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PERSONALITY AS EXTRALINGUISTIC FACTOR THAT INFLUENCES SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING AMONG FOREIGN STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

The researchers conducted this study to determine the relationship between second language extralinguistic factors with Malay achievement among foreign students at five universities in Malaysia. The researchers were interested to address colour personality as extralinguistic factor that influences second language learning among foreign students at universities in Malaysia. The findings showed that foreign students' personality was influenced by green, red and yellow which indicated that they are willing to do anything to succeed and acquire the second language. The sample of this study comprises 150 students from 27 countries. They took Malay as a foreign language at Putra University of Malaysia (UPM), National University of Malaysia (UKM), University of Malaya (UM), University of Technology Malaysia (UTM) and University of Science Malaysia (USM).

Contribution/ Originality: This study is one of the very few studies which have investigated the relationship between second language extralinguistic factors with Malay achievement among foreign students at five universities in Malaysia. One of the extralinguistic factors found was personality and good personality does influence.

1. INTRODUCTION

Extralinguistic is a linguistic situation beyond language boundary (Schmidt, 2010). However, the elements of linguistic are needed in the language learning as it provides information that helps one to learn and acquire a language other than their mother tongue. Extralinguistic is a needed shared knowledge to understand a conversation or pronunciation (The Free Dictionary 2010). According to Rohaidah (2012) extralinguistic can be taken as motivation, emotion, attitude and personality for second language learning. In this study, the researchers propose that student with strong or perfect personality is easier to acquire the second language. The sample of this study comprises 150 students from five universities that taking Malay as a second language. The word 'personality' originated from Latin word – persona which can be defined as a mask or face protector wore by the stage actor. According to the fourth edition of *Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka* dictionary, persona is a fictional character in drama, fiction and novel. To be specific, it can be explained as given characterisitic or personality to an individual or based on people interpretation on the personality. Every human being has their own personalities and characteristics and

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