phrase*. Compared with the international corpus which shows none of *auxiliary verb + noun phrase*, this structural type is manifested once in the Chinese corpus. Regarding the patterns of rhetorical moves, all three moves are contained in the introductions from both corpora, and the most predominant one is Move 1 Step 3. The partially embedded moves or steps are frequently shown in both corpora. Moreover, the linear sequence and cyclical pattern of moves are distinctly different in both corpora.

Keywords: lexical bundles, rhetorical moves, introduction section, linguistic research articles, high-impact journals

CITATION TYPES AND REPORTING VERBS IN THE LITERATURE REVIEW SECTION BY POSTGRADUATE WRITERS

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Academic writing is a fundamentally persuasive discourse and for the argument to be well received by the discourse community, citation is mandatory. The section where citation is prevalent is the literature review section. Hyland (2007) states 2 types of citation: Integral and non-integral citations. These citations are used to show writers' emphasis on cited authors or information, respectively. Non-integral citation does not require reporting verbs while integral citation requires the appropriate use of reporting verbs. Past studies have shown that citing other works poses difficulties for novice writers in using reporting verbs and there is limited research on the citation practices in student writing. Therefore, this study investigated the citation types used and the use of reporting verbs in integral citations by the postgraduate students. Using convenience sampling and Hyland's (2007) Categories of Reporting Verbs, 20 literature review writings of postgraduate students were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. The result showed that students used more integral citations. Additionally, all the three categories of reporting verbs were used. *Research Acts* reporting verbs were more dominantly used followed by *Discourse Acts and Cognition Acts* reporting verbs. As for the forms used, the most common forms under *Research Act* were *found* and *conducted* while *concluded* was the most dominant form under *Discourse Act*. To conclude, the study demonstrated the importance of raising the awareness on the citation types, and appropriate use of reporting verbs for the writing of successful literature review section.

Keywords : academic writing, citation types, reporting verbs, literature review, postgraduate writers

DEVELOPING ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS OF ENGINEERING TEACHERS: RELEVANCE OF VIRTUAL TRAINING SESSIONS

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The post-COVID-19 era has brought significant changes in the classroom instruction. Teachers across the world are compelled to rely on virtual platforms to continue their practice. A sudden shift to rely on virtual platforms without adequate training paved the way for a lot of discomfort in teaching-learning process. It was observed that many teachers could not function effectively because they were not aware of virtual etiquette. Also, there was an urgent need to improve their English proficiency to communicate with their students and peer group. In order to upgrade the skills of teachers dealing with science and engineering courses, an engineering college affiliated to Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, India conducted training sessions through virtual mode. This presentation will provide useful insights about the virtual training sessions conducted for science and engineering faculty in an Indian context. In the traditional face-to-face classroom, science and engineering teachers could easily connect with their students and communicate either in students' first language or in English. Even though English is the medium of instruction in all the science and engineering courses, teachers had the flexibility to interact with students' first language. However, a shift to the virtual mode of instruction created more consciousness among teachers to use English as a medium of communication in synchronous and asynchronous teaching-learning contexts. The content of this presentation will provide resourceful information about methods, materials and findings of the virtual teacher training sessions that are relevant for English language teacher educators and researchers.

Keywords: teachers, English, skills, virtual, training

DIFFICULTIES FACED BY NIGERIAN LEARNERS IN THE USE OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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This paper addressed the difficulties associated with Nigerian learners' use of the English language. English is Nigeria's educational means of communication, which may have an impact on students' academic achievement. This can be linked to the fact that lectures and examinations are carried out in the English language. In recent times, however, the poor performance of students in the English language at public examinations has been a major cause of a decrease in their academic performance. This may be due to the weaknesses of the learners in the English language. In addition, the factors that make English language teaching and learning difficult for the students were also addressed in the paper. Moreover, suggestions to make English language teaching and learning less difficult for the students were given.

Keywords: English language, difficulties, Nigerian learners, public examination

EXPLORING LIQUID INTERCULTURALITY IN EFL: EXAMINING TEACHERS' PERCEPTIONS OF INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE

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Intercultural Competence has been repeatedly established as an indispensable component of the teaching-learning process in intercultural communication and foreign language teaching scholarship. Dominant perspectives of interculturality in English Teaching entail a solid orientation either consciously or not (opposite to liquid) to intercultural interactions which often fails to accurately reflect the fluidity of our times. Liquid interculturality is presented as postmodern framework that takes into account how individual oscillate between different identities and cultures. It also argues that identity is not fixed; it should rather be conceptualized as identification while culture has to be perceived as culturality. This paper aims to investigate the extent to which teachers' beliefs are in alignment with the theoretical underpinnings of liquid interculturality. This qualitative research presents a study on pre and in-service teachers' understandings of intercultural competence and how they will/currently enact them accordingly in their classrooms. A questionnaire, administered to 40 teachers (20 in-service and 20 pre-service), was constructed from relevant literature and inspired by Dervin and Dirba's (2006a) study. The findings revealed that teachers' definitions were visibly imbued with a high sense of culturalism and perceived intercultural interactions through sheer essentialist and solid lenses. Interpretation of the data showed that pre and in-service teachers' perceptions were similar but their reported practices exhibited divergent implementation between teachers and their respective definitions as well.

Keywords: liquid interculturality, language teaching, intercultural education, teachers' perceptions, culture teaching

USE OF TALK FOR WRITING, PEER FEEDBACK AND STORYJUMPER IN COPING WITH WRITING ANXIETY AMONG YEAR 6 STUDENTS

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The writing process is often looked upon as a challenging task for students to learn and for teachers to teach. Students become anxious and nervous when writing exercises are given or during a writing lesson. The main aim of this study is to evaluate the usefulness of using Talk for Writing (T4W), StoryJumper and peer feedback in coping with writing anxiety among Year 6 students. Besides that, this study explores which tool and its features help to cope with writing anxiety in different phases of writing. This study also aims at finding out to what extent do these tools help to cope with writing anxiety. Also, the reasons behind the struggles faced by students in writing and how these tools helped them to cope with their struggles in writing. Followed by that, his study employs a mix-method approach using explanatory sequential design (Creswell, 2014). The participants for this study are Year 6 (N=25) from an International School in Klang Valley. Questionnaires are used to gauge the usefulness of using T4W, StoryJumper and peer feedback in coping with Year 6 students writing anxiety. Also, a semi-structured interview is employed to gain deeper insights of the students' experience in using StoryJumper to publish their writing, T4W as the process of writing and how peer feedback helps them in coping with their writing anxiety. Besides interviews, reflective diaries are also utilised to understand how they feel about using T4W, StoryJumper and receiving peer feedback about their written pieces in coping with their writing anxiety and their own learning experiences. This study hopes to provide positive insights of how useful is the use of T4W, StoryJumper and peer feedback in coping with writing anxiety during a writing task and lessons.

Keywords: talk for writing, peer feedback, storyjumper, writing and anxiety

WRITERS' AWARENESS OF METADISCOURSE FEATURES IN *THE STAR ONLINE* AND *FOCUS MALAYSIA* BUSINESS NEWS

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Metadiscourse is the way, in which writers engage the readers to the discourse and reveal the writers' authority towards the content of the discourse making it credible (Crismore, 1989; Hyland, 1998, 2000). It is categorised into two types: textual and interpersonal features. Researchers have analysed metadiscourse features in different areas which include intercultural studies, gender studies, and academic discourse. However, studies on metadiscourse in news settings are limited. To date, only a few researchers such as Kuppers and Ho-Dac (2010), Lambiase (2010) and Yuryevna (2012) have conducted studies on metadiscourse in news discourse. Therefore, this study sought to investigate the awareness of the use of metadiscourse features by writers of two online business news portals: *The Star Online* and *Focus Malaysia*. A modified Dafouz-Milne's (2008) model was used as an analytical framework and Metadiscourse Awareness Test was used as a quantitative data collection in this study. Purposive sampling was used to select 10 *The Star Online* writers and 10 *Focus Malaysia* writers to test their awareness of the use of metadiscourse in the writing of business news. The awareness is analysed in order to determine how aware the writers are on the proper use of metadiscourse in business news. To conclude, metadiscourse are useful writing devices that help produce engaging prose, academic or otherwise. It is important that the awareness of metadiscourse in business news among the writers be heightened through the use of Metadiscourse Awareness Test.

Keywords: textual metadiscourse, interpersonal metadiscourse, business news, awareness

MOVING THE BOUNDARIES: RECONSTRUCTION OF STEREOTYPED IDENTITIES BY TARGETS OF STEREOTYPING

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Stereotypical representations are overgeneralised assumptions about a particular group of people, which are co-constructed and perpetuated in discourse. The targets of stereotyping face the risk of being evaluated negatively due to the negative stereotypes imposed on their group. However, targets of stereotyping might use several coping strategies to negotiate and reconstruct the stereotyped identities actively. Moving the boundaries of group identity categories is one of the coping strategies as the categorisation of people in different groups is an essential feature in stereotyping. This study focuses on the construction and shifting of in-group and out-group boundaries by looking at how social actors are constructed, represented and categorised into different groups by Chinese students when confronted with stereotyping discourse. Focus group discussions were conducted with the participants after watching a video lecture that stereotypes Chinese people. Participants' responses to the stereotypical representations of Chinese identity and behaviour were recorded and transcribed. Analysis of the data was informed by van Leeuwen's representation of social actors (2008). The result shows that the participants reject the stereotyped identities by narrowing the boundaries of their grouping to exclude the group of people who are ascribed negative traits and behaviours. The study reveals that reconstructing damaged identities involves the process of moving group boundaries to include or exclude some social actors.

Keywords: discourse studies; social actors, identity reconstruction; stereotyping discourse; Chinese stereotype

SEQUENCING SOCIAL MEDIA ACTIONS IN FACEBOOK ADVOCACY GROUP

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This study investigates the structure and organization of posts and comment threads within a private Facebook Group as talk-in-interaction by drawing upon the features of sequence organization (Schegloff and Sacks, 1973). We present a conversation analytic microanalysis of how the interactions between members are seen as social actions that are orderly and oriented towards each other in a sequential order rather than casual responses in a seemingly complex thread of comments. While previous papers on online talk have predominantly dwell on analysis of quasi-synchronous online interactions there is still much to learn from asynchronous online support group discourse with an institutional goal in technical support and advocacy. Data are examined 1) to identify the social actions performed by the group members via their posts, 2) to analyse how the group members orient themselves to negotiate meaning and maintain orderliness within the uptakes in the comment section and 3) to gauge the perceived roles of the admins in order to achieve the conversational goals. This study employs a qualitative line by line analysis of disrupted adjacency and sequence expansions. Observation of the online community is to establish the status quo and rising trends related to the legislation of Child Passenger Safety issues in Malaysia. Interview with the admins are done on Zoom or email (n=7). The analysis is intended to contribute to three main areas: to the growing literature of 'digital conversation analysis', to the development of technological affordances in modern media and to the efficiency of advocacy, awareness and government policy dissemination.

Keywords: conversation analysis, asynchronous, Facebook group, sequence organisation

A CASE STUDY OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN SRI LANKA

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This study is a critical discourse analysis of interviews and narratives of targets of gender-based violence in public transport in Sri Lanka, in which theoretical viewpoints of Catherine Riessman (2008), Theo van Leeuwen (2008) and Michael Bamberg and A. Georgakopoulou (2008) would be employed as the framework of analysis. I conduct this research to have a glimpse of gender-based violence in public transport from the perspective of targets and to destigmatize the view that the onus of responsibility of preventing gender-based violence in public transport lies with the targets rather than the perpetrators. I further attempt to uncover the dominant discourses and master narratives that are thus associated. The findings of this research showed that the targets lose their agency at the precise moment that they enter into a means of public transport. I also argued that regaining of a targets' agency from an incident of gender-based violence in public transport is an interdiscursive practice, which occurs as an amalgamation of varying discourses under a patriarchal master narrative.

Keywords: gender-based violence, public transport, critical discourse analysis, narrative analysis, agency

SUBCORTICAL RESTRUCTURING IN BILINGUALS AND TRILINGUALS

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Neuroanatomical structures adapt to skills acquisition and changing experiences; including that of bilingualism. The brain is capable of reorganising itself throughout the lifespan so as to achieve and maintain neural efficiency. Cortical and subcortical expansions and contractions in regions that underlie cognitive and language control have been observed in bilinguals across the lifespan as compared to monolinguals. These structural adaptations are believed to facilitate more efficient processing as the brain deals with increasing language demands. The next question that follows is, to what extent does restructuring occur with language experiences? Would the learning and acquisition of a third or subsequent language, which necessitates greater language control be associated with yet more structural adaptations? In this study, 14 bilinguals and 14 trilinguals were compared on the volume of 7 subcortical structures. The left caudate has been implicated in cognitive control, the thalamus in language production, while the right accumbens functions as an integration hub between cortical and subcortical structures transferring information between. The caudate and accumbens were found to be significantly smaller in trilinguals than in bilinguals, pointing towards a possible contraction towards a baseline volume. Additionally, with increasing language experience, the volumes of these three structures decrease. These findings suggest that perhaps with highly immersive language experiences, the brain optimises the mechanisms that undertake language control and becomes maximally efficient at this skill.

Keywords: multilingualism, subcortical restructuring, language control

AN INSIGHT TO THE DYNAMIC VARIABLES OF ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) ANXIETY IN DAILY COMMUNICATION OF AN ESL COUNTRY: MALAYSIA

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English plays a major role as lingua franca in connecting people who speak different first languages, with Malaysia serving as a good exemplar. Under the bilingual education system, most Malaysians speak English as their second (dominant) language in the country. Although many studies had looked intothe impact of foreignlanguage (FL) anxiety in the classroom settings (Horwitz, 2010; Horwitz, 2017; MacIntyre, 2017), few had examined second language (L2) anxiety and its impact in daily discourse.This researchservesas an exploratory study to investigate lingual, intrapersonal and interpersonal factors contributing toL2anxiety among Malaysian multilinguals. Focus will be given tothedynamic factors ofL2 anxiety:(1)linguistic experience,(2)self-perceived language competence, and(3) language proficiencybecause of their malleable naturethat makes improvement more possible.A survey questionnaire was administered through Qualtrics,and itincludes items looking into participants' L2 linguistics experience,anxiety experience(e.g.ASSELF), self-perceived competenceandEnglish proficiency (e.g.LexTALE). Data were collected from around 200Malaysianparticipantswho speak English as L2,and the relationship betweeneach factorand L2 anxiety were examined.For this presentation, we will discuss the factors that could be volitionally manipulated to reduce the negative impact ofL2 anxietyinan ESLcountry.

Keywords: second language anxiety, dynamic factors, psycholinguistics

LANGUAGE USE IN SCAMMER DATING PROFILES: HOW IS IDENTITY CONSTRUCTED IN SCAMMER PROFILES COMPARED TO GENERAL USER DATING PROFILES?

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Online romance scam has emerged as a pervasive cybercrime worldwide. It has resulted in considerable impact on the victims financially and psychologically. Many studies have been conducted on the online romance scam to analyze the various stages of the scam interaction; however, these descriptions do not provide the details of how a scammer is able to attract potential victims through discourse in their user profiles on dating sites. This study aimed to compare language use with particular reference to identities constructed in the personal profiles of scammers with general user profiles in dating websites. The two corpora of user profiles are analysed using corpus-based analysis to examine linguistic patterns and statistical differences of structures between profiles of scammers and general users in constructing their online persona and their potential victims. Findings from the study will help raise awareness on how scammers use language to attract potential victims in their dating profiles.

Keywords: online romance scam, dating sites, profiles, scammer, ordinary users, language

SELF-REGULATED LEARNING DEVELOPMENT IN UNDERGRADUATE ESL WRITING CLASSROOMS: TEACHER FEEDBACK VS SELF-ASSESSMENT

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In ESL research context, teachers are committed to ensure that students are aware of their writing skills and the kind of errors they make in their writing. This explains why direct teacher feedback is frequently practised in the writing classrooms. Self-assessment is a supplementary strategy that provides opportunity for students have more control of their learning with enough support from the teacher. This study investigated the effects of self-assessment (SA) and indirect teacher feedback (ITF) on self-regulated learning (SRL). A quasi-experimental design with an embedded experimental model was used in this research. This study collected both quantitative and qualitative data. The quantitative data were obtained through the Self-Regulation Strategy Inventory Self-Report (SRSI-SR) which was developed by Cleary (2006) and qualitative data were derived from SRL microanalytic protocol which was adapted from Callan (2014). The results revealed that both self-assessment and teacher feedback helped learners become more self-regulated. Nevertheless, teacher feedback did not reduce maladaptive behaviours in the learners as much as self-assessment. The comparison of quantitative and qualitative analyses supported the findings that self-assessment leads to significant development in self-regulated learning. The conclusion of the study suggests that self-assessment is an effective instructional practice that promotes self-regulated learning in terms of goal setting, strategy planning, strategy use, attribution and adaptive inference. It also suggests that self-assessment be part of an instructional practice, rather than an alternative in the writing class.

