



FINAL EXAMINATION
MARCH 2024

COURSE TITLE	PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT
COURSE CODE	TPAD3223
DATE/DAY	19 JUNE 2024 / WEDNESDAY
TIME/DURATION	02:00 PM - 04:00 PM / 02 Hour(s) 00 Minute(s)

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES :

1. Please read the instruction under each section carefully.
2. Candidates are reminded not to bring into examination hall/room any form of written materials or electronic gadget except for stationery that is permitted by the Invigilator.
3. Students who are caught breaching the Examination Rules and Regulation will be charged with an academic dishonesty and if found guilty of the offence, the maximum penalty is expulsion from the University.

(This Question Paper consists of 4 Printed Pages including front page)

*****DO NOT OPEN THE QUESTION PAPER UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO*****

There are FOUR (4) questions in this section. Answer ALL questions based on the case study below in the answer booklet provided. [100 MARKS]

State Education Departments to Manage Implementation of Dual Language Programme in Schools

The implementation of the Dual Language Programme (DLP) in schools will be managed by the respective state education departments and would be handled separately and on a case-by-case basis.

"We will look at it based on the (school's) issues and obstacles where it will be resolved at the guideline level. This, for example, will be taken into account by the state education department and at school level," said Education Minister Fadhlina Sidek.

The Education Ministry permitted the full implementation of the DLP in five schools, which are SK Convent Bukit Nanas (1), SK Bukit Damansara, SJKT Vivekananda, SJKT Segambut, and SJKT Ladang Edinburgh.

In a sighted document from the Kuala Lumpur Education Department to the related district-level education departments and school principals, over the approval to implement DLP in full, the letter dated Dec 1 was signed by the Kuala Lumpur Education Department chief Roslan Abu Hassan. This agreement (for full implementation of DLP) is only for Standard 1 pupils' batch 2023/2024 in the involved schools.

The Kuala Lumpur Education Department has also instructed schools to inform their respective Parents-Teacher Association (PIBG) of the decision, as well as the parents or guardians of the pupils.

Previously, the New Straits Times reported how parents of Year One pupils in four schools recently protested over the Education Ministry's stricter DLP conditions which required a minimum of one full class per school learning the subjects in Bahasa Malaysia as a "prerequisite" for DLP classes.

They had questioned the need for the Education Ministry to now push for "stricter" DLP conditions that required a minimum of one full class per school learning the subjects in Bahasa Malaysia (BM) as a "prerequisite" for DLP classes.

This requirement, seven years after the DLP programme started in 2016, has led to an overnight shift for some pupils, who are now required to study the subjects in BM instead of English.

Parents protest new DLP criterion

Parent Action Group for Education (Page) chairman Datin Noor Azimah Abdul expressed her disappointment that the schools were not given the autonomy to decide on the medium of teaching the subjects, which she said should be based on student's language proficiency and preference. Parents, she said, should have a say in the matter.

"The schools have ignored the parents' request to allow the children to learn these subjects in English, even when all parents from the schools have signed the DLP consent letter.

"The ministry insists that there are parents who do not want the DLP. The schools must then also cater to their needs.

"Students should be allowed to choose the language they are most comfortable with to excel in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) subjects," she said, adding that the schools' parent-teacher associations had written to the ministry about their students' plight in May.

It is learnt that the ministry's English Language Teaching Centre, which oversees the DLP, is currently looking at the guidelines and reviewing the programme at all affected schools.

Azimah added that certain schools would conduct a BM proficiency test during the Standard One enrolment, and the result would be used to determine the student's medium of learning for both subjects. Those with poor proficiency in BM will be compelled to learn those subjects in that language to boost their command.

It is understood that the language proficiency test is not a listed requirement in the ministry's DLP guidelines.

Azimah, who was part of the 2015 committee established to examine the transition from teaching Science and Mathematics in English to DLP, said Page felt that the DLP system should abolish the BM proficiency criterion, to allow as many schools to apply for it.

"The agreement was on three criteria: that a school should have sufficient resources, the school's principal has a plan in implementing DLP and that applications are made by parents or guardians.

"The additional criterion is counterproductive as half the schools involved do not meet the national average for BM and this has become a problem for them to even attempt applying for the DLP."

Source: Adapted from New Straits Times, December 6, 2023.

QUESTION 1

(20 Marks)

Explain the **TWO (2)** pertinent issues discussed in the article.

QUESTION 2

(30 Marks)

Based on the answer in (1),

- a) Explain how the role of government as the guardian of the public interest impacts the political environment; *socially, economically and politically*. Provide specific examples from the article to support your claims. (15 marks)
- b) Discuss **THREE (3)** strategies that could be used by the agency's in dealing with its political environment. (15 marks)

QUESTION 3

(25 Marks)

- a) Explain the concept of Public Administration in A Fishbowl. (10 marks)
- b) A public administrator's job is complex and it requires a range of skills. Discuss the ranges of management skills needed by the public administrators in performing their roles. (15 marks)

QUESTION 4

(25 Marks)

In gaining and maintaining the public trust, public administrators must uphold the values of society and act responsibly.

Discuss **FIVE (5)** ideal elements of administrative responsibility that could be employed by the government agencies. Provide specific examples for each.

***** END OF QUESTION PAPER *****