

Malay Transcript:

Chan: Di Malaysia, pendidikan adalah wajib untuk semua kanak-kanak dari usia tujuh tahun sehingga tujuh belas tahun. Pendidikan di Malaysia dibahagikan kepada dua tahap: tahap sekolah rendah dan tahap sekolah menengah. Di sekolah rendah, seorang murid perlu belajar selama enam tahun, dari darjah satu hingga darjah enam. Di peringkat sekolah menengah, seorang pelajar perlu belajar lima tahun, dari tingkatan satu hingga tingkatan lima. Izinkan saya jelaskan sistem di sekolah rendah dahulu.

Di sekolah rendah, seorang murid akan masuk sekolah pada umur tujuh tahun, dan semasa darjah satu dan dua, pelajar ini atau murid ini, dia akan diberi pelajaran atau pendidikan yang asas, iaitu dia akan diajar tiga 'M'¹. Tiga 'M' ini bermaksud membaca, menulis dan mengira². Diharapkan selepas dua tahun ini, seorang murid sudah boleh tahu membaca dalam bahasa Melayu, menulis dan juga mengira.

Lepas³ itu, di darjah tiga, barulah⁴ pelajar ini belajar mata pelajaran lain, seperti sains, geografi, sejarah dan lain pelajaran, dan murid ini akan belajar mata pelajaran ini sehingga darjah enam. Selain daripada mata pelajaran ini, seorang murid di sekolah rendah juga perlu belajar bahasa Inggeris sebagai bahasa kedua. Dan bagi murid yang berbangsa Cina atau India, dia juga berpeluang untuk ambil⁵ bahasa ibunda⁶. Kalau pelajar Cina, murid Cina, dia boleh ambil bahasa Cina⁷, dan murid India, dia boleh ambil bahasa India⁸.

Bila murid ini masuk darjah enam, dia dikehendaki mengambil peperiksaan kerajaan. Peperiksaan kerajaan atau peperiksaan am ini harus diambil; dia wajib untuk semua murid di darjah enam. Biasanya peperiksaan ini diadakan pada bulan September, dan pelajar, murid-murid ini akan diuji. Dia mesti ambil peperiksaan dalam mata pelajaran bahasa Melayu, bahasa Inggeris, matematik dan sains. Bagi murid-murid yang ambil bahasa ibunda, dia juga akan ambil peperiksaan untuk bahasa Cina atau bahasa India.

¹ 'Tiga "M"' or '3M' refers to *membaca, menulis dan mengira*, it is the Malay equivalent to the 3R's of reading, writing (writing) and arithmetic (arithmetic)

² *Mengira* means 'counting,' but in the English translation it is translated to 'arithmetic' to fit in with the 3Rs

³ *lepas* – abbreviation for the word *selepas*; Malay abbreviations are commonly used in everyday or informal speech, and also in text messages or online chats, but are considered incorrect or improper when used in official contexts, such as newspaper articles, when making public speeches or at school

⁴ *-lah* – *-lah* is a Malaysian suffix tacked on to the end of a word for verbal emphasis, but it doesn't actually mean anything

⁵ *Ambil* literally translates to 'take,' but in this context it means to take (a language), to study or to learn

⁶ *Bahasa ibunda* means mother tongue, or native language

⁷ *Bahasa Cina* refers to Mandarin, but it literally translates as 'the Chinese language'

⁸ Various Indian dialects are offered as languages of study at schools; there is no standard 'Indian language,' but the speaker uses the words *bahasa India* (literally translates as 'the Indian language') as a general term; the word dialect is used in the English translation for specificity

Peperiksaan ini dinamakan UPSR⁹, dan semua pelajar mesti lulus sekurang-kurangnya bahasa Melayu untuk masuk ke sekolah menengah. Seorang pelajar yang tidak dapat lulus dalam bahasa Melayu dalam UPSR terpaksa masuk kelas peralihan¹⁰. Semua orang akan masuk tingkatan satu di sekolah menengah, tapi pelajar yang gagal dalam bahasa Melayu, dia perlu masuk kelas peralihan.

English Translation:

Chan: In Malaysia, education is compulsory for all children from the ages of seven to 17. Education in Malaysia is divided into two levels: the primary school level and the secondary school level. In primary school, a pupil has to study for six years, from standard one to standard six. At the secondary school level, a student has to study for five years, from form one to form five. Allow me to explain the primary school system first.

In primary school, a pupil will enter school at the age of seven, and during [the years of] standard one and two, the student or pupil will be given a basic education, namely he¹¹ will be taught the three R's¹². The three R's are reading, writing and arithmetic¹³. It is hoped that after these two years, a pupil will know how to read in Malay, write and count as well.

After that, only in standard three will the student [get to] study other subjects, such as science, geography, history and other lessons, and the pupil will study these subjects until standard six. Apart from these subjects, a primary school pupil is also required to learn English as a second language. And as for the students who are ethnically Chinese or Indian, they have the chance to learn their mother tongue. If the student is Chinese, a Chinese pupil, he can take Mandarin¹⁴, and [for the] Indian students, they can study [an] Indian dialect¹⁵.

When a pupil enters primary six, he has to sit for a government examination. This government examination or general examination has to be taken [by all students]; it is compulsory for all pupils in standard six. This examination is usually held in the month of September, and the student's [or] the pupil's [knowledge] will be tested. The examination subjects that they have to take are Malay, English, mathematics and science. For the students who [choose to] study their mother tongue, they have to take an examination for [either] Mandarin or the Indian dialect [they studied].

⁹ UPSR: the acronym for *Ujian Penilaian Sekolah Rendah*, translates to 'Primary School Evaluation Test'

¹⁰ *Peralihan* literally means 'transition,' but in this context, the English translation is 'remedial class'

¹¹ The speaker uses the word *dia*, a third-person pronoun that is gender neutral. Here, 'he' is used just for translation purposes and refers to the pupil or student

¹² The Malay transcript reads 'Tiga "M"' or '3M' which refers to *membaca, menulis dan mengira*, it is the Malay equivalent to the 3R's of reading, 'riting (writing) and 'rithmetic (arithmetic)

¹³ *Mengira* means counting, but in the English translation it is translated to arithmetic to fit in with the 3Rs

¹⁴ *Bahasa Cina* refers to Mandarin, but it literally translates as 'the Chinese language'

¹⁵ Various Indian dialects are offered as languages of study at schools; there is no standard 'Indian language,' but the speaker uses the words *bahasa India* (literally translates as 'the Indian language') as a general term; the word dialect is used in the English translation for specificity

This examination is called UPSR¹⁶, and all students must pass at least Malay to [be able to] enter secondary school. A student who does not obtain a pass in Malay for their UPSR [examination] is forced to enter remedial class. Everyone will enter form one in secondary school, but [for the] students who fail in Malay, they have to be in remedial class.

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¹⁶ UPSR: the acronym for Ujian Penilaian Sekolah Rendah, translates to ‘Primary School Evaluation Test’