

**WEB-BASED ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
EVALUATION SYSTEM FOR UUM**

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**UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA
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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)
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By

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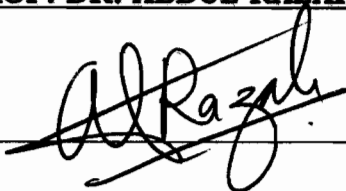
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ABSTRACT

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.

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TABLE OF CONTENT

PERMISSION TO USE	i
ABSTRACT	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
LIST OF FIGURES	viii
LIST OF TABLES	x
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xi
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Background	1
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Research Questions	4
1.4 Research Objectives	4
1.5 Scopes of the Study	5
1.6 Significance of the Study	5
1.7 Outline of the Dissertation	6
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Concepts and Definition	8
2.1.1 Web-based System	8
2.1.2 Online Examination System (OES)	9
2.1.3 Knowledge Assessment System (KAS)	10
2.1.4 Client-Server System	12

2.2	Web Applications Enabling Technologies	13
2.3	Related Works	14
2.4	Advantages and Disadvantages of Web and Web Application	16
2.4.1	Advantages	17
2.4.2	Disadvantages	18
2.5	Summary	18

CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1	Research Methodology	19
3.1.1	Selection & Planning	20
3.1.2	Requirement Analysis	20
3.1.2.1	Data Collection	21
3.1.2.2	Hardware & Software Requirements	22
3.1.3	UML Diagram	23
3.1.4	Interfaces Design and Write Coding	24
3.1.5	Usability Testing	24
3.1.6	Documentation	25
3.2	Summary	25

CHAPTER 4: ANALYSIS AND DESIGN

4.1	Introduction	26
4.2	Current System Analysis	26
4.3	Use Case Diagram	27
4.4	Use Case Specification	30

4.5	Sequence Diagram	31
4.5.1	Login [ELPES_UCD001]	31
4.5.2	Registration [ELPES_UCD002]	32
4.5.3	Change Password [ELPES_UCD003]	34
4.5.4	Request Password [ELPES_UCD004]	36
4.5.5	Add Announcement [ELPES_UCD005]	38
4.5.6	View Announcement [ELPES_UCD006]	39
4.5.7	Add Listening Question [ELPES_UCD007]	40
4.5.8	Answer Listening Test [ELPES_UCD008]	42
4.5.9	Add Writing Question [ELPES_UCD009]	44
4.5.10	Answer Writing Test [ELPES_UCD010]	46
4.5.11	Add Reading Question [ELPES_UCD011]	48
4.5.12	Answer Reading Test [ELPES_UCD012]	50
4.5.13	Add Staff Account [ELPES_UCD013]	52
4.5.14	Edit Staff Profile [ELPES_UCD014]	54
4.5.15	View Staff Profile [ELPES_UCD015]	56
4.5.16	Delete Staff Account [ELPES_UCD016]	57
4.5.17	Add Student Account [ELPES_UCD017]	59
4.5.18	Edit Student Profile [ELPES_UCD018]	61
4.5.19	View Student Profile [ELPES_UCD019]	63
4.5.20	Delete Student Account [ELPES_UCD020]	64
4.5.21	Add Exam Result [ELPES_UCD021]	66
4.5.22	View Exam Result [ELPES_UCD022]	68
4.6	Class Diagram	70

4.7	Summary	71
CHAPTER 5: FINDING		
5.1	User Feedback and Usability Testing Result	72
5.2	Summary	74
CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK		
6.1	Introduction	75
6.1	Recommendation	77
6.2	Future Works	77
6.3	Conclusion	78
REFERENCES		79
APPENDIX A: QUESTIONNAIRE		82
APPENDIX B: USE CASE SPECIFICATION		85

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1: Diagrammatic Expression of the Study	7
Figure 2.1: General Web Application System Architecture	12
Figure 3.1: Agile Software Development Methodology (XP Approach)	19
Figure 4.1: Use Case Diagram	28
Figure 4.2: Sequence Diagram for Login	31
Figure 4.3: Login Interface	32
Figure 4.4: Sequence Diagram for Registration	33
Figure 4.5: Registration Interface	34
Figure 4.6: Sequence Diagram for Change Password	35
Figure 4.7: Change Password Interface	36
Figure 4.8: Sequence Diagram for Request Password	37
Figure 4.9: Request Password Interface	37
Figure 4.10: Sequence Diagram for Add Announcement	38
Figure 4.11: Add Announcement Interface	39
Figure 4.12: Sequence Diagram for View Announcement	39
Figure 4.13: View Announcement Interface	40
Figure 4.14: Sequence diagram of Add Listening Question	41
Figure 4.15: Add Listening Question Interface	42
Figure 4.16: Sequence diagram of Answer Listening Test	43
Figure 4.17: Answer Listening Test Interface	44
Figure 4.18: Sequence diagram of Add Writing Question	45
Figure 4.19: Add Writing Question Interface	46
Figure 4.20: Sequence diagram of Answer Writing Test	47

Figure 4.21: Answer Writing Test Interface	48
Figure 4.22: Sequence diagram of Add Reading Question	49
Figure 4.23: Add Reading Question Interface	50
Figure 4.24: Sequence diagram of Answer Reading Test	51
Figure 4.25: Answer Reading Test Interface	52
Figure 4.26: Sequence diagram of Add Staff Account	53
Figure 4.27: Add Staff Account Interface	54
Figure 4.28: Sequence diagram of Edit Staff Profile	55
Figure 4.29: Edit Staff Profile Interface	56
Figure 4.30: Sequence diagram of View Staff Profile	56
Figure 4.31: View Staff Profile Interface	57
Figure 4.32: Sequence diagram of Delete Staff Account	58
Figure 4.33: Delete Staff Account Interface	59
Figure 4.34: Sequence diagram of Add Student Account	60
Figure 4.35: Add Student Account Interface	61
Figure 4.36: Sequence diagram of Edit Student Account	62
Figure 4.37: Edit Student Account Interface	63
Figure 4.38: Sequence diagram of View Student Profile	63
Figure 4.39: View Student Profile Interface	64
Figure 4.40: Sequence diagram of Delete Student Account	65
Figure 4.41: Delete Student Account Interface	66
Figure 4.42: Sequence diagram of Add Exam Result	67
Figure 4.43: Add Exam Result Interface	68
Figure 4.44: Sequence diagram of View Exam Result	68
Figure 4.45: View Exam Result Interface	69

Figure 4.47: Class Diagram- 1	70
Figure 4.48: Class Diagram- 2	71
Figure 5.1: System Performance based on User Feedback	73
Figure 5.2: System Performance by Percentage	74

LIST OF TABLES

Table 3.1: Hardware Requirements	22
Table 3.2: Software Requirements	22
Table 4.1: Use Case Look-up Table	29

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASP	Active Server Pages
CGI	Common Gateway Interface
CBTs	Computer-based Tests
EMS	Exam Management System
HTML	HyperText Markup Language
JSP	Java Server Pages
LMS	Learning Management System
MCQ	Multiple Choice Question
MUET	Malaysia University English Test
PHP	Personal Home Page
SQL	Structured Query Language
SAS	Student Assessment System
TOEIC	Test of English for International Communication
UML	Unified Modeling Language
UUM	Universiti Utara Malaysia
XML	eXtensible Markup Language
XP	Extreme Programming

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-Skopalik & Pearson, 2008).

The contents of
the thesis is for
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