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INTERNATIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMME

## A. STUDENT/S TO COMPLETE

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## Declaration

By submitting this work you (the student) confirm that it is your own work and that you have read and understood the University’s regulations relating to plagiarism and collusion (details in your Programme Handbook, or see UPR 17. 1 Appendix 1, 1. 2. 7 available at http://www. herts. ac. uk/secreg/upr/upr17-1ap1. htm)\*By submitting this assignment and cover sheet electronically, in whatever form, you are deemed to have made the declaration set out above. Student Signature: Date: 14 MARCH 2013

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Kirkby International College practises internal moderation of assignments based on an agreed selection criteria. If there is an Internal Moderator’s signature, this assignment was selected to facilitate the internal moderation of this course. Education is very significant in the efforts of improving the standard of Malaysia. Thus, Ministry of Education had created National Philosophy of Education in 1988. National Philosophy of Education defines that " education in Malaysia is an on-going effort towards further developing the potential of individuals in a holistic and integrated manner, so as to produce individuals who are intellectually, spiritually, emotionally and physically balanced and harmonious based on a firm belief in and devotion to God. Such an effort is designed to produce Malaysian citizens who are knowledgeable and competent, who possess high moral standards and who are responsible and capable of achieving a high level of personal well-being as well as being able to contribute to the betterment of the family, society and the nation at large." It is as guidance for teachers in teaching and learning process. Teachers can plan their classes’ activities and schools’ programmes according to National Philosophy of Education. It is also a reference for Malaysian especially teachers to understand better about the education system which implemented in Malaysia. So, teachers may be aware of the objectives of school curriculum. It was formed based on four aspects which are rational and critical thinking, education reports and Ordinance, cultures of Malaysian society and National Principle. Furthermore, six factors that shape the contents of National Philosophy of Education include religious factor, international factor, social factor, economic factor, political factor and individual factor. There are several aims which can be found in National Philosophy of Education. It is aimed to produce knowledgeable and skilful individuals in various fields, for instance sports, academic, arts and music. It is also aimed to create individuals with belief and devotion in God. Therefore, students may become well-behaved if they possess moral values and follow the will of the God in their daily lives. It can produce balanced individuals in terms of physically, emotionally, spiritually, intellectually and socially. Moreover, it can create individuals with responsibility to self society, religion and nation. Individuals should contribute to the nation in order to help in the development of the country. It can also produce individuals who always tolerant and respect each other to foster the unity among various races. This indirectly will build a harmony and peaceful society. In order to achieve all the aims stated in National Philosophy of Education, Ministry of Education has introduced various types of curriculum for primary education since 1961. This is mainly because curriculum is the best way to actualise National Philosophy of Education in schools. At first, the school curriculum was formed by using Rahman Talib Report and Razak Report. However, before 1982, the government enforced Old Primary School Curriculum (KLSR). At this stage, traditional classrooms were used by all schools throughout Malaysia. Students seldom had the opportunity to carry out pair or group works because they generally sit line by line in the classroom in order to create a calm study environment. Their learning styles were in one-way only because they just received the knowledge from teachers without using their thinkingskills. Besides that, all the students needed to get pass Bahasa Melayu in public examinations. They were compulsory to sit for Standard 5 examination. Next, Integrated Primary School Curriculum (KBSR) was implemented fully in 1983. The four principles of KBSR are integrated approach, one education for all, holistic development of the individual and life-long learning. KBSR was more focusing on the development of individual potential which comprises physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and social (JERIS). Students were sitting in groups at this stage because this enables them to have discussion easily in the lessons. Teachers adopted student-centered teaching methods which motivate students to learn actively in the teaching and learning process. Students needed to sit for Primary School Achievement Test (UPSR) at the age of 12. Three skills which are reading, writing and counting skills were emphasised in the programme of KBSR. The curriculum in primary education in Malaysia has been improved to Standard Primary School Curriculum (KSSR) in 2011. This curriculum is aimed to ensure that every student pass the standard which was set by the government. KSSR is focusing on the development of counting, reading, writing and reasoning skills. Furthermore, a variety of assessment was been using by teachers to get know the achievement and development of each student in learning process. Primary School Achievement Test (UPSR) was still maintaining at this stage, but there was also school-based assessment for students. Apart from that, teachers play an important role to conduct curriculum in schools because they are implementers, adapters, developers and researchers. Teachers act as implementers in the development of curriculum as they are responsible to apply it into their lessons. They should also become adapters so that they may adopt and get used themselves to the new changes in the curriculum. They also have the responsibilities to be developers in the progress of curriculum in Malaysia. They have to contribute ideas to improve the curriculum in producing better generation. They may be researchers too in the progress of curriculum. This is because they need to evaluate the curriculum based on the results and performance of students. Hence, Ministry of Education can analyse the effective of curriculum towards the development of students’ mentality.

