



Linguaskill Impact Evaluation: Enhancing student employability in Malaysia

Results speak for themselves: When high rates of your students find jobs in their area of study, you prove the value of your higher education programme.

While English is a core competence and very often essential for employability in STEM-related industries (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), as a skill, it naturally plays second-fiddle to subject components.

So, focusing on the transition from university to employment, our research team administered Linguaskill to students to investigate the impact English really has on their employability.

The outcomes were striking.

Linguaskill Impact Study: STEM Undergraduates in Malaysia

A number of impact evaluation studies demonstrate the positive impact that Linguaskill has had on learning and assessment at universities around the world.

One such study in Malaysia, funded by the [Cambridge English research programme](#), shows how Linguaskill can offer graduating students an advantage in the jobs market and be seen as a bonus by potential employers.

The study focused on the impact of Linguaskill on STEM undergraduate students' employability potential. It was conducted at Universiti Putra Malaysia, a public, leading-research university in Selangor, Malaysia – one of the largest in Malaysia, ranking no.2 in the country and no.132 in the QS World University Rankings 2021.

The team surveyed STEM students at the university, as well as a wide range of respondent profiles from companies in STEM industries, which operate internationally with English as a primary language.

Students motivated by employment opportunities with Linguaskill certification

The results from students were positive, with 82.8% agreeing or strongly agreeing that they feel motivated to apply for a job with the Linguaskill test certification. Many feel confident that the Linguaskill result will help them when applying for postgraduate studies, and that employers will be positively affected by the fact that they have taken the test.

The students were satisfied with Linguaskill's accuracy, with over three quarters agreeing or strongly agreeing that the test is able to correctly measure their overall English language ability.

Students also praised the adaptive nature of the test and described it as "user friendly". What's more, 84.9% of students agree or strongly agree that they feel confident about Linguaskill because it is a test by Cambridge.

Confidence in Cambridge

This confidence in Cambridge was also reflected in the feedback from the employers, one of whom commented:

"The fact that the test is from Cambridge would give me some confidence in the test."

The indication of quality assurance was also expressed by another respondent:

"I think [the] Linguaskill test report is reliable and valid for employers to indicate the potential of applicants because it covers almost all aspects of language proficiency."

70% of employers would consider job applicants with Linguaskill

All employers that participated were involved in the selection process for new employees at their companies. Their roles ranged from making decisions on who to call for interviews, sitting on interview panels and sending recommendations to upper management, to being involved in the final selection process.

More than 70% agree or strongly agree that they would be inclined to offer an applicant a job at their companies due to the overall English proficiency level indicated by the Linguaskill test score.

Further answers confirmed that “proficiency in Linguaskill will be an added advantage” in the selection process, and that “the certification does increase the chances of hiring as the candidates would probably perform better in the interview.”

Outstanding Linguaskill reports increase interview opportunities

All four employers that took part in the follow-up research interview indicated that outstanding Linguaskill results would help applicants get called for an interview.

One stated that scores at C1 and above help to identify a candidate's skill set and provide confidence that they “will be able to communicate and can work effectively.”

Another interviewee found the presentation of results to be useful, comprehensive and easy to read.

He commented that the “quick overview of what this person is able to do given the four sets of skills” allowed for a scale to see where people stand, which makes it a “useful screening tool” for HR.

Linguaskill assesses the four language skills vital for STEM industries

All four interviewees stated that English is the main language used in their industries. They highlighted the importance of proficiency in all four skills for job scope and description. As one interviewee mentioned:

“The industry demands good communication skills from the employee in order for him/her to engage effectively with stakeholders/clients.”

Linguaskill prides itself on effectively testing all four skills, and focusing on a communicative approach to demonstrate real-life English for the work or university environment.

Another interviewee recognised the implications of a high Linguaskill result:

“A high result means that applicants are able to express ideas freely in English and also possess all language skills.”

The cutting-edge alternative for employers

The Linguaskill test is oriented around real-world communication skills, making it a cutting-edge option for employers looking for the required proficiency in their industries.

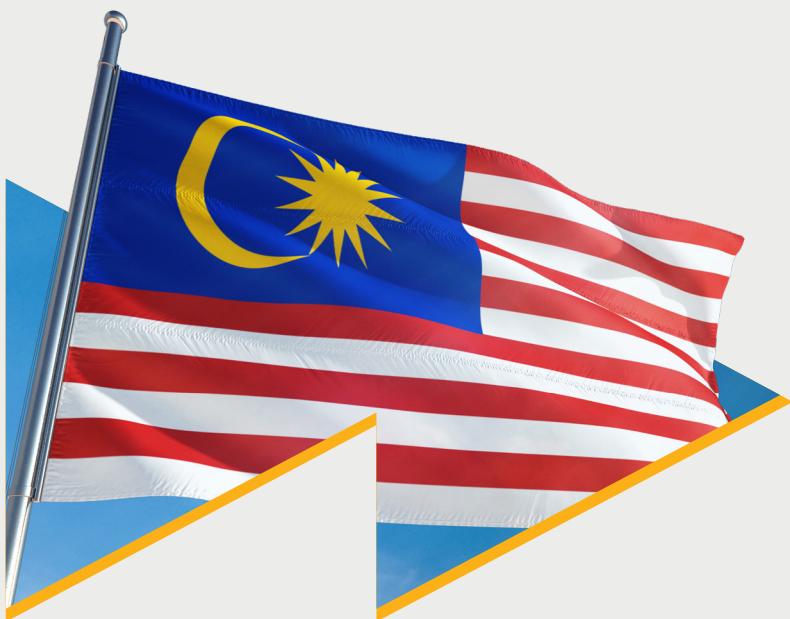
Linguaskill offers two types of test: Linguaskill General for everyday English, and Linguaskill Business for business-specific English. The nature of your business or institution will determine which is the best fit for you.

Proving your graduates' calibre via Linguaskill testing will enhance their career prospects, allowing them to stand out for competitive roles in the STEM industry.

This in turn will continue to attract students, consolidating your institution as a provider of valuable degrees with successful alumni.



The industry demands good communication skills from the employee in order for him/her to engage effectively with stakeholders/clients.



Find out more about how organisations around the world are using Linguaskill on our [website](#) or [contact us today](#) to find out more.