REPRESENTATION OF NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN MALAYSIA:

A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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Heart disease and diabetes have been the number one cause of morbidity in Malaysia. Despite government endeavor, the number of patients for both non-communicable diseases continue to rise. Discourse serves an important function in the education of the public as it may raise awareness of the two diseases. Using Wodak and Reisigl's Discourse Historical Approach, the article intends to study the discursive strategies and topoi employed in the representation of heart disease and diabetes in three fields of action, namely the National Strategic Plan for Non-Communicable Diseases, brochures published by the Ministry of Health Malaysia, and newspaper articles in The Star. The discursive analysis revealed that the government is portrayed as the agent who has largely contributed to mitigate heart disease and diabetes. Members of the public are depicted as people who do not seem to know the dangers of non-communicable diseases. The topoi involved in the portrayal of the two diseases are the topoi of threat, number and economy. The study also revealed that heart disease and diabetes are preventable, and it is the responsibility of individuals to take care of one's health and minimize the prevalence of the diseases.

Keywords: Discourse-Historical Approach, non-communicable diseases, topoi, discourse strategies

METAPHORICAL ASPECTS IN THE MALAYSIAN EDUCATION BLUEPRINT

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The Malaysian Education Blueprint (2013 - 2025) seeks to revamp the entire education system in Malaysia, targeting institutions of learning and the stakeholders via a series of radical changes in policy and governance. It was also found to contain several metaphors that are carefully constructed and layered to deliver the contents to the readers. Metaphors have been identified as an effective linguistic tool that can be used to achieve cognitive, semantic and pragmatic goals effectively. They are also found to create or alter realities and evoke powerful emotions. This research applies the Conceptual Metaphor Theory (CMT) developed by Lakoff and Johnson (1980) to explore the metaphorical concepts in the Malaysian Education Blueprint (2013 – 2025). Additionally, Charteris-Black's (2004) framework was employed to study the functions and the role metaphors play in the document. This research found that the metaphorical concepts in the blueprint were systematically employed to represent complex policies and the changes proposed for the next twelve years in the education system. The document also effectively used metaphors to present the issues and challenges faced by the education system in a more palatable way.

Keywords: Conceptual Metaphor Theory, metaphorical concepts, Malaysian Education Blueprint, linguistic tools, education system

VARIATION OF MEANING OF CHINESE WORDS IN MALAYSIA : A CASE OF MALAYSIAN CHINESE LITERATURE WORDS

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Being an important part in the Chinese language system, Malaysian Chinese is one of the three major languages used in Malaysia. It is a localised Chinese language commonly used by Malaysian Chinese. Influenced by the history, culture, and social environment of the country, it has developed a considerable difference from modern Chinese after years of evolution, which is mainly reflected in daily spoken language and written words. Variation is the essential characteristic of languages. In the process of language variation, the variation of vocabulary is most obvious and rapid. Therefore, studying vocabulary variation is an important part of studying language development. Using the language of Malaysian Chinese Literature - which is more formal and stable than oral and ordinary language - as the corpus, it is easier to discover the difference between Malaysian Chinese and modern Chinese. This study explores the change of word meaning in Malaysian Chinese. It analyses the variant expressions of the vocabulary in the works of Malaysian Chinese literature, in terms of lexical meanings, illustrates the characteristics and trends of the development and evolution of Malaysian Chinese words, and analyses what triggers the semantic change in Malaysian Chinese vocabulary from the aspects of nature, society, and culture.

Keywords: Malaysian Chinese language, vocabulary variation, variation of lexical meaning

HOTEL RESPONSES TO ONLINE REVIEWS: BUILDING RAPPORT BY THANKING

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Rapport forms harmonious relationships in social interaction, *and it establishes* stronger foundations in relationships. Customer gratitude is an effective way to build rapport with customers and maintain customer–organisational relationships. As consumers are becoming increasingly reliant on online reviews in recent years, online reviews can have an influential impact on consumers' purchase decisions, including concerning hotels. Engaging in digital platforms is crucial to build rapport with customers, and responding to online reviews can have a significantly positive impact on customer relationship and online reputation management. Building rapport with the expressions of gratitude on social media in the hotel industry from the linguistic perspective remains understudied in Malaysia. Using Spencer-Oatey's (2005) Rapport Management Model, this study investigates thanking strategies in hotel responses to positive online reviews on *TripAdvisor* by the managements of 5-Star, 4-Star, and 3-Star hotels in Malaysia in building rapport with their customers. The finding shows that 4-Star hotels had the highest frequency of such responses, followed by the 5-Star and the 3-Star hotels. The managements of these three categories of hotels displayed a preference for the strategy of *expression of pleasure, surprise, or delight*. Such an examination of Malaysian hotel responses to positive online reviews will establish an understanding of rapport management strategies from a discourse perspective.

Keywords: rapport, hotel responses, online reviews, thanking, gratitude

ENGLISH LANGUAGE USE OF THE MALAYSIAN TAMIL DIASPORA

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Diasporic Indian languages in Malaysia are unique and distinguishable from their native variants. Past studies have indicated that dominant languages tend to overpower minority languages in multilingual communities, hence causing languages to shift. A major contributor of language shift was due to the lasting impact of colonization. Thus, the aims of this study are to identify the language choices of Malaysian Tamils and to what extent English influences the shift from their native language to other languages, such as Tamil and Malay language. A domain analysis focused on the family, friendship, educational and transactional domains employed in this study, and the data were analysed descriptively, in accordance to Fishman's Domain Analysis (1964). The respondents (n=30) of this study were Malaysian Indians and the data was elicited via a questionnaire adapted from Yeh et. al. (2004). The findings of the study revealed that in the family domain, there was an alarming shift to English when participants spoke to their children (93%) and their spouses (63%) as opposed to the older generations. Meanwhile, in the friendship domain, 76% of the participants preferred using English when they had to speak to other Malaysian Tamils. As for strangers, there was a 50-50 distribution between English and Malay between these participants. These findings seem to show that most families shifted from their native language to English among children in the family domain, education domain and friendship domain. Therefore, it is possible to note that factors such as imperialism, economic status and relevance of usage in language domains are the driving factors behind the shift of Tamil to English in Malaysia.

Keywords: diaspora, language shift, Tamil, language choice, domain analysis

GENRE ANALYSIS OF ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTAL PRESENTATIONS
AMONG UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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To date, studies on the academic genre are becoming more and more due to increasingly higher education institutions nowadays require students to master diverse professional skills to satisfy college requirements (Shimamura & Takeuchi, 2011). Nevertheless, university students are facing academic genre challenges while they are delivering various academic genres such as "research articles, grant proposals, poster and conference presentations, lectures and seminars" (Rowley–Jolivet, Carter–Thomas, 2005). Despite the past studies on spoken academic genre have paid a great attention to university lectures (Benson, 1989; Thompson, 1994; Lee, 2016) or conference presentations (Ruiz-Madird, Ma, Fortanet-Gómez, 2015; Rowley–Jolivet, Carter–Thomas, 2005), the main limitations of their research were lack of detailed insights about any single activity as well as the departmental research proposal presentations are less investigated in the academic discourse literature. Therefore, the current qualitative study attempts to investigate how university students' departmental research proposal presentation is constructed and accomplished. There are two major findings from this study: the rhetorical moves in questions and answers section and the usage of the lexicon-grammatical devices from the academic departmental research proposal presentations. Based on the preliminary findings from this study, it is hopefully can offer important guidance for university students' academic presentations and help students to improve their academic presentation skills on the departmental research proposal presentations.

 Keywords: genre analysis, academic departmental presentations

THE MOTIVATION OF STUDENTS TO STUDY ARABIC IN NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY, SINGAPORE

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Language and culture are related and interrelated in learning foreign languages. Culture plays an important role in motivating students to learn the foreign language. (Ibrahim Abushihab,2016, pp. 51-57). Understanding culture permits students to give the equitable meaning to each word, in the larger context, because students will be able to think in that language. This paper explores the extent culture plays one of the motivating factors that plays a part in inspiring student studying Arabic as a foreign language in Nanyang technological University. The aim of the study is to find out the extent to which various factors affect students' motivation and achievement in foreign language learning, specifically on Arabic Language. This study examines several factors that could contributes to the motivation of the students in learning Arabic language, including demographics, field of studies, reasons for joining and for continuously learning Arabic language). The research also investigated the temporal dimension of L2 motivation to see if the students' motivation changes when they first started joining the Arabic module until they have completed the module. The researcher employs quantitative approach via survey analysis and data will be drawn from a combined quantitative-qualitative approach through survey form. The results aim to show that a variety of motivations that can play an important role in a student's decision to learn Arabic. This information will help more educators, curriculum developer and language institutes in their teaching and developing their syllabus.

Keywords: Arabic, motivation in education, language-study and learning, foreign language learning

USE OF POLITENESS STRATEGIES BETWEEN GROOMERS AND VICTIMS IN ONLINE GROOMING

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The study of online grooming is still at its infancy in Malaysia, despite the increase of numbers of the reported cases in this country. Online grooming typically involves an older person attempting to get closer to a child via online and with the intention of abusing him/her sexually. Most past research related to online grooming has predominantly focused in the Western culture and particularly in the field of psychology and criminology. Very few studies looked at it from a linguistic perspective and non in Malaysia. Thus, this study is keen to gain insights of this phenomenon from a linguistics perspective particularly on the strategies that groomers employ to lure their victims in the different stages of their communication. In other words, this study aims to identify the online grooming strategies that groomers use with their victims and to examine the different types of politeness strategies that groomers employ in the different stages of the conversation with the victims. Also this study is keen to explore the choice of words or phrases that the groomers use to hold their conversations with the victims and lastly to investigate the factors and reasons behind their strategies in selecting their victims. This study employs mixed method approach, predominantly focusing on 20 text messages from PervertedJustice.com. Secondly, a semi-structured interview is utilised with 10 paedophiles to understand the factors and reasons behind their strategies of selecting their victims and lastly questionnaires are distributed to young parents to determined their awareness towards this phenomenon. This study only focuses on the paedophiles who participated in online child grooming activities. Followed by that this study do not take into consideration of convicts who participate in offline sexual activities and victims of online child grooming. The text messages from PervertedJustice.com and semi-structured interview data are analysed using Thompson approach thematic analysis and descriptively for questionnaire data. This study is able provide some awareness of the seriousness of online child grooming as well assist law enforcement officers by assisting them with the knowledge in understanding the process of online grooming.

Keywords: paedophile, online grooming

USE OF ENGLISH LEXICAL ELEMENTS IN BANGLA SPEECHES AND CONVERSATIONS

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English has turned to be a vehicular language for international and intercultural communications. The language is no longer owned solely by the English but shared by bilingual and multilingual users all over the world in different locations and for different purposes. Likewise, in Bangladesh, the use of the language is displayed in various forms, namely, borrowings, code-switching, code-mixing, transliteration, etc. As observed in written texts, the conscious or unconscious trend of using English lexical elements in Bangla conversations and speeches of multi-professional people of Bangladesh is a common phenomenon. However, the phenomenon has not seemingly received much scholarly attention. Therefore, the present researcher like to explore the nature of these English lexical elements to understand how much influence they carry in the progressiveness of Bangla spoken texts. And to that end, the present study would like to make a close observation of a collection of conversations and speeches of multi-professional people selected employing a purposive sampling method. The analysis of the textual data will draw upon qualitative content analysis. The findings are likely to report English lexical elements of various natures in the everyday communications of Bangla speakers. This paper is meant to argue that the use of some English lexical elements is, though, seemingly superfluous, the judicious use of some lexis may enhance the vitality of the verbal communications of Bangla as well as the language.

Keywords: English lexical elements, Bangla speeches and conversations, multi-professional

SEMANTIC EXTENSIONS OF VISUAL AND AUDITORY PERCEPTION VERBS

IN HAUSA FICTION WRITINGS

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The issue of perception metaphor universality and variation has been a much focused topic within the field of cognitive linguistics. On one hand, some cognitive linguists purport that semantic extensions of visual perception verbs are closely linked to the verbs of higher intellection (cognition) and are universal cross-culturally. On the other hand, some scholars have debunked this view as they argued that verbs of cognition can be recruited from the auditory perception, depending on the cultural affiliations of the people. This presupposes that meaning extensions could be different and culture-specific. The current article aims to examine and verify these claims using data from Hausa. In addressing this objective, the study employed a qualitative corpus-based approach as a means of data collection. The data comprise various expressions related to the visual and auditory perception verbs, which were identified and extracted from various literary texts in Hausa. The AntConc software was used to identify and extract the data from the texts and to partially analyse the data. The data were analysed based on the mind-as-body metaphor analytical framework. The findings revealed that Hausa language recruits verbs of higher intellection such as 'understand', 'know' from 'audition', while 'think' from 'vision'.

Keywords: polysemy, extensions, transfield, universality and culture-specificity

CYBERBULLYING IN THE NAME OF GOD: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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The Islamisation phenomenon in Malaysia is characterised not only by an increased number of Islamic projects within the public institutions, but its permeation is evident in the increased awareness of *hijab* in the country. Since the late 1980s, *hijab* has attained many meanings, from a symbol of Islamic revivalism to a reconstruction of Malay identity. Today, the *hijab* has become a normative identity of Muslim women in Malaysia. For women who have conformed to this norm, they are expected to always be seen wearing it and as when they decide to de-*hijab*, the decision can trigger public opprobrium, bullying, and abuse. The *de-hijabbing* decision of Muslim women in Malaysia has been in the spotlight, particularly for public figures, with media discourse representing the decision as a threat to Muslim community and Islam in general. However, the public scorn, bullying, and abuse have reached an unprecedented level and are increasingly common with the rise of public discourse on social media such as *Instagram*, *Facebook,* and *Twitter*. Using Wodak's (2018) Discourse Historical Approach (DHA) to Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Van Leeuwen's (2011) Social Actors framework, this study aims to deconstruct the response of netizens to a Malaysian celebrity, Emma Maembong's, *de-hijabbing* decision. The findings of this research will not only reveal the linguistic processes through which bullying is materialised in the social media, but also help identify discursive strategies embedded in abusive language that has devastating effects on the recipients which may not be considered in the legal sense.

Keywords: hijab, identity, Muslim women, cyberbullying, discourse strategies

ISLAMIC LEXICON: REFLECTIONS IN EARLY MALAY DICTIONARIES

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This article examines the frequency and function of one particular lexical item which relates to Islam from two early Malay dictionaries: A Dictionary: English and Malayo, Malayo and English published by Thomas Bowrey in 1701 and A Dictionary of the Malayan Language, in Two Parts, Malayan and English and English and Malayan published by William Marsden in 1801. The Islamic term, presented in the form of glossaries and some in dialogues in both dictionaries, will be assessed on the closeness of translation and lexicographic description to their original meanings in the Malay language. Some shortcomings in the definition and translation of this Islamic term will also be highlighted. The frequency with which this term appears in the dictionaries indicates a strong reference to Islamic culture in general conversation throughout the Malay Archipelago from the eighteenth to nineteenth century. The definitions and usage of the Islamic term in both dictionaries have revealed the understanding of the term from an English cultural perspective, particularly, of an English merchant and an English officer during their sojourn in this region. The differences and similarities in the treatment of this term also reflected the way in which the religion of Islam was generally regarded, understood, or interpreted up to the 19th century.

Keywords: bilingual dictionary, Islamic lexicon, Malay language, translation, Malay archipelago

MARINE ENGINEERING CADETS' LEARNING PREFERENCES, PERCEPTION AND MOTIVATION TOWARDS THE INTEGRATION OF KAHOOT! IN LEARNING MARITIME VOCABULARY

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Due to advanced technological development in the maritime industry, learning specialized vocabulary in Maritime English is seen difficult and almost impossible to teach them explicitly. Since globalised online learning has been identified as one of the ten shifts in Malaysia Education Blueprint 2015-2025 (Higher Education), the integration of gamification is crucial to engage the digital natives in more meaningful lessons of maritime vocabulary as they are more intrigued in their learning particularly through the use of technological tools. The adoption of Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) further helps the students to maximize the usage of technology which will later shift from the current teacher-centered to student-centered paradigm. Using a quasi-experimental methodology, this study compares two groups of marine engineering cadets in order to determine the effectiveness of using the Kahoot! application in the learning of maritime vocabulary. It investigates how the learning preferences of the cadets affect their perception on the learning of maritime vocabulary through Kahoot! and also compares the relationship between cadets' perception and their motivation to learn maritime vocabulary via this online tool. The findings of the study support the use of Kahoot! in the learning of maritime vocabulary and it received a positive reaction from the cadets with various learning style preferences in the gamification methods. However, the association of the cadets' perception and their motivation in gamified learning is rather insignificant. The study is revolutionary in terms of pedagogical delivery in Maritime English classroom.