## Teachers’ Day

Other than that, schools had organised many activities to visualize the objectives of National Philosophy of Education every year. According to headmistress and senior assistant of SJK(C) Pei Yang, one of the activities carried out by the school last year is Teachers’ Day. Teachers’ Day was held on 16 May at the hall of the school. Normally, the school conducts the opening ceremony with the speech of Teacher Education Division, teacher representative and student representative. The attendance of students is compulsory on that day. Parents are also invited to attend as spectators in the ceremony. Therefore, they can get know their children’s involvement and achievement in school by chatting with teachers. All the teachers should be involved themselves as one of the members of organiser in Teachers’ Day. Teachers planned many activities that can get the participation of majority of students on that day. It can help to foster the relationships between teachers and students. School authority usually prepares some prizes for the winners in the activities. This is because these prizes as motivation for students to give full commitment and involve actively in the activities. The expenses used for this activity is sponsored by Parent- Teacher Association. Teachers’ Day is a day for students to show their appreciation to teachers. Students can give wishes and presents like cards to their teachers to thank for teachers’ contributions in teaching and taking care of them. This activity can benefit students by exposing the importance of appreciation to them. Students indirectly can also learn toappreciate the every single thing and assistance that they had in their lives. Thus, it can produce Malaysian citizens of high moral standards which uphold their principles and possess good personalities in their daily lives.

## Sport Day

Another activity is Sport Day which held annually. Sport Day has been held in Stadium Muar for a few years. This day is a unique day because it involves the participation of five schools which are SJK(C) Sing Hwa, SJK(C) Soon Cheng, SJK(C) Pei Chai, SJK(C) Chi Sin and SJK(C) Pei Yang. The school can build a good relationship with other schools through this activity indirectly. The school authorities must co-operate and tolerant with each other in order to carry out this activity successfully. The involvement of students is needed because of the marching team and cheering team besides sportsman. Students should show their commitment in order to succeed this activity together with teachers. All of these five schools have to select a few teachers as committee members in this activity. The selected teachers are as facilitators in this activity. They have to be responsible in handling all the competitions held on that day. For example, they must examine the sport equipment first before carrying out the competitions. Furthermore, the expenses are equally financially-supported by 5 schools. For the authority of SJK(C) Pei Yang, they use the school funds or sponsorships from Parent-Teacher Association to pay for the costs used in Sport Day. The objective of Sport Day is to develop the interest of students in sports. Every student has to attend the practice for the preparation of Sport Day. It is also an opportunity for students who love sports to show their talents because teachers need to choose the best student to take part in the sport competition. This activity is able to helpstudents to be more socialize because they can meet many new friends who are from other schools. Hence, it can bring the students into being competent Malaysian citizens and develop physical elements to the students as they may be aware of the significance of practicing physical activities.

## Camping

The third activity that had organised by the school is camping. It was held for two days on 14 and 15 July 2012 at Denai Alam. This camping was participated by 160 students who are from different uniform groups such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and St. John Ambulance. The organiser had planned many meaningful and exciting activities in the camping, for instance outdoor survival, obstacle race and campfire. Students have to build up their tents by their own but under the concern of teachers. Students also have to be disciplined and follow the rules of camping that was set by the organiser. They should also co-operate with other members and involve energetically to strive for the best in those activities. The school authority did not face any difficulty in financial because vice-president of Parent-Teacher Association is sponsored all the expenditure of conducting this camping. There are various aims of planning this activity by the school. One of them is to expose students to the natural environment. They can understand the ecology of the natural environment better by exploring it. They will also learn the importance of preserving Mother Earth. In addition, it is aimed to train students to become independent individuals. They cannot always rely on others to accomplish their own tasks. They also need to face and try to solve their hardships that they encountered when they grown up. It is also aimed to help students to cultivate the spirit of leaderships which can benefit them a lot in the future. It is very important for individualswhen they work as leaders in the company. Therefore, it is capable to create balanced Malaysian citizens with intellectual, spiritual, emotional and physical elements. It can also produce competent Malaysian citizens as they have to compete with other groups in order to get the first place in every activity. Besides, Malaysian citizens who are capable of achieving personal well-being can be produced through this camping because they will be ready to take the challenges in life.

