The Development of Phonological Assessment Battery (PhAB) in Malay: Validity, Reliability and Standardisation

Paper One: The development of Phonological Assessment Battery (PhAB) in Malay

Paper Two: The test of validity and reliability of the modified PhAB and the standardisation to Brunei-Malay children

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I certify that all material in this thesis which is not my own work has been identified and that no material has previously been submitted and approved for the award of a degree by this or any other University.

Signature: .................................................................
# Table of Contents

Abstract .................................................................................. 6

Paper One ............................................................................... 8-36

Paper Two ............................................................................... 38-84

References ............................................................................... 85-87

Appendices ............................................................................... 88-120

## Paper One

1 Introduction .......................................................................... 8
  1.1 Purpose ............................................................................. 8
  1.2 Rationale ........................................................................... 8
  1.3 Context ............................................................................. 10
    1.3.1 Policy ............................................................................ 10
    1.3.2 Personal ......................................................................... 12
    1.3.3 Theoretical ..................................................................... 12
    1.3.4 Practical / Professional ................................................ 14

2 Instrument Development ....................................................... 15
  2.1 The Historical Background of PhAB in Malay ................. 15
  2.2 The Development and Modification of the PhAB in Malay 16
    2.2.1 Instructions .................................................................... 17
    2.2.2 Items ............................................................................. 18
    2.2.3 Layout: Record Form and the Manual ......................... 22
  2.3 The Process: Language and Administration details .......... 23

3 Sampling .............................................................................. 26
  3.1 Schools and participants .................................................. 26
    3.1.1 Selection of schools ..................................................... 27
    3.1.2 Selection of Participants ............................................. 29

4 Test Administration ............................................................... 31
  4.1 The Recruitment of Research Assistants ....................... 32
  4.2 The Training of Research Assistants (as Test Administrators) 33

5 Summary / Conclusion ......................................................... 35

## Paper Two

1 Introduction .......................................................................... 38

2 Results .................................................................................. 39
  2.1 Reliability .......................................................................... 39
    2.1.1 Test-retest reliability ..................................................... 39
    2.1.2 Internal Consistency ..................................................... 43
    2.1.3 Standard Error of Measurement (SEM) ......................... 48
  2.2 Validity .............................................................................. 50
    2.2.1 Content validity ............................................................ 51
    2.2.2 Construct validity .......................................................... 51
2.3 Standardization ........................................................................................................... 61
3 Discussion ...................................................................................................................... 77
4 Contribution and significance ........................................................................................ 83
List of Tables

**Paper One**

Table 3.1. The targeted no. of schools per district ........................................... 27
Table 3.2. The selection of schools for the test and re-test ................................. 28
Table 3.3. Number of participants by age groups ............................................. 30

**Paper Two**

Table 2.1 (a-d). MPhAB: Means, standard deviation and test-retest correlation coefficients 40
Table 2.2. PhAB: Internal consistency reliability coefficients (Cronbach's Coefficient Alpha).
   Maximum score, mean scores and standard deviations for each test (and SEM) .... 45
Table 2.3. MPhAB: Internal consistency reliability coefficients (Cronbach's coefficient Alpha),
   Maximum score, mean scores and standard deviations for each test .................. 47
Table 2.4 (a-c). Internal consistency reliability coefficients (Cronbach's coefficient alpha),
   standard deviation and standard errors of measurement for each test ............ 49
Table 2.5 (a-d). Intercorrelations of MPhAB tests ........................................... 54
Table 2.6. Number of pupils, medians, means and standard deviations for each test and
each age group ......................................................................................... 59
Table 2.7 (a-j). MPhAB: Tables of standardised scores ...................................... 63
Table 2.8. Conversion of standardised scores to percentile ranks ......................... 76

List of Figures

Figure 1. Frith's Theoretical Framework (1995) .................................................. 13

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: The evaluation of the Preliminary Modification of PhAB ................. 88
Appendix 2: Permission from the PhAB author ..................................................... 91
Appendix 3: Description of each test ................................................................... 93
Appendix 4: MPhAB Record Form ....................................................................... 95
Appendix 5: MPhAB Manual and Test Materials .................................................. 104
Appendix 6: A sample letter to Ministry of Education, Brunei ......................... 187
Appendix 7: Approval letter from Ministry of Education ..................................... 188
Appendix 8: Consent letter for parents .................................................................. 189
Appendix 9: MPhAB Development & Training Itinerary ..................................... 190
Appendix 10: PhAB Tables of standardized scores ............................................ 192
### Abbreviations and Definitions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L1</td>
<td>Brunei Malay Language &amp; Standard Malay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAMP</td>
<td>Literacy and Monitoring Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPhAB</td>
<td>Modified Phonological Assessment Battery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA</td>
<td>Phonological Awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhAB</td>
<td>Phonological Assessment Battery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPN21</td>
<td>The National Education System for 21st Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEP</td>
<td>Trainee Educational Psychologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EP</td>
<td>Educational Psychologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIARA</td>
<td>The Integrated Approach to Reading Acquisition</td>
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Abstract

Many studies in the literature have shown the importance of phonological skills in the development of literacy, particularly in reading. The literacy difficulties evident in both languages; Standard Malay and English, is a concern in schools which requires systematic and appropriate assessment to identify children with poor phonological skills. In this study, the Phonological Assessment Battery (PhAB) was analysed to determine the extent it can be used with Malay speakers. It was developed, validated and tested for its reliability for the purpose of assessing phonological awareness. The modification of PhAB consisted of seven subtests translated to standard Malay (L2): Alliteration, Naming Speed, Rhyme, Spoonerisms, Fluency, Non-word Reading and Supplementary Alliteration. The three types of validity used in this study found that the modified PhAB is a valid tool to measure phonological awareness. The test-retest reliability showed that the modified PhAB is a useful tool for teachers and psychologists in Brunei and other countries where Malay is spoken. The MPPhAB provides a basis for future intervention to improve reading difficulties amongst Bruneian children.