Keywords: gamification, Kahoot!, Maritime English, maritime vocabulary

THE NEEDS OF INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCE FOR 21ST CENTURY OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA

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Malaysia's education is generally embedded with multicultural society, comprising of Malay, Chinese, Indian and other ethnicities. The different cultures in a learning environment contributes to a unique social interaction between educators and students. Despite the fact that having distinct cultures encourage individuals to work together, many educators are found to be lack of competency in grasping intercultural knowledge in the scope of higher education context. With regards to intercultural competence, this paper examines the interaction between educators and students in a classroom setting during the teaching and learning process. Therefore, it aims to obtain the perspectives of educators towards the importance of intercultural competence in higher education and also to identify the intercultural values needed for an educator to have when dealing with intercultural contexts in higher education. Data of the study will be gathered using a questionnaire and interview based on Behavioral Approach to Intercultural Communicative Competence (Ruben, 1976). It is hoped that the findings would benefit educators, in terms of recommending better alternatives to improve social interaction with students of different cultural groups. Besides, it can contribute to the pragmatic knowledge between educators and students in tertiary education. Consecutively, this may improve individuals' sensitivity and understanding when engaging with people from all walks of life.

Keywords: intercultural competence, tertiary education and interaction

REPRESENTATION OF MALAY WOMEN IN THE MALAYSIAN SOCIAL MEDIA

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Over the years, research studies on representations of women in the media have revealed various issues related to gender biasness. Women are often stereotyped as the dutiful wives and mothers and are expected to perform house chores at home. In Malaysia, Malay women are often caught in a dilemma between the contemporary challenges of life and local traditions (Kalthom, et. Al 2008). From time to time, representations of Malay women as professionals or successful individuals do get featured in Malaysian media. Nonetheless, given the complex multimodal characteristic of the media text, there is always the question of whether the projected images of Malay women would still contain elements that reflect the stereotyped, traditional understanding of women. This study seeks to investigate the representations of Malay women in the social media with particular focus on a selected Facebook account. Given the pervasiveness of social media as a tool for communication, analysing data extracted from the Facebook would be a good starting point to see how women are portrayed to the younger generation. Both semiotic and linguistic analyses are conducted on selected images using frameworks by Kress and Van Leeuwen (1996, 2006), Goffman (1979) and Roland Barthes (1977). It is hoped that the findings of this study will provide useful insights on how the contemporary media portray Malay women and to what extent the images conform to the traditional roles of Malay women.

Keywords: representation, women, social media, semiotic

METAPHORICAL EXPRESSIONS OF 'GUEST HOUSE' IN THE WRITINGS OF MEWLANA RUMI AND SAID NURSI

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This paper analyses the metaphorical expression of 'guest house' in the writings of Jalal-ad-Din Muhammad Rumi (1207-1273), a well-known Persian poet and Bediuzzaman Said Nursi (1877-1960), a prominent Turkish scholar. There are many studies on these scholars, but studies on their conceptualization of 'guest house' are limited. Thus, this study aims to reveal the spiritual effects of this metaphorical expression. This interdisciplinary qualitative research analyses the metaphorical expression of 'guest house' through an explanatory case study based on the selected writings of Rumi and Nursi. Rumi's poem on *The Guest House* and Nursi's selected writings in his *Risale i Nur* are analysed to reveal the spiritual effects. The findings reveal how these scholars used the concept of 'guest house' to convey their implied message. Rumi views the human body in terms of a 'guest house' through his conceptual metaphor, THE BODY IS A GUEST HOUSE while Nursi views this world in terms of a 'guest house' through his conceptual metaphor THE WORLD IS A GUEST HOUSE. These two conceptual metaphors are interrelated as they reveal the concepts of transitory life in this temporary world and eternal life in the hereafter which is everlasting. Eventually, the findings reveal the spiritual effects of these conceptual metaphors on the journey of a human's life. This study contributes to the field of language, psychology and religious discourse by revealing the effectiveness of metaphorical expression for psycho-spiritual wellbeing.

COGNITIVE LOAD OF INSTRUCTOR QUESTIONS IN THE ONLINE SYNCHRONOUS

VIDEOCONFERENCING CLASSROOM

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Language has witnessed an exponential pace of development. Therefore, videoconferencing has emerged as an effective communicative tool in the language classroom to eliminate the geographical separation. Despite the successful implementation, videoconferencing, as a learning medium, is still a problematic to replace ground-based classroom. The implementation of any learning medium does not automatically result with constructive communication. Therein, insufficient interaction has been reported as a significant issue hampers learning in online platforms. In lieu of adapting a suitable practice for this technology by conducting heuristic researches, most of the educational organizations have replaced their ground-based pedagogy to online platforms. The replication may work to an extent for short-term use. Whilst using videoconferencing for long-term necessitates studies to examine its employment. This study, with regard to the cognitive load theory, will examine online mediated interaction to determine the extent to which the extraneous load raise the germane load and improve online engagement, accordingly. By adapting an action research, comprised of four circles, the study will impose gradual cognitive increments, embedded in instructor questions. Steered by Bloom's taxonomy, each circle will be designed to trigger one processing stage followed by assessments for both the germane load, represented by motivation, and performance, represented by computational assessment for classroom interaction. The study will provide and enhance essential cognitive foundations tailored to the needs of this online environment. Accordingly, the study will provide cognitive premises for online language learning. In lieu of adopting ground-based strategies, it will illuminate the path for a sustainable virtual learning planet.

Keywords: cognitive load, videoconferencing, interaction, online synchronous classroom

MULTICULTURAL MALAYSIA: PRONUNCIATION TARGETS AND NORMS

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'Models' and 'targets' of a second language are often used in second language learning and teaching to enhance language acquisition and language teaching. Ideally, 'models' and 'targets' should be aligned with the 'norms' of the language that occur in the society. In a context like Malaysia, there are multiple 'models' or 'targets' for English language learning, and these models and targets at most times do not coincide. The multilingual context of Malaysia as well as the multiple roles of English in the society further impacts on the norms of the English that is aviable and spoken in Malaysia. This paper explores the model of English that is taught, the aims of English language learning and teaching in Malaysia and what this model means in the larger educational and societal context. The focus of this paper will be issues related to pronunciation teaching and learning as well as the opacity surrounding the notions 'models', 'targets' and 'norms' in the Malaysian context. This paper will draw upon spoken interactions analysed within the English as lingua franca (ELF) framework that highlights that the 'models' and 'norms' in the Malaysian context are mostly incongruent. ELF offers us a novel perspective and allows us to re-focus and re-align pronunciation targets and norms based on available data. The variety of English that exists in Malaysia implores us to re-think our models and targets of the pronunciation syllabus.

Keywords: lingua franca, pronunciation, English language teaching

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGY AS A FACTOR FOR UNDERSTANDING TEACHER SELF-DISCLOSURE IN A MALAYSIAN ESL WRITING CLASSROOM

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This study, therefore, aimed to find out factors that influence teacher self-disclosures in the Malaysian ESL writing classroom. This paper presents partial findings from a multi-method qualitative study conducted in an academic writing course from a Malaysian private institution of higher learning comprising 50 undergraduates and one tutor selected through purposive sampling. Data collected through classroom observations and semi-structured interviews were transcribed and thematically analysed using the NVivo 12. One of the major factors indicating the occurrence of teacher self-disclosure in the ESL writing classroom was instructional strategies. The results from this study shows that teacher self-disclosure have important implications for cognitive, instructional and learning strategies in the ESL writing classroom. This study concludes that teacher self-disclosure is a potential instructional tool that could be used in the teaching and learning of ESL writing in Malaysian ESL classrooms.

Keywords: academic writing, instructional strategy, L2 writing strategies, teacher self-disclosure

THE IMPACT OF USING PBL IN AN ACADEMIC ENGLISH CONTEXT

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With the increase of interest in student engagement, project-based learning (PBL) method encourages students learn by actively participating in authentic or meaningful projects. This PBL method is usually adopted in science or mathematical subject. However, little research has been done to explore its use in an English language learning context. This paper aims to explore the effectiveness of PBL in an Academic English subject among first-year undergraduate students. Student reflective journals and instructor's observations were used to explore their feedback. Semi-structured interviews with the participants were also conducted to substantiate the data. The findings indicate that PBL helps develop soft skills such as presentation skills and communication. However, the development of English language skills is less significant in this study. The challenges of implementing PBL show participants have concerns in the areas of communication, teamwork and requirements of the project. These implications are discussed along with recommendations for further research.

Keywords: Academic English, collaborative learning, project-based learning, soft skills, student engagement

A SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW STORYBOOK READING TO YOUNG NON-NATIVE LEARNERS OF ENGLISH

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The interest in reading contributes to development in language skills regardless of languages. Reading in English as a second is a major area of interest within the field of applied linguistics. One of the main obstacles the non-native learners experience in reading is the language despite many advantages of reading. Few past studies have been able to draw on any systematic research into storybook reading. The purpose of this study is to analyse the benefits of storybook reading as a learning approach in the classroom to young non-native learners of English language. Guided by Realist and Meta-narrative Evidence Syntheses: Evolving Standards (RAMESES) review method, the study selected articles using two leading databases, Scopus and Web of Science, as well as two supporting databases, Google Scholar and Science Direct. A total of eight related studies were identified. Further review of these articles resulted in two main themes namely language and literacy development as well as learner's affective factors.

Keywords: Systematic literature review, English language learners, non-native speakers, storybook reading, RAMESES

GENRE ANALYSIS OF RISK MANAGEMENT REPORTS BY AN ISLAMIC FINANCIAL INSTITUTION IN MALAYSIA

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Since 1997, risk management has become a core component for banks annual report. It has been used as a channel to inform the stakeholders and public of the stability of a bank. Nevertheless, most studies on risk management have not placed much emphasis on the language use nor moves that took place in the report, but rather the risks faced by the institutions and the way they have been solved. It is crucial for a study to be conducted that could reveal the major moves in risk management reports (RMR), as this would provide an insight into how a financial institution's social image is enhanced through the exploitation of the linguistic conventions in the reports. The present study aims to uncover the moves in risk management reporting by utilising genre analysis. The data were taken from a corpus comprising 20 Annual Reports of conventional and Islamic, local and foreign banks operating in Malaysia. This study utilizes Bhatia's move analysis framework to analyse the moves in RMR. The findings have unveiled several moves in RMR produced by a leading local Islamic financial institution in Malaysia. The study provides new insights into preparation and writing of RMR among financial professionals.

Keywords: annual report, genre analysis, Islamic financial institution, risk management report

THE ROLE OF WORKING MEMORY CAPACITY AND LINGUISTIC PROFICIENCY IN SCALAR IMPLICATURE COMPUTATION AMONG ADULT BILINGUALS

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Research on how adults make pragmatic interpretations of scalar implicatures suggests that there is a big number of adults who tend to be more tolerant with pragmatic violations than others. For instance, in reading a sentence like *Some elephants are mammals*, people vary on how they read the meaning of the sentence, that is, they either consistently interpret *some* as *not-all* or they they read *some* as *some and possibly all*. The underlying cause of this variability in interpreting underinformative statements remains essentially unknown but there is evidence denoting that scalar implicature computation involves cognitive efforts, and thus the variability in interpreting scalar implicatures is thought to originate from individual differences in participants' working memory capacity. In order to investigate this claim, a total of 52 Malay modest and 50 competent users of English were presented with underinformative sentences for which they were asked to provide time-recorded truth-value judgments and then to respond to two working memory tests. Surprisingly, the results indicated that differences in working memory ability did not predict the proportion of pragmatic interpretations of scalar implicatures nor the time taken to process these pragmatic interpretations. However, the differences in linguistic skills seemed to be a strong predictor of implicature comprehension. Participants with increased linguistic proficiency demonstrated increased pragmatic ability and faster processing times. These findings provide empirical evidence for factors predicting pragmatic comprehension among bilingual adults and therefore considerations for the processing theories in Experimental pragmatics.

Keywords: working memory capacity, linguistic proficiency, informativeness, pragmatics

THE USE OF POWER ASYMMETRY AND TURN-TAKING STRATEGIES OF EXAMINERS' ORAL FEEDBACK

IN THE ORAL EXAMINATIONS

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Oral examination plays an important role in the PhD assessment process, as it aims to determine the candidate's mastery of the research in the field. The examiners are the gate keepers of the field by providing feedback (or commentaries) on the candidate's written thesis and oral presentation. A number of past studies have investigated the use of written and spoken feedback in the oral examination process (Basturkmen et al., 2012; Bourke & Holbrook, 2013; Holbrook et al., 2007; John Bitchener & Basturkmen, 2010; Sharmini & Kumar, 2017), however very few studies have focused on the use of power asymmetry and turn taking strategies on examiners' feedback in the oral examination. Thus this study, is keen to investigate the impact of power asymmetry between examiners and candidates in the oral examination process, followed by examining the differences of how power asymmetry is played between male and female examiners. This study also aims to determine the types of turn taking strategies that examiners employ in the process of providing feedback and whether these strategies vary between male and female examiners in the examination process. This study employs a mixed-method approach and the data will be collected from examiners who are in the English Department in the University of Tikrit/Iraq. The quantitative data, i.e. the questionnaires will be distributed via google docs, whereas the qualitative data, i.e. the interviews will be conducted via Zoom. Besides that, the video recording of the viva session will also be utilised in this study. The quantitative data will be analysed descriptively and the qualitative data will be analysed thematically using Fairclough notions of power asymmetry (2013), and Heritage's notion of turn taking strategies (1998). This study hopes to enrich the literature on spoken feedback commentaries in oral examination based on gender differences used by EFL examiners. It also hopes to create an awareness of the use of power dynamics and turn taking strategies employed by examiners. Finally, this study hopes to provide a set of guidelines to EFL supervisors and examiners on how to provide constructive feedback in oral examinations.

Keywords: power asymmetry, turn-taking, oral examination, spoken feedback

JORDANIAN TEACHERS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS LINGUISTIC GLOBALISATION IN JORDAN: A SOCIOLINGUISTIC STUDY

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There is an ongoing process of globalization, and this has impacted on many aspects of our lives, including the language(s) we use in our daily affairs. While there is diversity of language across the contemporary world, certain languages remain more dominant and so, are widely spoken than others. As relations, alliances and businesses draw nations together, there seems to be a push for the adoption of a global language to bridge communication barrier in the aspects of social relations, businesses, education and other affairs. While many would agree that English is a global language, the attitude of others toward linguistic globalization is yet to be ascertained. This Study thus, examines Jordanian teacher's attitude toward linguistic globalization via a sociolinguistic study. The Study also unravels the impact of Jordanian English teacher's attitude toward the recognition and adoption of English as a global language by Jordanians. Both primary and secondary sources of data were employed for the study.

Keywords: culture, globalization, Jordanian teachers, sociolinguistics, technology

COMBINING RECIPROCAL PERSPECTIVES WITH SALIENT FEATURES TO INDIVIDUATE REFERENTS USING SPOKEN JORDANIAN ARABIC

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Referential deictics like the demonstratives 'this' and 'that' are used to individuate referents in context. Recent research has shown that deictics are not simply used on the basis of physical proximity to interactants, but that the speaker takes into account the addressee's visual, perceptual, and cognitive access to the referent. This paper focuses on interactions in Spoken Jordanian Arabic (SJA) where the speaker intends to individuate an entity coexisting in the same context with a similar entity by using either the demonstrative 'haaDa'(this') or the demonstrative 'haDaak' ('that'). Data for the study consist of fieldwork observations over a period of about two years focusing on deictic practice involving natural everyday situations where the two demonstratives were used by native speakers of SJA. The results show that the choice to use 'haaDa' or 'haDaak' is mostly determined by interconnected visual and cognitive conceptualizations involving the interactants' reciprocal perceptions of the referent in context from the perspective of the speaker. The speaker chooses 'haaDa' 'this' to indicate that 'the intended referent is the one that you (as addressee) will recognize in immediate context based on more salient features in comparison to the other one(s)'; the demonstrative 'haDaak' 'that' would be chosen when the speaker intends to convey that 'the intended entity is the one with less salient features in comparison to the other one(s)'. It is hoped that findings of this study would contribute to recent research in linguistics focusing on how a speaker conceptualises contextual information and how an addressee perceptualises such information during speech production and comprehension.