## Drama Camp

Moreover, the school had organised a drama camp in the efforts of insisting the contents of National Philosophy of Education. It was conducted for 3 days and 2 days on 10 and 12 August 2012 in the school. It was the first time for the school to carry out this camp. The school authority had invited some drama experts to give assistance and guide students to perform better. The students had made efforts to improve their performing skills through this camp. Students were given a chance to perform in the front of their parents and teachers during the closing ceremony. It was also the time to test and obtain the results by teachers towards the talents of students. Furthermore, the alumni had lent hands for school authority to reduce the burdens of teachers. They also took the challenge of becoming the programmers in the camp. Besides that, the parents gave contributions in helping teachers to prepare meals for students in these 3 days. This activity was held successfully with the great satisfaction from most of the participants and parents. This activity is planned to help students to develop their performing arts talent and creativity. Students should be creative to think the interesting way of performing their talents to attract the attention of the audience. It is also meant to enhance the confidence level of students. It is also aimed to inculcate the spirit of co-operation in the teamwork so that students can exchange ideas with other members. Thus, it improves the development of individual potentials in the area of performance as they are exposed to the techniques of doing a better performance.

## UPSR Additional Class

The fifth activity which was held by the school is UPSR additional class. It is carried out before three months of the examination of UPSR. It was on every Saturday from 8. 00 o’ clock in the morning to 12. 00 o’clock in the evening. It is only involved the attendances of Year 6 students. Students are requested to give reasons for the absence. The students have to attend two lessons for the different subjects every Saturday. They are encouraged to bring textbooks as references to check for the answer. The students were divided equally into eight smaller groups based on the results of their precious monthly examination. So, they can be more focused on the lessons and teachers can also pay more attention to every student especially those who are poor in academic. Students can also get the explanation in more details to understand better in the subject. Moreover, students can practice more exercises and trial papers of other states through these additional classes. This can expose students to more questions. The main objective of holding this activity is to achieve more excellence students with grade A in the UPSR. This is because the result is the symbolic of the efforts of schools had done to students. So, teachers are responsible to guide students in academic to obtain excellent results in the UPSR. Other than that, this additional class is planned for giving some tips for students to prepare the UPSR. So, it is able to produce individuals who possess intellectual elements because they are willing to gain more information to increase their knowledge.

## Group Discussion

On the other hand, teachers also carried out various activities during the lessons in the classrooms. This is to actualize the National curriculum in the progress of molding the student’s behaviour and believes. First and foremost, group discussion is the most suitable way to shape the student’s behaviour based on the opinion of Mr. Adrian. This is because group discussion involves sharing of the knowledge among a few students. According to Mr. Adrian, he usually gives the opportunity for students to choose their team’s members. However, if he noticed that there is a group of students do not carry out the task that he assigned to them, he will separate them to the other groups. He will also check and give assistance for students to accomplish the task correctly during the discussion. The main objective of group discussion in the teaching process is to learn from each other by contributing ideas towards the task given. Therefore, students can gain more knowledge by participating themselves in the group discussion. Group discussion is also able to create a bond of the good relationships among students because they have to tolerant with each other during the discussion. They cannot be selfish to use all their own points only, but need to accept the other ideas as well. The Malaysian citizens of high moral standards can be created through the activity of group discussion as they uphold good moral values like respect to others, be responsible and be rational in doing things.

## Quiz

Another activity which can be found in the classroom to mold the behaviour and believes of students is quiz. Quiz is an informal test in which answering questions by using spoken language. Based on the result of interview, he said that he gives his students to play quiz after every lesson because he wants to ensure that every student are focusing on his lesson. All the questions that he asked are based on his explanation during the lesson. He will choose those students who are naughty and do not pay attention to answer his question. He had pointed out that students will get punishment such as writing the question and answer for 20 times. By writing repeatedly, the students can remember the answer when they see the same question in the examination. Quiz is important to test the understanding of students towards the particular topic. It is also significant for teachers to know better about the level of students in the classroom. Therefore, teachers can do some changes in the teaching strategies and materials. By implementing this activity, knowledgeable Malaysian citizens might be created. They can enlarge their understanding by focusing in this activity.

## Games

The third activity which he applied into the process of teaching and learning is playing games. There is a wide variety of games includes Spelling Bee, Hanging Man, puzzle and so on. He often provides games for them to play in the middle of the lesson. The duration of session of games is usually within 30 minutes. This is because they feel bored easily after a longer period of time in studying. Therefore, he tries to give input by playing games. Students must raise up their hands before he pointed them to answer the question. He will give the chance for other students if the selected student cannot provide the correct answer. The objective of playing these games is to challenge students in applying the grammar rules and vocabulary that they had learned into the games. Teachers can check for the level of understanding of students by observing their involvement and performance in these games. Games are also significant for students to learn in an interesting and relaxing way. Students will not feel stress and bored when playing games. This indirectly will also boost the interest of students in studying. Hence, these games may turn students into being knowledgeable and competent Malaysian citizens in the future. They can train themselves to compete with others in order to get the opportunity to answer questions.

