A SURVEY OF PROBLEMS AND NEEDS OF THE
ENGLISH STUDENTS AT MAHIDOL UNIVERSITY FOR THE USE OF
THE FOUR SKILLS OF ENGLISH

BY

Prasit P. Pongsalard

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Thesis Title: A Survey of Needs, Wants and Problems of the Medical Students at Mahidol University for the Use of the Four Skills of English

Author: Nanta Phonprakob

Degree: Master of Arts

Major Advisor: Ass't Professor Dr. Sarut Moobiasaj

Department: Applied Linguistics

Faculty: Graduate Studies

Date of Graduation: January 22, 1975

Abstract

This paper investigated the needs, wants and problems of the medical students for the use of the four skills of English in their studies and in their future occupation. Subjects included 70 first year medical students, 21 third year medical students, 196 lecturers at pre-clinic and clinic levels of the two Faculties of Medicine at Mahidol University, 30 interns and 123 residents from Siriraj and Ramathibodi hospitals, and 16 administrators of the medical schools and hospitals at Mahidol University: Ramathibodi and Siriraj.

Different questionnaires were distributed to the first year and third year medical students, interns, residents and some of the lecturers. Structured interviews were given to the administrators and the rest of the lecturers.

The results showed that reading is the skill most needed both in their studies and in their future professions. The medical students do not have much need for English especially the writing, listening and speaking skills. However, listening and speaking are the skills most wanted by the medical students.