Keywords: deixis, demonstratives, saliency, spoken Jordanian

COHESION IN DENGUE PROMOTIONAL MESSAGES: A MULTIMODAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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Texts in dengue promotional posters are composed to convey vital dengue health information to their target audience. Understanding the intended meanings based on the verbal and visual texts of dengue posters is crucial for their readers since only verbal text alone cannot carry the whole meaning. Visual texts also play a significant role in complementing the verbal text in creating meanings. This study seeks to examine how visual resources are used in constituting the meanings as a "coherent whole" by complementing the verbal text information in dengue promotional communication. 32 dengue posters were selected as the corpus of the study using the purposive sampling method. A theoretical framework has been adopted as Kress and van Leeuwen's principles of composition and visual semiotic resources, combined with Gestalt principles of Wertheimer to comprehensively analyse dengue poster images as multimodal texts realized by establishing semantic and visual relations. Cohesion in the visual texts of dengue posters is identified via Information Value, Salience, Framing, Colour, Typography, Proximity, and Similarity. When analysing cohesion based on the visual compositional resources of text cohesion, the above seven resources need to be considered for establishing cohesion. Cohesion successes, unlike those of each resource, also need to be considered when defining cohesion on the basis of a single resource. Cohesion within semiotic modes can be described in terms of semantic relations and visual relationships in multimodal texts. Future study can delve into the verbal and visual linkage in constructing dengue promotional information.

Keywords: cohesion in visual texts, dengue posters, multimodal discourse analysis, visual compositional resources, visual perception principles

A GENRE ANALYSIS OF MEDICAL STUDENTS' ORAL CASE PRESENTATIONS (OCPs) IN COMMUNITY HEALTH (CH) POSTING

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The use of learner corpus in genre analysis is still an underdeveloped area, especially in medical discourse. Although most genre studies have been carried out on written academic medical discourse, there is still very little attention paid to the spoken genre (e.g. Oral Case Presentation). OCP is an important verbal assessment in medical education in which medical learners are evaluated in terms of patients' admission reason, diagnosis and relevant management. This study focuses on Community Health (CH) which has a different OCP structure compared to other medical specialisations due to its ethnographic activities. The challenge in this area is to produce health professionals who are willing to work in community settings as medical undergraduates perceive CH as a complex specialization of which they are required to execute holistic treatment for patients in rural areas. These activities are later included in the OCP. Hence, this study analyses the rhetorical patterns, move sequences and specific linguistic features that form the moves and steps in CH OCP. It also investigates the perceptions of the novices towards their ethnographic visits and, the discursive practices involved in a CH OCP genre. Analysis is done on 30 CH OCPs from fourth-year medical students at a Malaysian public university. Bhatia's (1993) genre theory and the corpus-based approach are used in this study.

Keywords: learner corpus, oral case presentation, community health, corpus-based approach, discursive practices

A MULTIMODAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF GENDER DYNAMICS IN POPULAR MALAY TV DRAMAS: A CASE STUDY OF "RINDU AWAK 200%"

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This study examines how gender roles are represented multimodally in a popular Malay television drama – *Rindu Awak 200%*. The social semiotic approach to multimodality is employed whereby meanings are established from social action and interaction by the use of a combination of semiotic resources. Utilising Machin and Mayr's (2012) Multimodal Critical Discourse Analysis and Iedema's (2001) tele-filmic analysis to examine the verbal and visual representations of the major characters in this particular TV drama, this preliminary analysis finds that the main male character's ideal portrayal of masculinity includes more subtle ways of establishing authority and adopts more modern definitions of masculinity, particularly, character-wise, and with the domestic activities he engages in. The main female character, on the other hand, is depicted to be more ideal when she adopts more feminine attributes in the traditional sense where her physical appearance, domestic activities and character traits are concerned. Both verbal and visual cues which include the camerawork in the television drama, reveal the implicit gendered power dynamics that are sub(consciously) propagated in *Rindu Awak 200%*. By investigating how gender is represented in popular television dramas, this study could possibly disclose nuances of the society's views on gender role values as well as reinforce and sustain preferred gendered power dynamics foisted upon viewers.

Keywords: multimodality, gender representation, Malay television dramas, social semiotics

THE ROLE OF POETRY IN LANGUAGE TEACHING

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This writing aims to describe how poetry is applied in Language teaching . Poetry as a branch of Literature which may not be separated from language needs application to be taught for students in Universities and teachers of language as a reference for teaching as well. The writer of this scientific paper used descriptive method in library research based on the data, which was taken as a proof collected from the library itself. The writer feels sure that by using this method, the problem being discussed will be easier to solve.While the methods of teaching used in language teaching through poetry are Communicative and Discussion Method. Teaching language in English as a foreign language through poetry indicates necessity of integrating literature because of its rich authentic model of language use. The reason why the writer uses poetry as the source of teaching language is to prove literature is authentic material and to familiarize EFL teachers with the effectiveness of using poetry in EFL instruction. It is good to expose this to the learners of language in order that they know that poetry as a branch of literature has wide field of study that can be applied in language teaching. Poetry expands language development in daily life that the learners will obtain a specific knowledge in improving language competence in the four skills such as reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Keywords : Applied linguistics, teaching of poetry, language development

THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON EDUCATION: THE DISAPPOINTMENT IN PAKISTANI LEARNERS

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COVID-19 pandemic still lurks among us for nearly a year now. Many countries have announced lockdowns and closed educational institutions to cease the spread of the disease. The worldwide lockdown of education institutions is becoming a foremost reason and disruption in learner's studies. This paper attempts to address the problems that Pakistani students are encountering during this pandemic situation. The nature of the study is qualitative and focused on five semi-structured interviews of focus group students. The data has descriptively and thematically analysed based on Wodak (2005) discursive strategies. The initial findings explored that there are many serious issues which are faced by learners at home, for instance; poor internet connection, not ready to understand the online teaching-learning mode, electricity problem, and cancellation of public assessments for qualifications and change in their personality attitude being socially isolated at homes. However, it also found that initially, learners were quite excited to stay at home for vocation, but later it started restlessness. The current study hopes to contribute in the field of educational discourse in social practices especially during a pandemic of a communicable disease.

Keywords: COVID-19, learners, semi-structured interviews, focus group

DEVELOPING BAHASA MALAYSIA (BM) TRANSLATION NORMS FOR ENGLISH

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Translation equivalents are widely used in bilingual research concerning word processing (Eddington & Tokowicz, 2013; Jouravlev & Jared, 2019) and second language (L2) vocabulary learning (Bracken et al., 2017; Degani et al., 2014). The use of translation equivalents is confounded by high prevalence of translation ambiguity across different languages (Tokowicz et al., 2002). To better inform and control translation equivalents in stimuli selection, the present study establishes a database of English translation norms for 1,004 Malay words adapted from the Malay Lexicon Project (Yap et al., 2010). Thirty proficient BM-English bilinguals were recruited to perform forward translation. The present study revealed a high prevalence of Malay-English translation ambiguity. Verbs, adjectives and class ambiguous words were more translation ambiguous than nouns. Further, within-language semantic variability, word length and word frequency of Malay words were positively correlated with translation ambiguity. The Malay-English bilinguals were more likely to provide the dominant meaning of the Malay words as the dominant translation. In addition, BM word length and word frequency were positively correlated with the translation choice in English. The present study revealed that only L1 proficiency correlated positively with translation performance of balanced bilinguals. Overall, the high prevalence of translation ambiguity between Malay-English indicated the importance of such translation norms in guiding stimuli selection. This comprehensive translation norms database can serve as a useful reference for researchers working in the area of bilingual language processing studies that involve Malay-English bilinguals.

Keywords: Malay-English translation norms, translation ambiguity

STANCE NOUNS IN L2 ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAYS BY FIRST-YEAR BUSINESS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

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Stance nouns help student writers to establish their stance in their writing as well as make ideas and relationship of ideas more explicit. This preliminary study aimed to determine the use of stance nouns in argumentative essays by Malaysian undergraduates of different proficiency levels in a private Malaysian institution. Fifteen argumentative essays written by first-year Business undergraduate students were analysed using the stance noun list by Işık-Taş (2018). The findings reveal that the most frequently used stance noun types are those with *to- infinitive* clause, followed by *that* clause, prepositional clause and *wh-* clause while the least used are stance nouns with prepositional + wh-clause and *be + wh*-clause. The other analysed four categories of stance nouns in the stance noun list were *this/that/these/those/another/same/such + stance noun*, *stance noun + be + to- infinitive* clause, *stance noun + be + that-clause* and *this/that/these/those/another/same/such + be + stance noun*. The findings seem to indicate that most competent student writers used a greater number of stance nouns with more varieties. The weaker students appeared to use fewer varieties of stance nouns with much lower frequency, with more grammatical and structural errors. Overall, the findings suggest that the stance noun list can be further adapted to meet the aims of a larger study. The implications of the study include finetuning the stance noun list and creating awareness of the use of stance nouns by L2 undergraduate writers in business discipline.

Keywords: academic writing, stance noun, argumentative essay, L2 writing

THE USE OF MODAL VERB *CAN* IN CGTN ARTICLES: HOW DOES CGTN CONSTRUCT THE IDENTITY OF THE U.S. IN HANDLING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

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This paper offers a critical analysis of the use of modal verb *can* by China Global Television Network to construct the identity of the US in the way it handled the Covid-19 crisis. Based on the 91 tokens of *can* from 50 news articles posted on CGTN from April 2 to April 29 2020, this study found that about 50% and 48% yielded ability and possibility readings respectively. The ability *can* were used to indicate the incapacity of the US to handle the situation alone, and sometimes modulated by mitigative phrases to attenuate face-threats. The possibility reading could either take the form of epistemic (E-Possibility) or dynamic (D-Possibility). Following Palmer (2001), E-Possibility evaluates the factual status of propositions, with the intention to position CGTN's neutral stance. D-Possibility shows US's volition affecting the occurrence of possible events. This usage implies that the US government was incorrect in deciding to handle the pandemic unilaterally. However, this criticism from CGTN was often expressed in an implicit way. In brief, the image of the US created by CGTN is basically negative, but the way this negative identity was constructed is subtle and indirect, indicating that CGTN is aware of the face-needs of both countries and looking for cooperation. The findings of this study contribute to our understanding of how modals help to convey speaker's implicit meanings in media discourses.

Keywords: modality, (inter)subjectivity, political politeness, textual analysis

PREDICTING THE EFL EXPOSITORY WRITING QUALITY FROM THE MEASURES

OF LEXICAL RICHNESS

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Lexical richness is the range and degree of sophistication of a language learner or user's productive vocabulary. It is an important and reliable indicator and predictor of writing quality and language proficiency. It differs across genres or types of writing tasks and many research have been done on the relation between lexical richness and academic, argumentative or narrative writing. This paper investigates the relation between lexical richness and EFL expository writing quality and examines the prediction of EFL expository writing quality based on 25 measures of lexical richness. Two hundred and seventy expository writing samples were taken from *Spoken and Written English Corpus of Chinese Learners Version 2.0.* The expository compositions were written by 270 English programme students from five different universities in China. The lexical richness of the writing samples was analysed using the *Lexical Complexity Analyzer*, and the results of 25 measures of lexical richness were obtained and used as the independent variables. Besides, the writing samples were rated by three experienced raters on the aspects of language, content, and organisation. The average scores from the three raters were used as the dependent variable. The stepwise multiple regression analysis was conducted. The result shows that six measures of lexical richness, namely the number of different words, noun variation, lexical sophistication-I, lexical sophistication-II, Uber index, and adverb variation, can predict 42.8% (r = 0.654, p = 0.000) of the variance in EFL expository writing scores. Finally, this study provides implications for EFL writing assessment and teaching.

Keywords: lexical richness, EFL writing, expository writing quality

THE INVESTIGATION OF NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS IDENTITIES

CANADIAN-BORN MUSLIM STUDENTS IN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

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A new identity of young second generation Canadian-born Muslim students is forming in Canada. When compared to first generation Canadian Muslims, second generation Canadian Muslims have not been faced with a new culture, but rather, have been raised in a Canadian culture they are familiar with. Second generation Canadian Muslims try to incorporate their multiple identities, which are their Islamic faith, parent's culture, multiple languages, as well as values and practices of Canadian culture instilled in schools. Many Canadian-born Muslims feel they are not completely 'Canadian' due to their language, religion, or ethnic background and therefore struggle with their identities. Homi Bhabha's (1994) Third Space Theory will be used to explore identity negotiation. Third space theory is an 'in-between' space where meaning, translation, and negotiation of identity occur remodeled third space theory by organizing it into three connected spaces. The first space is the home, the second space is the school, and the third space is a hybrid of the first space and second space. By implementing this theoretical framework, as well as surveying and qualitative interviewing second generation students, this study will obtain a deeper understanding of Canadian-born Muslim identity negotiation. This paper will present relative literature on the topic and discuss any research findings.

Keywords: identity, third space, Canadian muslims, postsecondary education, applied linguistics

TEAMWORK MAKES DREAM WORKS: PBL IN GRAMMAR CLASS

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This qualitative research anchors on the 21st Century skills to develop undergraduates' ICT literacy, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, communication, and other life-long learning skills. The objective of this paper is to provide insights into students' learning process when they are involved in more innovative and student-centred learning pedagogy as compared to the traditional way of learning grammar. The study was conducted with an intact group of first-year undergraduates enrolled in a grammar course. Project-based learning approach was adopted in the course where the students created grammar games as part of the course assessment. The students' group discussions in Google Docs, reflective journals and semi-structured interview responses are presented to highlight what transpired throughout the creation of the grammar games. Benefits and challenges of project-based learning are also discussed in this paper.

Keywords: project-based learning, grammar, ESL learners, 21st century skills

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CONCEPTUAL METAPHORS OF ENGLISH VERB 'EAT' AND CHINESE VERB 吃 *CHĪ*

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Eating, one of the most basic living modes of human beings, can reflect rich cultural and spiritual connotations. As such, various target domains from the acts of eating have given rise to metaphors in both English and Chinese. However, the target domains may differ between the two languages due to different cultural backgrounds. This study, therefore, aims to investigate the conceptual metaphors of verbs of eating in English and Chinese. The study aims (1) to unravel the conceptual metaphors underlying the linguistics expressions of the English and Chinese verbs *eat* and 吃 *chī* , (2) to compare the conceptual metaphors underlying the linguistics expressions related to the English and Chinese verbs *eat* and 吃 *chī* , and (3) to examine how culture motivates the unravelled conceptual metaphors in the two languages. This study is qualitative in nature. It adopts a cognitive linguistic view of metaphor as a basic theoretical framework. Data of the study comprised metaphorical linguistic expressions related to eating verbs, which will be extracted from two corpora, the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) and Beijing Language and Culture University Corpus Center (BCC). The data will be analysed based on the Conceptual Metaphor theory and Cognitive-Cultural Theory of Metaphor Variation. Findings of this study indicate the main reasons for the differences in the conceptual metaphors of eating in English and Chinese are the different cultural backgrounds and thinking modes of the East and the West.

Keywords: conceptual metaphors, verbs of eating, a comparative study, culture

AN OVERVIEW OF THE UTILIZATION OF TIK TOK TO IMPROVE ORAL ENGLISH COMMUNICATION COMPETENCE AMONG INTERNATIONAL CHINESE EFL UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

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The field of English language communication competence learning and acquisition has been shaped by the increasing development of technology. The application of social media has now been popular inside and outside of the English language communication classrooms. The development of technology in the past fifty years to the more recent mobile devices and the Web 2.0 technology have provided numerous opportunities for its use in improving English communication competence. Tik Tok mobile application, as one of the popular social media platform among Chinese international undergraduate students, is now playing an interesting role in their English communication competence learning during Covid-19 pandemic as TIK TOK supplies English videos with popular topics among youngsters. However, very few studies have been conducted on the utilization of Tik Tok on EFL undergraduate students' English communication competence. This paper aims to explore the potential of the utilization of TIK TOK and how it impacts English language communication competence among Chinese international undergraduate students by reviewing previous and recent studies focusing on other social medias such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Wechat, and so on. Even though relevant previous literature focusing on the utilization of social media have showcased the positive effects of using social media as learning aids in English language communication acquisition, very few literature having been published focusing on the utilization of Tik Tok in English language communication acquisition. The expected findings of this paper could reveal the potential of using Tiktok for international undergraduate Chinese students out of EFL classroom for improving their English Communication Competence and for increasing their interests of speaking English. The researchers showcase critical views, recommendations, as well as implications for the utilization of Tik Tok in the field of English language communication competence acquisition among international Chinese undergraduate students.

