WEB-BASED ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY EVALUATION SYSTEM FOR UUM

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Web-Based English Language Proficiency Evaluation System
For UUM

A thesis submitted to the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree Master of Science (Information Technology)
Universiti Utara Malaysia

By

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ABSTRACT

The English language proficiency of international students admitted to study different academic programs in University of Utara Malaysia is of paramount importance. Students are expected to communicate satisfactorily (verbal and written) during the course of their studies. The presently conducted English placement test is paper-based, which is time consuming and effort spending. This study aims to develop a web-based English Language Proficiency Test; in order to reduce the time and efforts which are required in paper based tests. Therefore, agile software development method (Extreme Programming approach) is used to design and develop the prototype model. According to the requirements are collected through interview with both students and department staff. Moreover, the prototype model is proposed, and the system is developed. Furthermore, the user acceptance test is conducted.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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<td>Active Server Pages</td>
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<td>Multiple Choice Question</td>
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<td>MUET</td>
<td>Malaysia University English Test</td>
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<td>PHP</td>
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<td>Structured Query Language</td>
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<td>SAS</td>
<td>Student Assessment System</td>
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<td>TOEIC</td>
<td>Test of English for International Communication</td>
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<td>UML</td>
<td>Unified Modeling Language</td>
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<tr>
<td>UUM</td>
<td>Universiti Utara Malaysia</td>
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<tr>
<td>XML</td>
<td>eXtensible Markup Language</td>
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<td>XP</td>
<td>Extreme Programming</td>
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

English language has become the most popular medium of instruction in the academia. Prospective international students in any higher institute of learning, needs to show proof of an accepted level of proficiency in English language before they can be accepted. Some of the accepted English language tests such as TOEFL, IELTS, and MUET. The levels of understanding of the fundamentals of English language will affect the command of the language by non-native English language speakers. The students' proficiency evaluation can be done using the e-assessment (computer aided assessment). The structure of the questions varies from the automated random multiple choice questions (MCQ) to an advanced question structure. Evaluating the performance of students with the aid of the computer is now increasingly common in both the public and private sectors. Some evaluation systems provide feedback that is geared towards the correction of the students' mistakes. In this way, the areas that the students understand during learning process can be easily identified using computer analysis (Green, Nacheva-Skopolik & Pearson, 2008).
The contents of the thesis is for internal user only
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