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ASSESSING MANDARIN LECTURERS' QUALITY ON ROLE-PERFORMANCE IN MARA EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (IPMA)

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ABSTRACT

The initiatives to improve the students' competency level is closely related to the quality of the lecturers. Lecturers play a very crucial role because they are responsible for teaching students of higher education institutions. A high-quality lecturer is believed to greatly influence their students' ability and competency. This study is to identify the level of lecturers' quality based on role-performance in teaching Mandarin in MARA Education Institutions (IPMA), specifically in Kolej Profesional MARA (KPM), Kolej Universiti Poly-Tech MARA (KUPTM) and Universiti Kuala Lumpur (UNIKL). There are five quality aspects of roles measured in this study: 1) lecturer as organiser, 2) lecturer as controller, 3) lecturer as a guide, 4) lecturer as a prompter and 5) lecturer as an evaluator. A total of 150 students from these institutions were selected, who have taken Mandarin as their elective language course. A Likert scale questionnaire is used to gather the data and SPSS software is used to statistically analyse the data. Based on the mean value interpretation, the findings revealed that the lecturers' quality on role-performance falls under a Very High level (M=4.63, SD=0.49) which simultaneously indicated that these Mandarin lecturers had the desired professional qualities and were committed to high quality teaching practice. These findings provide a better insight into the teaching of Mandarin in tertiary level education in Malaysia and in return can help to tailor professional learning activities to the professional development needs of lecturers.

Keywords: Lecturer quality, Mandarin language, IPMA