Keywords: social media application, Tik Tok, EFL, international Chinese undergraduate students

A CORPUS-BASED STUDY OF THE USE OF ENGAGEMENT MARKERS IN ARGUMENTATIVE WRITING OF ARAB FIRST YEAR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

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Argumentative writing involves a series of interactional linguistic resources through discourse to establish an interaction between writers and readers. This could be accomplished by the means of metadiscoursal resources, particularly, interactional features such as stance and engagement markers. Engagement markers (EMs) underpin the persuasive goal of argumentation in terms of the usage of language being constructed both pragmatically and semantically. Despite the growing interest in the vital role of EMs in second language writings, investigating learners' use of EMs in argumentative essays at the tertiary level in Arabic context, seems to be less prominently examined. This corpus-based study examines how Arab undergraduate students interact with their readers by drawing them closer to the text and involving them in the construction of the discourse and arguments. The study also looks in detail at the extent of how Arab undergraduates are similar or different from native speakers of English in their usage of EMs in their argumentative essays. This study employs a mixed method approach. Based on Hyland's (2005) interactional metadiscourse model, EMs are looked at in a corpus of argumentative essays written by EFL Arab first year college students and British students from the same level. This study hopes to contribute to the corpus linguistic research on learners of English language and the implications of academic writing teaching/learning in classroom with special reference to metadiscourse. The in-depth analysis and the frequency counts and statistical measures by using corpora tools may reveal interesting commonalities and divergences in foreign language development.

Keywords: argumentative writing, interactional metadiscourse, engagement markers, second language writing

ABSTRACTS

Literature and Culture

THE EXPRESSION OF TRADITIONAL MALAY AND ISLAMIC CULTURE THROUGH THE ARTWORKS OF MASTURA ABDUL RAHMAN, RUZAIKA OMAR BASAREEE AND HARON MOKHTAR

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This study will investigate the values of Islam and the Malay culture in the 20th century painter's art. The artwork paintings of Mastura Abdul Rahman, Haron Mokhtar and Ruzaika Omar Basaree are discussed here. Ruzaika Omar Basaree's artwork titled "Dungun Series", Mastura Abdul Rahman's "The House of Harmony" and Haron Mokhtar's "Zahir Mosque" are peppered by certain elements that manifest the requirements of the National Cultural Policy 1971, which sets the basic theme of Islamic influence and local identity. This study used qualitative methods such as interviews and observations made on their work in the painter's catalogue. To obtain research data, theories of Erwin Panofsky and Imam of Al-Ghazali were applied to this research, by incorporating the values of Islamic and Malay traditions for this study. This study also focuses on the aspects of Malay traditional and Islamic symbols. It is hoped that through their paintings and the study of Malay and Islamic identity culture, the art scene of Malaysia will be elevated by retaining local culture as a reference to produce works related to the cultural traditions that existed towards the end of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Keywords: Malay traditions, Haron Mokhtar, Islamic expression, Mastura Abdul Rahman, Ruzaika Omar Basaree

RACIAL PREJUDICE AND MARGINALISATION OF THE IRISH FEMALE MIGRANTS IN MARY ANNE SADLIER'S SELECTED NOVELS THROUGH THE STANDPOINT THEORY

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This paper focuses on *The Irish Girl in America* by the Irish author Mary Anne Sadlier (1820-1903) who wrote under the pseudonym of J. Sadlier. Her novels are set against the backdrop of The Great Potato Famine (1845-1849) and portrays the lives of Irish female migrants of the 19th century, which we argue is still understudied and overlooked in academic scholarship on works of literature. This is despite the fact that historical documents have detailed how the Irish female immigrants helped to cause gradual recognition of the Irish female immigrants' existence. We hypothesize that the literary portrayals of Irish female immigrants can be analysed in *The Irish Girl in America* by Sadlier by focusing on how they achieve privileged standpoints as outsiders from within the host community. By using textual analysis, we focus on the author's depictions of the experiences of the gradual awakening of the Irish female protagonists by using the "the standpoint theory" by Sandra Harding (2004). Thus the objective of this study is to explore the consciousness for a self-definition through individual and collective levels for achieving a "standpoint" as experienced by the Irish female protagonists. Our findings will reveal how the Irish female immigrant characters are able to achieve privileged standpoints and recognition in their new community.

Keywords: Irish immigrant women, Mary Anne Sadlier, standpoint theory

COMICS IN THE WORLD OF MODERN MEDIA AND INTERNET-OUTRAGE ECONOMY

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The paper focuses on the theme of identity politics in modern comic books (the material of Marvel New Warriors series) examining the reasons behind (allegedly) progressive *cultural agenda vs. Internet outrage culture "war"*, i.e. the most problematic and important part of modern customer management, or rather the absence of such. Thus, a cross-disciplinary literary/socio-economical study is conducted, as the mentioned comic-book series are analysed using the framework of the visionary media-theorist Marshall McLuhan, who in the 1960s has predicted the rise of Internet-based media and offered a road-map for potential crisis of trust that entertainment industry is currently facing. Therefore, finding out what precludes their connection to the audience (in terms of comic-book poetics and narratology) is the main goal of the study. The literary aspect of modern-day comic-books poetics is by definition directly linked to consumer psychology, as the socio-economic analysis is focusing on a number of far-reaching economic issues pertaining to comics (e.g. small-time comics shop owner and distributor crisis), thus explaining what issues modern-day comic book culture (and business model) is dealing with from two interlinked points of assessment.

Keywords: comics, economy, identity politics, McLuhan, media

NOER'S *MOTHS* AND THE MEANING OF *GOTONG-ROYONG* DEMOCRACY INDONESIA: ESPOUSING VIEWS OF POWER AND PROVIDING ROOMS FOR CRITIQUE

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This study deals with Arifin C. Noer's play *Kapai-Kapai* or *Moths* (1968-1970) for which he was awarded the *Anugerah Seni* (Art Award) by the Indonesian government in 1971. The discussion is not only conducted in the context of Indonesian Local Values such as *sithik edhing* (promoting win-win solutions), but it also argues that the actions of Abu, the main character of the play, have provided grounds to clarify the belief that the current democracy under Indonesian President Jokowi's administration (2014- till to date) has also been similarly tempted to refuse the so-called design flaws mentioned by Carothers (2019). He points out that the current form of democracy (in many parts of the world including Indonesia) has suffered from short-termism, pain aversion, lite capture, division and conflict, and voter ignorance. Making use of the Post Truth Criticism approach and grounded in Theory of Katresnanism, the questions and critiques of this research may be formulated as "How is democracy portrayed in *Moths* (*Kapai-Kapai*)?" and "What is the meaning of "*Gotong-Royong* Democracy Indonesia" as seen in *Moths* (*Kapai-Kapai*)?" It would be such an interesting idea to see whether or not the findings depict the unconscious desires as well as anxieties of the people.

Keywords: critique, democracy Indonesia, *gotong-royong*, meaning, power

A REVIEW OF BEN OKRI'S *IN ARCADIA* AND *THE AGE OF MAGIC*

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Ben Okri is an African writer who has received adulation from critics at home and abroad for the originality of his thought, the uniqueness of his creativity, and the richness of his language which are apparent in his literary works. This paper aims to present a compilation of studies done in two of Okri's novels. They are *In Arcadia* (2002) and *The Age of Magic* (2014). Reviews from various books and scholarly journals are sourced to understand the concept of urban fantasy involved in both novels. The novels are generally interpreted in terms of the utopian vision, which is structured in thematic and narrative terms. The katabasis are employed to explore the processes of artistic creation and hermeneutical interpretation, as well as to challenge epistemology. They are also analysed through the notions of language, history, social-political frame of reference and death in accordance with philosophical hermeneutics. On the other hand, the mode of thinking in the novels is the combination of realistic and fantastic worldviews. Although the vast majority of critical analyses of the novels focus on the concept of utopia, there seems to be a general lack of representation credited to the interpretation of urban fantasy. As such, the paper argues for the study into an extension of urban fantasy in Ben Okri's *In Arcadia* (2002) and *The Age of Magic* (2014). It is hoped that the attempt will contribute a refreshing lens to the scholarship of Okri's novels.

Keywords: Ben Okri, *In Arcadia*, *The Age of Magic*, urban fantasy, utopia

TRAUMA AND CONSCIOUSNESS OF ANXIETY IN KAZUO ISHIGURO'S SELECTED NOVELS

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Kazuo Ishiguro is recognized as a great master of writing historic trauma and individual trauma by employing the first-person narration of personal fragmented memories. In Kazuo Ishiguro's four renowned novels, *A Pale View of Hills* (1982), *An Artist of the Floating World* (1986), *The Remains of the Day* (1989) and *When We Were Orphans* (2000), the protagonists have undergone the terror of wars and suffered from trauma in their different stages of life. Previous critics have provided us large quantity researches on trauma, memory, and identity. However, they have not shown any deeper engagement in the relation to the consciousness of anxiety and the trauma. Therefore, my study investigates how the trauma is brought by the war, domestic problem and how the society can be healed by self-realization and self-salvation which are motivated by the push of consciousness of anxiety. Two concepts of trauma by Cathy Caruth and consciousness of anxiety by Rollo May related to the Psychoanalysis Theory are applied as conceptual frameworks to investigate the trauma theme in individual, domestic and social dimensions by conducting an empirical study of the four selected novels. My research objectives are to explore the traumatic experience of the characters in the selected novels by analysing the possible causes of the trauma, to examine the positive effect of anxiety to heal the characters' trauma and also to look at how the protagonists attain self-salvation and realization motivated by the push.

Keywords: consciousness of anxiety, history, self-identity, trauma

INTERROGATING GENDER WITHIN CHINESE CULTURE THROUGH FEMALE ABJECTION IN LISA SEE'S *PEONY IN LOVE*

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Within the Chinese cultural setting, women have been subjected to a lower social status due to the traditional Chinese gender concept. These entrenched gender roles repress women in many aspects of their lives, silencing them from the opportunity to express their identities. In an attempt to seek an understanding of the women's effort to establish their voice through the subverting of the patriarchal and cultural constructs, this study will focus on a contemporary Chinese narrative written in English. Lisa See's *Peony in Love* (2007) revolves around a female character called Peony, who is a prisoner to her own fate. While in the corporeal world, she is confined as a woman in her abject body and relegated to traditional gender roles. Upon her death, she becomes a ghost and is caught in between the abject space of the living and the Chinese afterworld. Using Julie Kristeva's concept of the abject alongside the conventions of the gothic genre, this study intends to examine how Peony negotiates her position within the patriarchal setting. For this reason, the study will set out to unravel how representations of the abject in *Peony in Love* are used to subvert Chinese patriarchal and cultural norms. This study argues that it is through these abject agencies that enable Peony to articulate her voice and reclaim her sense of identity within her culture.

Keywords: abject, Chinese culture, gender, Julie Kristeva, Lisa See

USING YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE: 'THE WEIGHT OF OUR SKY' TO TEACH MULTICULTURALISM AMONG TESL TRAINEE IN UKM

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Literature has the potential to act as a mediator for students to examine particular social, cultural and political issues to help students relate them to their lives and the world around them. In Malaysia, the teaching of literature in English has been implemented in the curriculum for over two decades and one of its aspirations is to teach and promote values to students through literary texts. In this study, we aim to examine the effectiveness of using Young Adult Literature (YAL) 'The Weight of Our Sky' by Hanna Alkaf to interrogate issues related to multiculturalism such as race and race relations. This novel is based on one of the darkest periods in Malaysian history, the 13th May 1969 racial riots. Despite being more than 50 years since it happened, racial issues are still great concerns and permeate our politics, culture and social fabric. We examined interpretations of the text relating to multicultural issues of race and race relations by 48 Year 2 TESL student teachers from the Faculty of Education, UKM. This study employed a mixed methodology research, utilizing questionnaire, document of personal responses and interview as instruments in collecting the data. This study revealed the relevance of the usage of YAL in discussing the issue of multiculturalism among its readers and how young adults identified with the multicultural elements in YAL. Thus, it provides necessary information for educators on the potential value of YAL as text selection for young adult readers in an ESL classroom.

Keywords: ESL classroom, literature in English, multiculturalism, racial issues, Young Adult Literature

SOCIAL OPPRESSION AS AN IMPETUS OF AMERICAN CULTURAL IMPERIALISM IN JOHN UPDIKE'S *TERRORIST*

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The issue of Muslim identity has been the focus of studies on contemporary novels set during post-9/11 (Kriebernegg 2011, Herman 2015). More importantly, the contemporary novel by John Updike, entitled *Terrorist* (2006) has been classified within the 9/11 novel genre where many American authors depicted their counter narratives to the horrific events of 9/11. The novel revolves around the life of a young teenager named Ahmad and his religious mentor Shaikh Rashid, who are accused as terrorists. A study by Alosman et al (2018), for example, examines *Terrorist* using the perspective of psychology of (im)perfection and the lens of orientalism to explore the binary representation of Muslims in the novel. Another study by Arif and Ahmad (2016) focuses on the continuous Western conceptualisation of the Muslim as an "other". In this regard, this study problematizes the identity of oppressed Muslims characters, using the concept of cultural imperialism by the social theorist Iris Marion Young (1990). Moreover, this study attempts to investigate the social treatment of Muslim minority characters in America and how it is perceived as inferior to the entire American cultural mainstream. Thus, the study incorporates Young's postulations of Muslim minority in America with the concept of cultural imperialism; and how they emerge inextricably in the course of the novel. The objective of this study then, is to examine the author's depiction of the American society as the cultural imperialism persecuting Muslim characters as portrayed in the novel. The findings will highlight the Muslim characters' inability to emulate the prevailing American cultural imperialism which oppresses them in a strict way.

Keywords: cultural imperialism, John Updike, Muslim identity, oppression, terrorist

MALE CHARACTERS' FEMINIST THOUGHT THROUGH ANDROGYNY IN SELECTED NOVELS BY A.S. BYATT

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Previous studies on A.S. Byatt's works focused mostly on narrative techniques, postmodernism, feminism, myth and fairy tales. As for the feminist interpretation, most of the previous researches focused on the female characters while male characters' study was neglected. My research takes a different approach by exploring both of the male characters' feminist and androgyny thoughts. Three concepts of gender, masculine and feminine related to Virginia Woolf's androgyny theory are applied as a conceptual framework to investigate the male characters' feminist thoughts in *The Shadow of the Sun* (1964), *Possession* (1990) and the collection novels *Angels and Insects* (1992). The research objectives are to explore gender oppressions in the selected novels, to explore how the male feminist thought is formed and the embodiment of androgyny in men, and also to evaluate the androgyny for gender relations. The methodology of the study is based on a textual analysis of the male's masculine traits as well as their feminine traits while exploring their feminist thoughts that are characterized by equality and coexistence in their minds. By discovering the embodiment of androgyny thought in men, it proves that androgyny is the effective way to realize harmonious gender relationship and to resolve the binary opposition between men and women. The findings reveal that it is possible for men to possess feminist thoughts. Therefore, male and female traits that coexist in mind makes it possible to create a peaceful mood thus abandoning the gender prejudice.

Keywords: androgyny theory, feminist thought, gender relationship, male

NEGOTIATING CULTURE USING LO AND GILBERT'S MODEL OF INTERCULTURALISM IN KEE THUAN CHYE'S *SWORDFISH + CONCUBINE* AND JAMES FENTON'S *THE ORPHAN OF ZHAO*

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The theory and practice of intercultural theatre has long been associated with the Western vision of exchange which emphasizes interculturalism as a large production, purportedly for the readership of the Europeans and Anglo-Americans. Pavis' idea on intercultural theatre leans towards these Western perspectives which are contrary to his claim that it is "the best suited formula with no open conflict between nations or between classes" (5). In light of this matter, the research intends to look at the possibility of using Jacqueline Lo and Helen Gilbert's model of interculturalism which encompasses the subtleties of intercultural theatre within the sociopolitical and historical relations. Hence, the current research will contest this biasness of Pavis' idea on intercultural theatre through the analysis of Kee Thuan Chye's *Swordfish + Concubine* (2018) and James Fenton's *The Orphan of Zhao* (2012). Using Lo and Gilbert's model of interculturalism, the study attempts to explore Kee and Fenton's text adaptation of the play which has been sourced from the historical narratives in the *Malay Annals* and *Records of the Grand Historian* as well as its negotiation of cultural elements. Subsequently, these representations of negotiated cultural elements play a role in the meaning-making in both plays through the new rendition of the historical narratives. This study intends to reveal that the theory of intercultural theatre is ready to be expanded and it will provide wider inclusivity that is ample within the global context.