## Videos

Watching videos in the classroom is another activity to actualize the National Philosophy of Education in the efforts of forming students’ behaviour and believes. Videos demonstrate the images, animation and sound efforts, so that they can be attracted to the videos easily. He always searches for videos which benefit students in aspects of behaviour and believes to give more exposures to students. He asks students to explain the main ideas of the videos after watching them. This is to make sure students pay attention during his lessons. He also provides the session of question and answer to students, so they can receive extra information and expend their understanding. Watching videos is aimed to expose more information about behaviour and believes to students. Students will get the real view of being a well-behaved people. They will also be aware of the importance of behaviour and believes after watching the videos. They may also realize their negative behaviour that they possessed in the past and try to change themselves into high moral standards of Malaysian citizens.

## Story-telling

The last activity that mentioned by Mr. Adrian is carrying out the practice of story-telling. Story-telling is an activity in which the speaker tells the story with the gestures and intonation. The students are asked to take turn and do the practice of story-telling every week. They are requested to find for a story which is about 5 pages. The duration of story-telling is within 10 minutes. He noted down the marks for each speaker. The best speaker will be picked up from the participation of all students by Mr. Adrian. He will also give the best speaker a present. This award is actually as encouragement for students to prepare well in this activity. The aims of carried out this activity are to increase the confidence level of students and improve the fluency of speaking languages. They are potential to become someone who is good speaker. Teachers indirectly can train them to become a story-teller. Apart from that, teachers can also check the pronunciation of each student. Teachers may correct the pronunciation and mistakes done by the students immediately after listening to the story. Thus, they can learn better from their own mistakes. Knowledgeable Malaysian citizens can be produced by applying this activity into the lessons. This activity can also help to improve the development of individuals’ potentials. In conclusion, National Philosophy of Education plays an important role in the development of education in Malaysia. Teachers are the ones who carry the responsibility as the implementers of the National Philosophy of Education to students. Hence, teachers should conduct various activities in the schools and classroom to produce balanced individuals in aspects of physical, emotional, spiritual, intellectual and social. Teachers should also plan their teaching lesson according to the contents and aims of National Philosophy of Education in order to bring it to the realization.

## Appendix:

## Biography

## Principal

Name: Lee Ai HuangAge: 51 years oldDate of birth: 7. 6. 1962Post: HeadmistressReligion: BuddhaAddress: SJK (C) Pei Yang, Bt 1 ½, Jalan Bakri, 84000 Muar, Johor. Gender: FemaleRace: ChineseYears of teaching: 27 years

## Senior Assistant

Name: Tan Geok HwiAge: 48 years oldDate of birth: 22. 3. 1965Post: Senior AssistantReligion: BuddhaAddress: 49, Jalan Putera 3, Taman Putera Indah, Jalan Salleh, 84000 Muar, Johor. Gender: FemaleRace: ChineseYears of teaching: 22 years

## Interview Question of Headmaster and Senior Assistant

What are activities carried out in school? When are these activities held? Where are these activities held? What are the aims of these activities? Who are targeted in these activities? Did parents involve in these activities? Is there any reward for students who are participated? Did school authority face any problems in handling these activities? How did school authority solve the problems? Did school authority get sponsorship? How did school authority get sponsorship? Did school authority carry out activities which require the involvement of students of other schools? Did these activities carry out successfully? Did parents and school authority satisfy with the achievement? What were the responses of students regarding these activities?

## Biography

## Teacher

Name: Adrian Ng Wen YongAge: 26 years oldDate of birth: 15. 2. 1987Post: TeacherReligion: BuddhaAddress: No. 14/21, Lorong Perkasa, Jalan Haji Jaib, 84000 Muar, Johor. Gender: MaleRace: ChineseYears of teaching: 2 years

## Interview Question of Teacher

What are the activities carried out in classroom? What are the objectives of these activities? What activity is the best way to mold the student’s behavior? How did you carry out these activities? What are the roles of teacher in these activities? Did every student in the classroom involve in these activities? Did you face any problem with students in these activities? How did you solve the problems? Did these activities require any expenses? What should you do when students are uncooperative? How can you make these activities more interesting? What were the achievements in these activities? How did you encourage your students to involve actively in these activities? How were the responses of students towards these activities? Are these activities planned based on the aims of National Philosophy of Education?