

SAPPHIRE

Series 1

Activity Book for English Language Support Programme

Editors:

Norhana Abdullah

Juliana Niza Ismail Adnan



**CENTRE FOR GENERAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITI SAINS ISLAM MALAYSIA**

جامعة العلوم الإسلامية الماليزية
ISLAMIC SCIENCE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYSIA

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FOREWORD

In the name of Allah, the most gracious and the most merciful.

Peace and Prayer be upon His Messenger Prophet Muhammad SAW, his family, companions and the followers.

The National Philosophy of Education has placed the utmost emphasis on developing a harmonious and wholesome individual intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and physically based on piety and belief in God. Therefore all teaching and learning approaches should touch upon the four important learning outcomes: cognitive, psychomotor, affective and social. Naturally this had created a revolution in the Malaysian education system whereby previous teaching practices had only produced graduates who are only academically qualified but lack the necessary skills and proper conduct to ensure their marketability to future employers. When the Ministry of Higher Education suggested English Language Support Programme (ELSP) as one of the approaches to incorporate soft skills in order to develop graduates of higher quality, Islamic Science University of Malaysia or Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) readily accepted the challenge.

Thus, USIM organizes three ELSP programmes which are held during semester breaks and made compulsory for all year one students. Each ELSP has its own aims and objectives to ensure that the students would achieve a desired level in the mastery of the English language. ELSP1 is designed to be an introductory programme as part of student's orientation week while ELSP2 is to provide more MUET-based practice and ELSP3 is to consolidate what the student's have learnt throughout the semester. Despite their differences, the similar aspects in all ELSP programmes are that they have allowed further exposure to the use of the English language as well as additional and frequent practice.

The publication of this workbook is a timely one. ELSP1 is designed to introduce and to generate student's interest to continue learning the language. Therefore, the materials need to be interesting and effective in developing self-study skills which would be helpful in the students' years of study. I have every reason to believe the activities in this workbook have managed to fulfill the objectives and aspirations of ELSP.

My heartiest congratulations the Centre for General Studies (PPU) especially the English Unit for successfully organizing all the ELSP programmes. Further acknowledgement is also due to the Unit for successfully developing their own materials and finally publishing them which will continue to benefit the future ELSP programmes. The hard work and well-placed effort is a testament to the English Unit as well as the Centre's commitment to the university to ensure quality education continues to be provided and the university achieves its educational goals. May their endeavor and hard work be blessed by Allah SWT.

Prof. Dato' Dr. Muhammad bin Muda

Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic & International)
Islamic Science University of Malaysia.

PREFACE

Praise to Allah SWT, the most merciful and the most compassionate, for He is the One God, the Everlasting Refuge, who has not begotten, nor has been begotten, and none is equal to Him. Peace and prayer be upon His messenger, our prophet Muhammad SAW, his family, companions and his followers.

In present times, with the challenges of globalisation experienced by most countries around the world, tertiary institutions in Malaysia face a demanding task of producing graduates who are academically sound, highly skilled, ethical and competitive. This is due to the awareness that the success of any institutions of higher education is measured by the quality of graduates they produce. Mastery of the English language undeniably plays an essential role in ensuring that the graduates remain highly qualified, competitive and marketable in this globalised world.

Moreover, the call by the government to increase human capital has resulted in many public universities to adopt major changes in their education policy and approaches. Pertaining to this, Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia (USIM) has decided to implement changes in its language policy by introducing the English Language Support Programme (ELSP) as a means to allow USIM students to be at par with graduates from other universities with regards to English language mastery. As a result, the Centre for General Studies in particular the English Language Unit has been entrusted with the task of organizing such a significant and vital programme and may continue to do so for many years to come. The Centre serves to support the university in achieving its aims and objectives to be the main educational hub in this region.

I would like to congratulate the English Language Unit for developing and publishing their first ELSP workbook. This publication is truly a momentous event because it signifies a complete collaboration among all the teaching staff in the Unit as well as the hard work and dedication in ensuring our students obtaining the best English language learning experience the university can offer. The workbook reflects a proper application of teaching methodology and a deep understanding of the need to motivate and increase student's interest in learning the English language. I believe this workbook will serve and benefit many students who wish to improve their English language ability.

May Allah SWT bless all our hard work and endeavours.

Dr. Muhammad Mustaqim Mohd Zarif

Director

Centre for General Studies

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SAPPHIRE is ideal for English Language learners by providing engaging, learner-centred task-based activities. Designed to introduce English language learning to average learners, this activity book opens the door to a wider social and academic experiences to first year university students. It assists in developing the ability to use English confidently and effectively to meet social and academic demands. All four language skills are integrated while vocabulary and study skills are presented in context. Many of the activities provide a launching pad to more extensive and enriched group projects. Language is learned through a range of topics relevant to young adult learners helping them to develop their communicative, creative and critical thinking abilities.

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