Keywords: adaptation, interculturalism, intercultural theatre, model of interculturalism, plays

POWER AGAINST PATRIARCHY IN CHILDREN'S NOVEL *LILY ALONE*

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The reading of power in literary texts has been discussed from various theoretical lens. This includes the feminist perspective involving critics from past and present feminist movements. Despite that, the study of feminism in children's literature remains marginalized. Responding to this gap, the paper adopts Amy Allen's feminist definition of power to analyse contemporary realistic children's novel *Lily Rose* (2011) authored by British writer Jacqueline Wilson. As Allen puts forth in her seminal work *The Power of Feminist Theory: Domination, Resistance, Solidarity* (1999), power can be abused as domination yet utilized for resistance and combined for solidarity to overcome domination. In the context of the selected text, the power of domination is present in the form of patriarchy exerted against the pre-adolescent girl protagonist, Lily. However, through her individual power of resistance strengthened by the collective power of solidarity formed with her other female siblings, Lily is able to overcome the power of domination experienced. The objective of the paper is thus to track how the pre-adolescent girl protagonist becomes empowered as the story progresses. The significance of the study thus lies first in highlighting that the feminist definition of power can occupy both the negative and positive spectrums, depending on how it is used or abused. Not only that, it is hoped that the paper instigates interest in further understanding how feminism works in children's literature and how contemporary realistic child characters can exhibit empowerment in overcoming any domination encountered, particularly in overthrowing patriarchy.

Keywords: Amy Allen, feminism, Jacqueline Wilson, patriarchy, power

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AND MODERN ENGLISH LITERATURE

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The Arabian Nights has existed in Western literature since the beginning of the eighteenth century through the translation work by Antoine Galland in 1704. Critics have identified its stories in the work of a wide variety of Western writers, most notably, William Beckford, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, William Wordsworth, Alfred Tennyson, W. M. Thackeray, Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, Edgar Allan Poe, Gustave Flaubert, Stendhal, Goethe, Alexandre Dumas, Marcel Proust, Leo Tolstoy, Jorge Luis Borges, A. S. Byatt, and Marina Warner. However, relatively little has been said about the implications of *The Arabian Nights* for modern and modernist writers from James Joyce to Jean Rhys. Even less has been written on the relationship between the ancient epic literature and the emergence of the modern short story form. Focusing on the work of three short fiction writers who published on the cusp of modernism: Robert Louis Stevenson, Oscar Wilde, and Joseph Conrad, this thesis explores the place of *The Arabian Nights* in the emergence of modern short fiction in Britain. My study is not an attempt to trace the origins of *The Arabian Nights* as it features in modern short fiction. The project is more centrally concerned with how *The Arabian Nights* allows us to re-read the modern short story rather than the other way round. This thesis is less concerned with *The Arabian Nights* per se, than it is with how *The Arabian Nights* has been borrowed, taken up, appropriated, translated, adopted and adapted within a specific strand of modern short fiction published between 1877 and 1899. The borrowings I consider are conscious and unconscious, casual and sustained, and it is not the aim of the thesis to trace back *The Arabian Nights*' allusions to a precise origin, assuming such a thing were possible, rather, this thesis is more interested in *The Arabian Nights* as a recurring intertext of the short story.

Keywords: allusion, intertextuality, Modernism, short story, *The Arabian Nights*

A TRAUMA STUDY IN MCEWAN'S SELECTED NOVELS FROM THE PERPETRATORS' VIEW

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The concept of trauma can be defined as a disruptive experience that destructs the victim's emotional organization and perception of the outside world (Balaev 360). Trauma studies, derived from Freudian theory through the stages of evolution with efforts from scholars such as Caruth, Doris Laub, Shoahana Felman, Judith Herman, Dominick LaCpra, Michelle Balaev, Ann Cvetkovich, Naomi Mandel and other critics, have since then developed into various of concepts that covered historical, literary, philosophical, cultural, and critical fields. Since the 9/11 attack, a new rise of trauma study in American and British literature has become a cultural symptom in the 21st century. Ian Russell McEwan, as one of the most distinguished contemporary British novelists and playwrights with highly social responsibility, has consolidated his narrative focus on the ethical inquiry into the motif of psychological trauma. Instead of focusing on the victims' traumatic experience, this research focuses on McEwan's three later trauma narrative *Saturday* (2006), *The Children Act* (2014) and *Nutshell* (2016). The study centres on the interpretation of how trauma originates, represents, and impacts to the protagonists who have dual identity in the three selected novels by using trauma concepts developed by Cathy Caruth, Judith Herman, and Dominik LaCapra, while also exploring the social and historical significance of trauma in the texts.

Keywords: individual trauma, perpetrator, post 9/11 literature, transhistorical trauma

TRANSCENDING TIME AND SPACE: COMPARATIVE TRAUMATIC RESEARCH ON *THE HARMONY SILK FACTORY* AND *THE GARDEN OF EVENING MIST*

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Both Tash Aw (1971-) and Tan Twan Eng (1972-) are Chinese-Malayan writers. They are almost the same age and share similar educational and vocational background. They studied law on campus and became lawyers after graduation. Years later they dropped the prominent career and turned to the life of the pen. Their masterpieces *The Harmony Silk Factory* (2005) and *The Garden of Evening Mist* (2012) not only occupy the history of oppression of Japanese towards Malayans in the 1940s, but also explore the deeper psychological disorder or trauma in the major characters' minds. It is very coincidental that their trauma has similar chronological and spatial patterns. Since both of their characters' narrations have similar chronological order and frequency, it could present the belatedness and repetition of trauma, and spatial garden as a symbol of salvation from trauma and the jungle is the Hell of suffering. Their narrations sway between past and present; Hell (jungle) and Heaven (garden). Based on the theory of narratology and trauma, this research analyses memories in the two novels to find out their similarities in the aspect of trauma, with the purpose to present the proper ways to cope with trauma, that is to balance the relationship between remembrance and forgetting. Transcending time and space, trauma will finally move on with life; maybe this is the theme both of the two novels intend to achieve.

Keywords: memory, narratology, space, time, The Garden of Evening Mist, The Harmony Silk Factory, trauma

CULTURAL REMEMBRANCES IN COMPARATIVE STUDY ON JOHN DONNE'S AND LI SHANG-YIN'S SELECTED POEMS

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Jan and Aleida Assmann first introduce the theory of cultural memory to explain the transmission of cultural knowledge in 1990s. Jan Assmann coins the concept of "cultural memory" in his *Cultural Memory and Early Civilization* (1992) which is expected to completely include past reference, traditional forming of political identity or imagination. In her book *Memory Spaces* (1999), Aleida Assmann further develops the theory by distinguishing memory as *ars* and as *vis,* and functional memory and stored memory. The theory will be applied in this study to explore the similar recollections of past cultures in John Donne's and Li Shang-yin's selected poems. Fifteen poems in Donne's *Songs and Sonnets* and ten poems in his *Holy Sonnets* (I-XIX) with Li's fifteen hermetic poems are selected as the target texts because they could best reveal the recollections of past cultures, hedonism and mysticism. My study objectives are 1) to explore Donne's and Li Shang-yin's reminiscences of the past cultures, primarily hedonism and mysticism in the selected poems; 2) to investigate the way they are similarly applied by Donne and Li to stage and reconstruct the past cultures in the selected poems, depending on Jan and Aleida Assmann's cultural memory theory and; 3) to demonstrate, by employing Jan and Aleida Assmann's cultural memory theory, the reason why Donne and Li who were from different countries and times could similarly recollect hedonism and mysticism in a search for constant self-image in the age of changes.

Keywords: comparative study, cultural remembrances, John Donne, Li Shang-yin

Metaphorical symbolization of nonhumans in Pgaz K'Nyau oral poetry: Examples from a recent field research study

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This presentation will report some of the findings of a recently completed field research project (MFU 631B10008). In year 2020, the lead researcher and his team have recorded, transcribed, translated, and analysed an original performance of *hta*, the traditional oral poetry of the Pgaz K'Nyau (Sgaw Karen) people of northern Thailand. In this presentation, I analyse in detail some examples of metaphorical symbolization of nonhumans found in these poems. The analysis shows that the metaphorical mode of symbolization is extensively used to overcome human/nonhuman allotopies by means of implicit or explicit semic transformations. The findings indicate that a naturalistic mode of ecopoetic identification underlies the whole poem; a conclusion that puts into question the essentializing and mythifying portrayal of the Pgaz K'Nyau as premodern and animistic indigenous stewards, common in both the ethnographic and popular literature.

Keywords: ecocriticism, ethnopoetics, metaphor, oral tradition, semiotics

NIGER-DELTA WOMEN AND NATURE IN CHRISTIE WATSON'S *TINY SUNBIRDS FAR AWAY*

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As ecofeminist theory emerged in the literary field, writers have been found to use this means to create fictional works that portray the relationship between women and the natural environment. In the context of the Niger-Delta region of Nigeria, an ecofeminist point of view is vital to unveil the exploitations of the natural environment and its resources and the suppression of women by examining the connection between women and nature. This paper centres on Christie Watson's *Tiny Sunbirds Faraway,* published in 2011. The book depicts the sober and terrifying moments experienced by women in the African village. This study explores the pattern women are portrayed in the selected novel through the lens of ecofeminism with a view of analysing the processes of women's transformation which helped in their liberation. This study provides a key to understanding special qualities of the contemporary African novel in relation to the plight of women by debunking the generalization that women are 'weaker vessels' as this study interprets the female strength in the midst of troubles as they are affected directly and indirectly by the ecological crisis. This study utilizes ecofeminist theory that shows the interconnectedness between women and the natural environment as an analytical tool using Carolyn Marchant's concepts of Ecofeminism in her 2005 book, *Radical Ecology*. This study also explores cultural and socialist ecofeminism by examining the socio-economic conditions of women in the Niger-Delta region and how their lives are affected by the degradation of their natural environment upon which they are reliant for survival.

Keywords: ecofeminism, oil exploitation, subsistence development

MALALA'S JOURNEY FROM VILLAGE TO NOBEL PEACE PRIZE: EXPLORING CULTURE, RIGHT TO EDUCATION & UNIVERSAL VALUES THAT SPARK THINKING & REASONING IN UPPER SECONDARY STUDENTS

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The world recoiled in horror when 15-year-old Malala was shot in the head by Muslim extremists in 2012 for the 'crime' of campaigning for girls' access to education in Pakistan. Her amazing recovery led her to continue fighting bravely for girls' right to education regardless of culture or religion, which was rapturously recognized worldwide when she won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2014, the youngest ever Nobel Prize winner at age 17. Studying Malala's biography with upper secondary students led to an exploration of culture, values and universal rights which opened students' eyes to the austere quality of life and conservatively harsh beliefs in certain less economically developed countries, and the discomforting juxtaposition of religion and modern life in specific nations in the contemporary world. The author will share interactive activities that brought Malala's biography to life in the classroom as students evaluated their beliefs and values in relation to Malala's experience. As parents and teenagers opined that this book and its protagonist were essentially life changing, this student cohort's experience will certainly inform the author's Malala lessons with future cohorts.

Keywords: English, literature, moral, upper secondary, values

ANIMAL TROPES AND HUMAN-ANIMAL RELATIONSHIP IN SELECTED MALAYSIAN INDIGENOUS LITERATURE IN ENGLISH

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Recent developments in criticism on Malaysian literature in English illustrate the need for more direct engagements with questions related to animals and human-animal relationships, despite their prominent presence in recent publications on folktales and fables of Malaysian indigenous people. Animals are paradoxically recognized as central to indigenous societies and as their literatures have yet marginalized in relation to human concerns, analysing texts to see how these animals function in literature, what they teach us about animals, what they reveal about humans and our relationships to animals, and how they provide entry to various social issues and ethical questions involving animals seem critically crucial. Tapping into the field of animal studies, this paper aims to investigate the representation of animals in Malaysian indigenous folktales. To this end, folktale collections from Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah and Sarawak such as Heidi Munan's *Sarawak Folktales* (2017), Lim Boo Liat and Jefri Dylan Ong's *Orang Asli Animal Tales* (2016) and collections of Penan, Bidayuh, Iban folk stories published by Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (2001) will be examined. Using Mario Ortiz Robles' framework of animal tropes, this paper investigates the animal tropes presented in the selected texts as well as the kind of human-animal relationship that these tropes illustrate. It seeks to extend the range of literary critical practice on literary works written by Malaysian indigenous writers, with particular emphasis on critical animal studies.

Keywords: animal studies, animal tropes, human-animal relationship, Malaysian indigenous literature

SCAPEGOATING EFFECT AND SENSE OF GUILT BEHIND TRAUMA RECOVERY IN KAZUO ISHIGURO'S *THE REMAINS OF THE DAY*

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As an unprecedented deadly disaster, World War II (1939-1945) not only caused huge loss and millions of deaths, but also greatly changed the political orientation and social structure of the world. Both the war and its aftermath influenced many countries, even the victorious power – the British Empire. Set in this historical background, *The Remains of the Day* (1989) by Kazuo Ishiguro depicts a story of a traditional English butler, Mr. Stevens who sets off on a 6-day country trip after the war while reminisces his past during that period. One of the most analysed themes in the novel is his traumatic memories which appear arbitrary and ambiguous. A study by Rema (2015) focuses on Stevens' unreliable narration as the accumulation of incidents involving personal and historical trauma, while Khalaf (2017) examines Stevens' identity by using the function of memory from the perspective of postmodernism. Based on the previous discussion of the relation between traumatic memory and narration, this study applies two frameworks for the novel analysis, namely the scapegoating effect and a sense of guilt hidden behind traumatic memory, as combined with the trauma recovery theory by Judith Herman (1992). The objective of the study is to explore how memory functions less as an evasive strategy or self-deceit but as a method to obtain recovery by gradually establishing the safety and re-connection with the outside world as reflected by the protagonist, Stevens. This finding then deems *The Remains of the Day* as a trauma recovery reading rather than simply an unreliable narration of the past.

Keywords: Kazuo Ishiguro, scapegoating effect, sense of guilt, *The Remains of the Day*, trauma recovery

YOUNG ADULT LITERATURE IN THE MALAYSIAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSROOM: EXPLORING READER RESPONSES

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This paper presents the results of a study exploring the responses of Malaysian young adults reading the novels used as literature texts in Malaysian secondary schools. The study aimed to determine the extent to which the young adults found these texts engaging and relevant, and how they identified aspects of their own young adulthood in the novels. The novels used were *Captain Nobody* by Dean Pitchford, *Dear Mr. Kilmer* by Anne Schraff, and *Sing to the Dawn* by Min Fong Ho. The study was based on a phenomenological approach and used the lens of reader-response literary theory. Sampling was purposeful and data came from semi-structured qualitative interviews with six young adults and participants' journals, where they reflected on their perceptions and emotional reactions towards the events in the novels, the relevance of the novels to their lives, and how they related to the characters in the novels. The data from the interviews and journals were analysed using inductive thematic analysis. The findings showed that participants could identify with the characters' conflict between being true to one's self and conforming to societal, gender and cultural expectations. The themes of standing up to one's beliefs and right to education, family relationships, and sibling rivalry were also the relevant aspects that surfaced in responses towards the novels. This study provides recommendations for the selection of literature texts for the English language classroom that connect to the developmental phase of young adults and allow learners to see themselves reflected in what they read.

Keywords: English literature, novels, reader response, secondary, young adult literature

HUMAN PUZZLES: GLOCAL SELF-AFFIRMATION VIA PLACE-IDENTITY IN CONTEMPORARY FILIPINO CRIME FICTION

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In Mabek Kawsek's novel *Good Dog* (Anvil, 2019), and in Maria L.M. Fres-Felix's four-story collection *Crimetime* (Inspector SJ Tuason Case Files) (Anvil, 2017), I propose to explore how Filipino neighbourhoods and cities, and the country itself, become more than just crime locations. They can be read both as palimpsestic and cartographic texts that reveal aberrance and crime as complicit and symptomatic of individual, social, and cultural dis-/unease, marking and ultimately emplacing these fiction texts' characters as agentive individuals and not just nameless predators and helpless victims. This paper posits that in a newly-emergent genre such as crime fiction in contemporary Philippine literature in English, we are given new ground to study national, and self-identity by way of examining how aberrance, risk, anxiety, fear, and crime are discursively constructed. In this study, by using Michel De Certeau's (1984) and Edward Soja's (1989) concepts of space and place, coupled with Paul and Patricia Brantingham's (2008) concepts of nodes, paths and environmental backcloths from their crime pattern theory, I argue that what was previously deemed a popular and populist fictional subgenre has become a source of potent texts which affirm, by way of the problematisation of spaces and the creation of place-meanings, the activation of glocal transformative experience.

