



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Seminar Series
School of Languages & Linguistics

English Language Proficiency Tests in Malaysia

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In Malaysia, the English language is perceived to play an important role in the development of the country. In fact in the country's Ninth Malaysia plan, it was stated that the Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE) was entrusted to undertake the responsibility of improving the English language proficiency of Malaysian university students in the effort "to enhance their ability to access knowledge and undertake research" (Ninth Malaysia Plan, 2006, p.257).

The presentation of this paper is divided into two parts. The first part presents an overview of the different English language proficiency tests that are compulsory to students studying or intending to study at public tertiary education in Malaysia. It also describes the nature of the different tests and the overall performance of the candidates across different years. The second part of the study gives an overview of the results of a national level study conducted in 2006 in order to find investigate the English language proficiency of Malaysian university graduating students. The results of the study provided an indication of the status of the English language proficiency of university graduates and subsequently led to policy change in English language entry requirement and programs at Malaysian public universities.

Time:	3:30pm
Date:	Friday 6 March 2009
Location:	Room 509, Arts Centre, University of Melbourne