

CONFERENCE PROCEEDING

The Impact Of Public Speaking Proficiency On The Success Of Post-Spm Scholarship Interviews In Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

This research examines the role of public speaking proficiency in determining the success of Malaysian students in scholarship interviews following their Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) examinations. Year by year, scholarships are getting very competitive and mostly depend on candidates' interview performance, the study aims to understand how communication, the ideas projection and presentation skills determine interview outcomes for both local and international awards. Other than personal branding, one needs to be equipped to market themselves to their scholar-provider. This so called research begins by collecting the importance of interviews in scholarship selection, by knowing too that academic excellence alone may not meet the scholarship's requirements. Through a retrospective study from Kolej PERMATA Insan's students of SPM 2024 and previous years, including interviews with scholarship recipients and evaluators, the research explores how students prepare for interviews, the challenges they face, and the specific public speaking skills that contribute to successful outcomes for their interviews.

Keywords: *Public speaking proficiency*

INTRODUCTION

Securing a competitive scholarship is a major milestone for Malaysian students after completing SPM. While academic performance plays a vital role, interview performance often determines final selection. This study hypothesizes that students with strong public speaking skills are more likely to succeed in these interviews due to their ability to articulate thoughts, demonstrate confidence, and engage with interviewers.

Best reminder that the focus centre to get the excellent results include verbal articulation, confidence, body language, and the ability to effectively engage interviewers. The findings reveal that students who demonstrate strong public speaking abilities, such as clarity of thought, persuasive communication, and confident delivery, almost certainly secure scholarships. Plus, this research highlights that those skills needed are not innate but can be developed through practice, training, and exposure to speaking opportunities by several ways to get the maximum results.

In conclusion, the research emphasizes the crucial role of public speaking in scholarship interviews and advocates for its integration into school curricula and preparatory programs. By equipping students with powerful communication skills, educators can enhance students' chances

of securing financial support for higher education, thus promoting academic advancement and equal opportunity.

METHODOLOGY

Participants

40 scholarship recipients (local and overseas), post-SPM. 57 high scored SPM 2024 Kolej PERMATA Insan, USIM.

Instruments

Retrospective study from data available, direct questionnaire, websites and social media

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

High achievers from at least 10 A's

57 students with a good academic background and public speaking skills. 40 students awarded scholarship for local and overseas. Retrospectively top scholarship awarded to the students whom had excellent public speaking proficiency during secondary school studies.

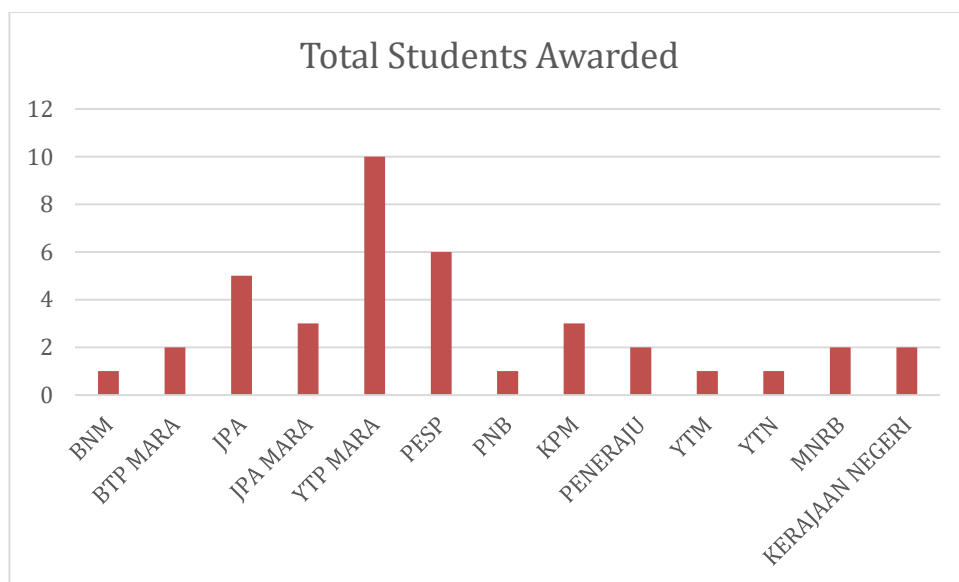


Figure 11. KPI SPM 2024 Students scholarship awards

CONCLUSION

A systematic blend of practice, exposure, mentorship, and confidence-building help to develop personal branding will be the key factor of successful scholarship award.

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