Keywords: crime fiction, Michel De Certeau, environmental backcloth, place studies, Edward Soja

SPACE IN MARIO VARGAS LLOSA'S THE WAR OF THE END OF THE WORLD

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Mario Vargas Llosa's *The War of the End of the World* revolves around an epochal religious campaign in the late nineteenth century Brazil. Although the oeuvre of this Peruvian author is typically critiqued in regards to his sophisticated writing style and his political orientations, I aim to explore the conflicts in *The War of the End of the World* by drawing upon Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari's philosophy of space. Principally, Deleuze and Guattari explain space as the intersection between two distinct sets of traits. Space, hence, can be probed in regards to an invariable commixture of features pertaining to the striated space versus the smooth space. From this perspective, space is not a geographical location, but a social as well as a mental construct emerging from a network of interactions, technologies, praxes and modes of perception. I analyse space and its portrayal in the novel in terms of three interrelated oppositions: fabric technology versus leather technology, the regular army versus the rebels, and blindness versus intuitive perceptiveness. Whereas leather technology in the novel explains the flexibility and resilience of warriors, the military uniform corresponds to the rigidity of military tactics. Moreover, the smooth space of the rebels is generally the space of haptic vision, differing from the space of the military forces who rely on maps and categorical conceptions of battle and adversary. Finally, a Deleuzo-Guattarian approach to the novel engenders a theoretical ground for the investigation of Vargas Llosa's fiction regardless of his political visions and allegiances.

Keywords: fiction, Latin America, military, space, Vargas Llosa

THE CONFLICT OF WORLDVIEWS AND THE BIRTH OF ANXIETY: AN INTERPRETATION OF *THE LOVE SONG OF J. ALFRED PRUFROCK*

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Thomas Stearns Eliot (1888–1965), one of the major English literary figures, lived and wrote in an 'age of anxiety'. His poems, particularly his early poems are said to embody the anxiety of his age. In this paper, I have chosen one of his early poems – *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock,* to interpret the nature and extent of anxiety suffered by Prufrock, a modern subject. Externally, in the structure of modern social setting, Prufrock struggles to accommodate and he suffers from isolation, alienation, confusion and indecision. Internally, his condition can be related to the problems related to his unbounded freedom which is endowed upon him as a modern subject. I will argue that Pruforkian anxiety in modern times is born out of the inescapable conflict between modern liberal worldview and traditional worldview.

Keywords: alienation, anxiety, freedom, modern worldview, traditional worldview

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND LITERARY STUDIES IN CRITICAL TIMES: HEGEMONY AND CONTESTATION

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The British colonizers, in the Indian Sub-continent, brought not only a new system of administration, but a new cultural orientation, which left a significant impact on the people of this continent and on their way of being, seeing and doing. This influence had extended to the literary traditions and practices, as demonstrated by the hegemony of the English language and the British literature in this region. The colonial period was a remarkably critical time when native culture and literature had experienced a great blow. Although the British colonial regime in this continent ended long ago, people of this region never stopped reading British literature. This had resulted in influences such that the native tradition of literary practices was somewhat reconstructed to respond to the dominant literary practices of the colonizers. However, very little research has been carried out by examining how such influences impacted the religious tone, sentiments, and themes, which were prevalent in the native literature before colonization. Drawing on post-colonial theories, this paper attempts to explore the influence that English literature in general, and Shakespearean plays in particular had left on the Bengali drama, particularly on its religious dimensions. The investigation is expected to unpack a genealogy of the colonization of the native literature, and importantly, shed light on the contestation that took place between the indigenous cultures and literary traditions, and those of the colonizers.

Keywords: Bengali drama, contestation, cultural diversity, hegemony, religious dimensions

RACISM AND XENOPHOBIA IN SUSAN KIGULI'S SELECTED POEMS

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This paper is an analytical study that examines the level of racism and xenophobia in poetry. Therefore, the study analyses on some of the selected poems by Susan Kiguli and the portrayals of the negative effects of racism and xenophobia that are evident in the poems. Three poems were selected which then studied and analysed to measure the negative impact caused by the menace. The concept of identity in sociological theory by Kenneth Burke is therefore employed by the researcher to serve as a guide for clearer perspective. The finding of this research shows that racism gives birth to xenophobia and it is also found in the selected poems. It is also discovered that the menace of racism and xenophobia have political undertone especially when the government has shown little or no interest in tackling the problem.

Keywords: apartheid, poems, racism, South Africa, xenophobia

DIFFRACTED STATES: NEW MATERIALISM AND MALAYSIAN CYBERPUNK

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In recent years, Malaysian writers have adapted cyberpunk, a subgenre of science fiction (SF), to reflect on changing conceptions of identity. In its various forms from the West, cyberpunk attends to the dissolution of traditional boundaries (such as those that separate human and nonhuman, physical and virtual, space and time) resulting from humanity's immersion in new technological environments. Malaysian cyberpunk also explores these new Posthuman identities forged in economic networks of technological globalization and hypermodern capitalism, but combines them with unique ontological motivations. The emergence of Malaysian science fiction is a symptom of the genre's radical diversification over the last 10 years. Once the domain of the West, SF has now become part of global culture. Different cultures have adopted the genre and combined traditional SF conventions with unique perspectives. Our Anglo-American understandings of the genre means that the act of reading hybridized forms of science fiction, such as Malaysian cyberpunk, potentially reinforces the colonial gaze. In order to overcome the problems of reading SF from outside of the west, I propose that we read Malaysian cyberpunk vis-à-vis the material aspects of English literary culture in Malaysia. Using a new materialist approach, I will argue that Malaysian cyberpunk is a writing of dislocation and diffraction, re-making Malaysian experience while at the same time drawing attention to rupture. This paper will show how these authors adapt cyberpunk in order formulate new notions of difference and to offer new understandings of subjectivity based on distinct, relational ontologies.

Keywords: decolonization, diffraction, Malaysian cyberpunk, new materialism, science fiction

MOTHER: A SAVIOUR OR AN ENEMY?

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No matter how modern and hectic life is nowadays, many women would walk down the aisle and soon enough land into motherhood. Conceiving either naturally or striving through fertility treatments, being a mother is a dream of many women; despite the fact that getting pregnant, giving birth and nurturing a new life are demanding tasks. Through the journey from the womb to the lap, mothers are seen as a shield amour and the first loving teacher of a child. Motherhood is seen as a dignified journey in a woman's life. However, not all women are happy to embrace every bundle of joy given to them. Many women would mother all their children; yet some minorities would cater only the ones who they favour. Some mothers are not keen to perform this self-sacrificing responsibility towards all their offspring and fail to bond with their child. Religion offers guidance and guidelines. Islam, for example, advocates that parents should treat all their children fairly. Yet, children are at times being ill-treated; as a punch bag or as a commodity, especially when the child is female. This scenario is vividly entailed in *"Belonging"* by Sameem Ali. Using the perspectives of Feminist Postmodern theory, this study aims to unveil motherhood projection within the context of the patriarchal setting in this autobiography.

Keywords: female child, mother, patriarchy

JOEL'S REDEMPTION ARC IN THE UNNATURAL NARRATIVE STRUCTURE OF *ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND*

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In understanding guilt and its subsequent consequences, dramatism theorists proposed guilt-redemption cycle where it acts as a method for "sinful" people to attain redemption through a process of guilt purification. Despite started from literature analysis, this theory is currently known and used in rhetorical studies while concurrently inspiring other various literary theories. For this study, the main emphasis is on how this structure is used in literature as a means for authors to portray the character's redemption arc. Hence, this essay emphasizes on the implementation of dramatism theory in the unnatural narrative structure of Charlie Kaufman's original screenplay *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004). The text is chosen because of its reverse chronological narrative technique which is a part of the unnatural storyworlds where the plot events are unfolded following the temporal aspect of the narrative. It is argued that the unnatural narrative in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* is governed by the main character's journey of redemption. To achieve this objective, two components of Kenneth Burke's dramatism theory, dramatistic pentad and guilt-redemption cycle are utilized. Dramatistic pentad is used to analyse Joel's actions and motives while guilt-redemption cycle is implemented in the narrative structure of the text. By arranging the narrative structure, it allows us to comprehend the importance of the unnatural narrative technique in order to convey the text's themes to the readers. The result also showcases dramatism theory as one of the analytical tools for literary analyses, particularly on the narrative structure of screenplay texts.

Keywords: dramatistic pentad, guilt-redemption cycle, screenplay, unnatural narratology

GENDERED IDENTITIES AND THE EMANCIPATION OF SELF: A CIXOUSIAN READING OF ANITA DESAI'S *FASTING, FEASTING*

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In Indian culture and literature, the matters of gender and sexuality have always been influenced by the phallogocentric discourse in which heteronormative ideology plays a decisive role in shaping the society. Despite recent interests in Indian literary works by women writers centring on the elements of the diaspora and gender empowerment, the complex nuances of gender relations and the contrasting aspects of traditionality and modernity are left unexplored. This essay intends to explore the Indian novelist Anita Desai's *Fasting, Feasting* (1999) to discover the intricate workings of negotiating predetermined gender and societal responsibility and reconstructing identity as reflected through the portrayal of the main character, Uma. To realize this purpose, the study utilizes the poststructuralist feminist Helene Cixous's concepts of the feminine, the other and l'ecriture feminine to examine how prescribed notions of gender and sexuality are redefined and reformulated. This approach is especially effective in unveiling the subjectivity of feminine desire and its capacity to make possible the emancipation of the self through the process of rewriting. Examining the character with Cixousian view unravels the ways in which female excess enables the rewriting of one's identity. Notwithstanding Uma's oppression and isolation, she attempts to own herself in the course of her life and fiercely empathizes with the loss of female freedom which decidedly become the leading factors of rewriting her identity. It is concluded that despite her circumstance, Uma finds solace in the presence of fellow females by her side.

Keywords: Anita Desai, feminine, Helene Cixous, l'ecriture feminine

NON-VIOLENT STRATEGIES OF RESISTANCE IN MALALA YOUSAFZAI'S
I AM MALALA: A FOUCAULDIAN READING

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Cultural representations of violence perpetrated against women are generally perceived as heroic and banalised as a societal norm. However, life writings written by Muslim women have been known as misery stories or victim narratives that merely portray the violent experiences that women go through in private and public spaces. The Pakistani Noble Laureate Malala Yousafzai's life narrative, *I Am Malala* (2013) counters the Orientalist discourse of South Asian Muslim women as being voiceless victims waiting to be liberated by the West. The aim of this paper is to explore the narrative and to identify the portrayed Muslim women's non-violent methods of resistance against gender-based violence and thereby underline their active participation in the operating dynamics of power. The study draws upon the Michel Foucault's theory on counter-conduct to identify acts of resistance and the multiple practices of being governed differently. We argue that in a society where violence is socially accepted or lauded, Malala's non-violent approach is reflected in her memoir as she emphasizes on the importance of changing the approach of dealing with violence. The findings of the study underline women's subjectivity and agency in exercising their individual choices. It is hoped that the findings of the study counter the prevailing essentialising discourses about Muslim women in South Asia.

Keywords: activism, counter-conduct, gender-based violence, Malala Yousafzai

REVISITING CHINA AND MALAYA IN THE NARRATIVE OF PSYCHOGEOGRAPHIC ANTIQUARIANISM IN CHAN LING YAP'S *NEW BEGINNINGS*

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Chan Ling Yap has published five historical novels set in the turbulent period of Malaya before, during and after the independence. In Yap's *New Beginnings,* the story takes readers to the southern province of Guangxi, China, to emerging Singapore and tropical potential of British Malaya. The journey that the characters encounter amidst the turmoil is refined with intense emotional experience. Yap's restoration of historical spaces and places and the treatment of the relationship between her characters' individual psyche and the urban space provide psychogeographical antiquity experience throughout the narrative. Yap revisits and represents particular territories that are driven by unique historical spirits and the interconnectedness between human experience and the place itself. The sequencing of historical events is concentrated to the context of their time; the unpredictability of the life in three different cities which involves success and failure, prosperity and misery or recognition and obscurity. The characters encounter different psychogeographical experience, yet they share the similar principle that amidst the extremes live conditions that the cities offer, they struggle to find a balance in order to shape their own identity and make sense of their existence in the cities. The multiplicity of approaches that psychogeography share allows new perspectives to read historical narrative and provides a detour into geography in order to better understand literary practices.

Keywords: antiquarianism, diasporic writing, historical fiction, psychogeography, urban space

THE POLITICS OF SPACE IN LIFE WRITINGS BY MIDDLE EASTERN DIASPORIC WOMEN WRITERS: A TOPIC MODELING AND SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

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The rapid socio-political changes of the present century together with the advancements in information technologies have pushed matters of space and spatiality to the forefront of literary and cultural studies. This study seeks to explore the politics of space in contemporary life writings by Middle Eastern women writers. Specifically, the study aims to identify the prevailing correlation between theme, geography and sentiment as portrayed in diasporic women's narratives. To this end, a corpus of 36 life writings by Middle Eastern diasporic women writers that are produced in the aftermath of 9/11 events in America have been selected as primary data. To carry out the text analysis, the study proposes an analytical model by employing a machine learning approach called Natural Language Processing (NLP). In the designed model, a Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) algorithm from Topic Modeling, TextBlob library for Sentiment analysis, and Python as analytical tool are used to identify collocated place names and to give a general sense of the correlated themes and sentiments depicted in the corpus. The model gives a scoring of each topical cluster and reveals that the diasporic authors are more likely to write about their hometown than America as their host land. It is hoped that the combination of topic modelling and sentiment analysis helps literary scholars in textual analysis of large corpuses.

Keywords: life writing, Middle East, sentiment analysis, space, Topic Modeling

UNDOING TRAUMA THROUGH 'DEATH INSTINCT' IN *PSYCHOTIC* BY XEUS

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Sigmund Freud first coined the concept of 'death instinct' in his controversial work *Beyond the Pleasure Principle* (1920) by stating that all beings drive towards death as the final result of living. The concept was introduced as a means to explain the reasons why soldiers whom had survived war experienced traumatic recurring dreams. Using Xeus' *Psychotic* as the primary source, the current study aims to; (a) identify traumatic event experienced by the main character which lead to provoke her primal 'death instinct', (b) examine how the main character's 'death instinct' is exhibited outwardly as a means to undo her trauma, and (c) display how 'death instinct' is essential in undoing trauma. The study proposed that 'death instinct' is crucial as an intrinsic force to help victims of trauma undoing their traumatic experience with them repeating the act of violence upon others as a disguised form of self-gratification.

Keywords: death instinct, psychotic, trauma, violence

AFROFUTURISM AND TRANSHUMANISM: NEW INSIGHT INTO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN IDENTITY IN OCTAVIA BUTLER'S *DAWN*

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Afrofuturism is a science fiction (SF) subgenre, which offers visions about different aspects of African Americans. Through relating it with another approach namely, Transhumanism, Afrofuturism can present new understandings for their futurity. Moreover, combining the elements of Afrofuturism and Transhumanism can allow new and varied avenues to argue the future of African Americans. Octavia Butler (1947-2006) is among those authors who wanted a better future for her people. Thus, in Butler's novel *Dawn* (1987), through the character of Lilith, the novel does not treat the identity of the African American as apart from its socio-historical context or chased by it; instead, the identity problem (status) is scientifically fictionalized and intermingled with hope for a better future. This study critically examines the traits and the role of the protagonist. It investigates how the depiction of Butler's transhumanist protagonist is important to pursue the demarginalization of African Americans' identity. In this respect, the study adopts the Afrofuturistic sense of utilizing knowledge and science of Ytasha Womack in discussing Afrofuturism, whereas Transhumanism will be studied through Nick Bostrom's perspectives on the necessity of body enhancements to extend humanism.

