

**THE EFFECT OF USING PEER ASSESSMENT TRAINING ON WRITING
PERFORMANCE AMONG ARAB EFL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

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**MASTER OF SCIENCE
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**Thesis submitted in Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Degree of Master of Science
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DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my parents, Tamam Alma'aqleh and Mohammad Almahasneh, who have been a constant source of support and encouragement during my study. This work is also dedicated to my brother and sisters, Ala'a, Abeer, Tojan, and Ala, who have loved me unconditionally and supported me throughout this journey.

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Malaysia Terengganu in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Applied Linguistics.

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The purpose of this study was to investigate the effect of using peer assessment training on writing performance among Arab EFL high school students. One hundred and twenty students aged fifteen and sixteen years old participated in this study with equal number of male and female students. The students were from two Arab high schools in Malaysia. This study employed a quasi-experimental research design. Participants were purposefully assigned to two groups, the control group and experimental group. Data was collected using Analytical Marking Scale (Alderson, et al's, 1995) to assess student's writing performance in the pretest and posttest. A questionnaire on peer assessment training (Temesgan, 2009) was administrated to obtain peer's feedback on peer assessment training. The finding of this study shows that, there is a significant difference in the writing performances between the experimental and control groups at $P < 0.001$. The finding suggests that, students who have been exposed to peer assessment training write better draft compared to those who were given conventional training in writing essay. One interesting finding from this study is the fact that, peer assessment was not helping in either assisting peer to organize each other's ideas or choose accurate words. It is, thus,

recommended that teacher should spend more time on using peer assessment to help students improve vocabulary and organization of the essay.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Malaysia Terengganu sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Sarjana Linguistik Terapan.

**KESAN PENGGUNAAN LATIHAN PENILAIAN RAKAN SEBAYA
BERASASKAN KEMAHIRAN MENULIS DALAM KALANGAN PELAJAR
YANG MENGGUNAKAN BAHASA INGGERIS SEBAGAI BAHASA ASING
(DI) SEKOLAH TINGGI ARAB**

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Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menyiasat kesan penggunaan latihan penilaian rakan sebaya dalam prestasi penulisan dalam kalangan pelajar di sekolah tinggi Arab yang menggunakan Bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa asing (English as Foreign Language). Seratus dua puluh orang pelajar berumur di antara lima belas dan enam belas tahun telah mengambil bahagian dalam kajian ini. Bilangan pelajar lelaki dan perempuan adalah sama. Kajian ini menggunakan kaedah penyelidikan kuasi-eksperimen. Peserta telah dibahagikan kepada dua kumpulan, iaitu kumpulan kawalan dan kumpulan eksperimen. Data telah dikumpul menggunakan Skala Penandaan Analitikal (Alderson *et al.*, 1995) untuk mengkaji prestasi penulisan pelajar sebelum dan selepas ujian. Satu soal selidik mengenai latihan penilaian rakan sebaya (Temesgan, 2009) telah diberi untuk mendapatkan maklumbalas rakan sebaya tentang latihan penilaian rakan sebaya. Hasil dapatan kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa terdapat perbezaan yang besar di antara prestasi penulisan pelajar dalam

kumpulan eksperimen dan kumpulan kawalan iaitu pada $P < 0.001$. Dapatan ini mencadangkan bahawa pelajar yang telah didedahkan kepada latihan penilaian rakan sebaya didapati boleh menulis draf yang lebih baik daripada pelajar yang menerima latihan konvensional dalam penulisan esei. Satu dapatan yang menarik dalam kajian ini ialah latihan rakan sebaya tidak berupaya membantu rakan sebaya menyusunatur idea satu sama lain atau dalam memilih perkataan yang tepat. Oleh hal yang sedemikian, hasil kajian ini mengesyorkan bahawa guru perlu meluangkan lebih masa dalam menggunakan latihan penilaian rakan sebaya untuk membantu pelajar menambahbaik perbendaharaan kata dan menyusunatur esei mereka.