

Malay Transcript:

Pewawancara: Uh.. Adanya apa-apa subjek yang sa.. sama antara kedua-dua [kelas ini]...

Diwawancara: Oh, kedua-dua kelas ini mempunyai subjek kompulsori untuk kedua-duanya iaitu seperti Sejarah, Bahasa Malaysia, Bahasa Inggeris, dan Matematik Biasa¹.

Pewawancara: Matematik biasa?

Diwawancara: Mm.

Pewawancara: Um.. Pada pendapat kamu, mengapa mere... mengapakah mereka menjadikan Sejarah sebuah subjek kompulsori untuk kedua-dua kelas?

Diwawancara: Saya berfikir mereka berbuat begitu supaya um.. pelajar-pelajar yang belajar di kelas sains dan kelas senian tidak mempunyai perbezaan yang banyak. Mereka dapat berkomunikasi antara ah.. satu sama lain ah.. dan mereka tidak akan dibahagikan kepada kumpulan-kumpulan yang berbeza dan membijikan mereka.²

Pewawancara: Um.. Apakah subjek yang kamu paling suka?

Diwawancara: Mm.. saya... Sebagai pelajar seorang sains, saya lebih suka subjek Matematik Tambahan kerana subjek itu sangat menarik, uh.. juga kompleks serta seronok untuk belajar.

English Translation:

Interviewer: Uh.. Are there any subjects in common between these two streams³?

Interviewee: Oh, both streams have compulsory subjects like History, Malaysian language, English language, and Normal Mathematics⁴.

Interviewer: Normal Mathematics?

Interviewee: Mm.

¹ Matematik Biasa merangkumi algebra, geometri dan aritmetik.

² Ini merujuk kepada satu stereotaip sistem pendidikan Malaysia yang memandang rendah potensi akademik pelajar kelas senian.

³ Academic streaming is conducted by looking at students' test scores at the end of the ninth grade. Students with the higher percentile of scores are placed in the science stream while students with the lower percentile of scores are placed in the arts stream.

⁴ Normal Mathematics covers algebra, geometry and arithmetic.

Interviewer: Um.. In your opinion, why is History a compulsory subject for both streams?

Interviewee: I think that they did this so that the students in different streams will not feel a rift between the streams. They will be able to communicate with each other and won't feel like they have been categorized and isolated⁵.

Interviewer: Um.. What is yo ur favorite subject?

Interviewee: Mm.. I.. As a science stream student, I really like Additional Mathematics because the subject is interesting, uh.. and complex as well as enjoyable to study.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use every day. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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⁵ This hints at a Malaysian education stereotype that arts stream students are not as academically gifted as science stream students.