Keywords: Afrofuturism, identity, Nick Bostrom, Transhumanism, Ytasha Womack

NEGOTIATING EXISTENTIAL CONCERNS THROUGH THE GROTESQUE IN YUKIO MISHIMA'S *FORBIDDEN COLOURS*

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The grotesque and existential concerns are rarely studied alongside each other in the field of literature. History has it that the grotesque has always been associated with aspects which denote negative connotations such as deformity, death, violence or monstrosity. Additionally, the grotesque is also popularly employed as an approach to challenge traditions and deviate from what is accepted as the norm. Meanwhile, the origins of existentialism can be traced back to as early as the 19th century. Existentialists struggle to seek the meaning of life and are constantly concerned with looking for ways to justify one's existence in a world that is filled with pessimism. Thus, this paper aims to find a point of convergence between existentialism and the grotesque by primarily focusing on how the two male protagonists Yuichi and Shunsuke in Yukio Mishima's *Forbidden Colours* employ the grotesque as a way to deal with existential concerns as pointed out by Irvin Yalom namely death, meaninglessness, freedom and existential isolation with an emphasis on the first three concerns. Grotesque elements such as misogyny, pederasty, exaggeration and narcissism will be studied alongside three existential concerns which are death and meaninglessness and freedom to show how the male protagonists are able to rely on the grotesque to subdue their anxieties brought upon by their existential concerns in order to justify their sense of existence.

Keywords: existential concerns, grotesque, Irvin Yalom, Yukio Mishima

RENEGOTIATING THE EAST ASIAN FEMALE IDENTITY THROUGH THE FLUID AND THE TRANSCULTURAL SELF IN *THE STONE GODDESS* BY MINFONG HO

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In this paper, we examine the portrayal of Nakri, the protagonist of *The Stone Goddess* (2003), by the contemporary Chinese American writer, Minfong Ho (b. 1951). We also examine Nakri's practice of culture in the Cambodian society as we explore the Western view of the East Asian female identity as voiceless, submissive and hypersexual. As tools of analysis, we utilize the concepts of identity fluidity by the cultural theorist Stuart Hall (2011) namely "enlightenment subject", the "sociological subject" and the "postmodern subject". His views on the decentring of the subjects and the concept of "transculture/ality" or intermingling of culture, by the transcultural scholar, Arianna Dagnino (2015). The objective of the paper is to investigate how the three concepts of identity fluidity and the concept of "transculture/ality" are mirrored in *The Stone Goddess* by Nakri's practice of culture in Cambodian society and how she is decentred as her identity develops. The findings indicate that Ho's depiction of Nakri represents her as exhibiting the identity of an East Asian woman who magnifies identity fluidity when she re-negotiates her thinking, voice and agency, as her stable and balanced self of the "enlightenment subject" stage becomes decentred by "transculture/ality" at the "sociological subject" stage. Here, through "transculture/ality", or her intermingling of cultures, she links herself with society and transforms herself as she finds her voice, manifests individual agency and reveals an identity that is constantly shifting, as she enters the third phase, the "postmodern subject".

Keywords: East Asian female identity, identity fluidity, Minfong Ho, *The Stone Goddess*, transculture/ality

ISSUES ON THE STUDY OF SINOPHONE MALAYSIAN LITERATURE BY THE ACADEMIC CIRCLES IN MAINLAND CHINA—TAKING "JOURNAL OF LITERATURES IN CHINESE" AS AN EXAMPLE

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Sinophone Malaysian literature and Chinese literature belong to the same branch with the arrival of south migrated literati from China enriched and developed Sinophone Malaysian literature, but they are two different kinds of literature nowadays due to the different political and historical backgrounds. However, they are still connected, analysing Sinophone Malaysian literature is also a method to expand the literary consciousness and literary vision of scholars in mainland China. As a powerful team in overseas for Chinese language literature, Sinophone Malaysian literature studies closely connect China with the world. However, due to the isolation of mainland China which disrupted Malaysia's relations after the war, Sinophone Malaysian literature also closed the passage to mainland China and turned to Taiwan and Hong Kong. Thirty years later, after China's reform and opening up, Sinophone Malaysian literature has reacquired ties with mainland China. As a result of the interruption of the thirty years of communication, there are some problems with academic circles in mainland China studying Sinophone Malaysian literature either directly or indirectly. Taking "Journal of Literatures in Chinese" as an example, this paper attempts to explore the problems and shortcomings of the academic study in mainland China for Sinophone Malaysian literature by utilizing data statistics and comparison and thus improving the research in the future.

Keywords: Mainland China, research issues, Sinophone Malaysian literature

A REVIEW OF LARISSA LAI'S *WHEN FOX IS A THOUSAND* AND *SALT FISH GIRL*

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Since the publication of the landmark East-Asian literary anthology *Inalienable Rice: A Chinese and Japanese Canadian Anthology* in 1979, a group of outstanding Chinese-Canadian writers began to emerge on the Canadian literary arena. As the new generation of Chinese-Canadian who were born and raised in Canada, many of them subvert the essentialist expression of ethnic cultural identity in their works. The most representative writer is Larissa Lai. Her novels not only break the boundaries of traditional genre and theme, but also challenge the single and fixed ethnic identity. This paper focuses on the previous studies done on Lai's *When Fox Is a Thousand* (1995) and *Salt Fish Girl* (2002). It has been observed that Lai's novels have thus far been categorized under the genres of post-colonial and speculative literature. Many scholars take post-colonial criticism as the main theoretical framework, combining the theory of diaspora, cultural studies, feminism, and queer theory to explore the ethnicity and cultural identity in Lai's fictions. There are also some scholars exploring the mythological elements in Lai's fictions and argue that Lai's remythologization constantly opens up possibilities to liberate in her cyborg fictions. Further, the novels demand a speculative realist reading as they engage with biology and the life sciences. Through the literature review conducted, it has been discovered that little has been said about the interpretation of the transgressive writing in her works. As such, my paper argues for the novel reading of Larissa Lai's works through other lens such as the concept of "transgression".

Keywords: Chinese Canadian literature, Larissa Lai, *When Fox Is a Thousand, Salt Fish Girl*, transgression

ALCHEMY OF THE WORD: SINOPHONE MALAYSIAN LITERATURE AS MINOR LITERATURE

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French philosophers Deleuze and Guattari have put forward the concept of "minor literature": the deterritorialization of language, politicalness and collective value. When discussing Sinophone Malaysian literature, scholars often put it under the purview of minor literature. However, in the field of Chinese studies, the concept of minor literature is still not clear, which is reflected in the disunity of translation of the Chinese name of minor literature, which has a certain impact on the current study of Sinophone Malaysian literature. This paper attempts to eliminate the interference of other translations of "minority literature" and to prove the rationality of this translation of "minor literature" in the Chinese language world. This then outlines the possibility of future Sinophone Malaysian literature from the perspectives of history and language writing, thus clarifies the related problems in this respect. The starting point of Sinophone Malaysian literature is generally recognized by scholars as the founding of relevant journals in 1919. But before 1919, Sinophone Malaysian Literature had begun to appear in the form of classical Chinese and old-style poetry with the help of a group of southern scholars from China, which is an inspiration for rewriting the history of Sinophone Malaysian literature. In order to seek further development in Malaysia or in the world, Sinophone Malaysian literature, as a minor literature, needs to carry forward the characteristics of orthodox Chinese and local dialects in Sinophone Malaysian literature language to make it a unique voice to the world.

Keywords: deterritorialization, minor literature, politicalness, Sinophone Malaysian literature

FREEDOM AND CHOICE IN MARA AND DANN: AN ADVENTURE (1999) BY DORIS LESSING

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The issue of human freedom and choice has been the focus of scholarships on contemporary fictions set in a dystopian world (Bollinger 2007, Humann 2010). More importantly, *Mara and Dann: An Adventure* (1999) by Doris Lessing has been classified as a dystopian novel where the author depicts social and environmental disintegrations in the far distant future. The novel tells the hardship of a young protagonist, Mara, who tries to survive and make a new life. A study by Mikluc (2016) examines Sufi symbolism and Lessing's idea of feminism to explore political and social challenges which women face in the novel. Another study by Aldeeb (2017) examines the connection between woman and nature through ecofeminism. In this regard, this study investigates how Lessing portrays the character in her act of making a choice in the face of dire circumstance to explore the issue of freedom and choice. It also aims to explore the way social and environment problems affect human lives, their freedom and ability to choose. The study uses John Rawls and Isaiah Berlin's theoretical views on freedom and choice as the basis analysis to thoroughly examine Mara's belief, attitude and act of making choice in the narrative. The result of the analysis reveals that, although Mara cannot change the whole society, she finds a voice to express her ideas in order to change the cultural norms and patriarchal tradition. She also possesses the autonomy to make difficult choices in many circumstances that she encounters and makes her own destiny. Lessing shows that, to confront the great social and environmental changes that are occurring in the present world, human beings need to take action in order to make a better world.

Keywords: choice, freedom, Isiah Berlin, John Rawls, *Mara and Dann: An Adventure*

DISCUSSING HOW AND WHY M. K. LIMBU USED NEPAL'S CULTURAL AND POLITICAL TURMOIL AS A SETTING IN HIS NOVEL *FRAGILE MOUNTAINS*

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In a 2010 interview, M. K. Limbu was questioned concerning his authorial intention in writing the novel which M. K. Limbu recognizes as one of the key clarifications for constituting *Fragile Mountains* (2005); to uncover the "deep sense of anger and frustration" he sensed with concern to the "political uncertainty" in his country Nepal. M. K. Limbu highlights the concept of space and belonging since places and culture "define us" in ways we cannot even imagine. Consequently, Limbu brought forth a combination of two cities within the same land called Nepal with the awareness that places possess effects on humans. Therefore, the selected two cities are presented as Khewang and Kathmandu, which are a sharp contrast to one another. Hence, the literary text provides the readers with three different generations in the same space and culture but with different ideologies, sense of place and political perspective. Furthermore, this paper examines M. K. Limbu's *Fragile Mountains* (2005) as a textual analysis. Theoretically, it explores the concept of "sense of place" applied to the three generations. The concept of sense of place is selected because it provide answers to the different political perspectives and cultural variations based on the characters' relationship to the place, while also examines the creation of their political turmoil and confusion resulting from their relationship to their own country.

Keywords: culture, generations, Nepal, political turmoil, sense of place

CONSTRUCTION OF SELF IDENTITY OF FEMALE CRIMINAL FROM PSYCHOSOCIAL PERSPECTIVE IN *BLOOD MOTHER* BY MITCHELL

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Nowadays, the involvement of women in criminal activities no longer raises any eyebrow. The changing role of women in crime fiction from helpless victims to cold-blooded criminals has opened up to the whole new quest for seeking and constructing self-identity among female criminals. Despite the normalization of their involvement in crime, it is ever more challenging for them to finding their own place in their respective society. Thus, this research intends to examine the construction of self-identity of female criminal through the lens of psychosocial theory by Newman and Newman (2012) in a contemporary crime fiction, *Blood Mother* (2017), written by Dreda Say Mitchell. Using textual analysis, this research aims to analyse the psychosocial growth of female criminal in the selected novel as well as to examine the self struggles experienced by the criminal character and how she copes in order to establish and maintain her self-identity. The analysis of the protagonist, Barbara, shows that she experiences a flux of identity throughout her life as her sense of self and identity are always in conflict with her personal circumstances and societal expectations. However, the fluidity of her self-identity is not only grounded by these clashes, but also the inner self struggle she faced throughout a span of her life. Therefore, this research concludes that an in-depth comprehension on the intricate dimensions of self-identity development from psychosocial perspective will not only enhance the understanding of the causes of behavioural problems, but also capable of identifying probable solutions.

Keywords: crime fiction, female criminal, self-identity, psychosocial theory

SOCIAL MELANCHOLY AND COLONISATION OF PSYCHIC SPACE IN CELESTE NG'S *EVERYTHING I NEVER TOLD YOU*

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Melancholy has often been associated with females more than males, as if it is a naturally gendered condition or disease. In contemporary diasporic Chinese literature, it has been observed that the women characters are often depicted as suffering from melancholy, later descending into abject despair which culminates in suicide. This study approaches melancholy as a symptom of cultural pathology in a culture that tends to devalue women. It aims to explore the social construction of women's melancholy in *Everything I Never Told You* (2014) by Chinese-American writer Celeste Ng. This study departs from the traditional psychoanalytical paradigm of melancholy, and investigates melancholy as a socially-constructed abjected sense of subjectivity. Focusing on the suicidal female protagonist and her depressive mother, this study intends to approach melancholy and suicide as more of a socially determined consequence than an individual incompetence. Neither will this study become another blame-the-mother discourse. By adopting the concepts of social melancholy and colonisation of psychic space drawing from the Theory of Social Melancholy, this study seeks to diagnose the dynamics of social and cultural pathology in order to show how lack of social support can result in the colonisation of psychic space and the deprivation of positive self-images among women.

Keywords: psychic space, social melancholy, subjectivity, suicide

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ABSTRACTS

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Language

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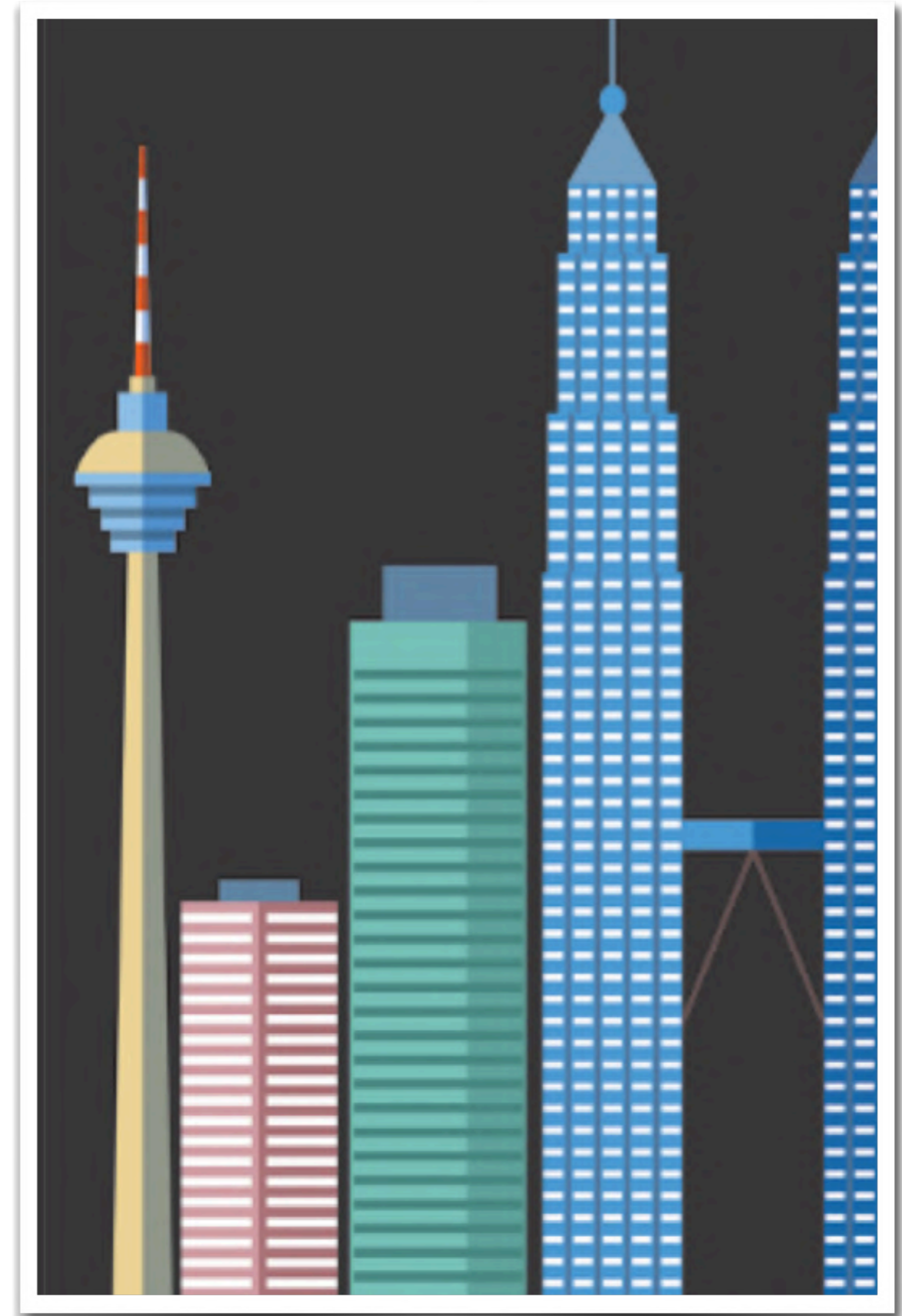
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