

ATTITUDES AS EXTRA LINGUISTIC FACTOR IN LEARNING SECOND LANGUAGE AMONG FOREIGN STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITIES IN MALAYSIA



 Rohaidah Kamaruddin¹⁺

 Nurul Ain Ahmad²

 Jaslinawati Mohd Saad³

 Mastura Kamaruddin⁴

 Zuraini Seruji⁵

^{1,2}University Putra Malaysia, Malaysia

¹Tel +60196660501

²Tel +60162797497

³Sekolah Menengah Sains Rembau, Negeri Sembilan Malaysia, Malaysia

³Tel +60192675282

⁴Ministry of Education Malaysia, Malaysia

⁴Tel +60186607071

⁵University Malaysia Sarawak, Malaysia

⁵Tel +60168933373



(+ Corresponding author)

ABSTRACT

Article History

Received: 30 January 2018

Revised: 2 March 2018

Accepted: 5 March 2018

Published: 9 March 2018

Keywords

Extra-linguistic
Attitude
Malay language
Instrumental
Integrative
Foreign students.

The study involved extra-linguistic factor of attitude in learning a second language among foreign students at five universities in Malaysia. The objectives in this study are to identify factors that influence students' attitudes toward learning a foreign language and analyze the main factor in instrumental and integrative attitude by foreign students surveyed. In this study, researchers found that the positive attitude of foreign students in studying languages other than Malay language as a second language. The respondents consisted of a group of foreign students from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Malaya (UM), Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) and Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). The total of the sample was 150 people from 27 countries. This basic attitude is divided into instrumental and integrative. If someone is learning to recognize a nation, understand the culture through the language of the nation, it is called integrative. While instrumental refers to the desire to learn the language without they want to be part of the nation or for a purpose. The results of observations and field studies showed that foreign students choose Question 5 as variable integrative dominant attitude. This suggests learning the Malay language is very useful and encouraging them. Overall, integrative attitude among foreign students are at the highest level against the instrumental attitude.

Contribution/ Originality: This study is one of very few studies that investigated the importance of extra linguistic factors such as attitude in learning second language. This research is still new in academic study of language learning. With this research, it could help teachers, students, parents and those who are involved in learning languages.

1. INTRODUCTION

Language and communication skills are given heavy emphasis in Malaysian education system especially in public universities. Foreign students who study in public universities are also not exempted from this policy. They