Students’ self-perceived competence on mock job interview

This study explores the students’ perception elf-perceived competence and actual performance of diploma-level mechanical engineering students during mock job interviews conducted as part of their English communication course. With the increasing importance of English proficiency in Malaysia’s competitive job market, particularly in interview settings, the research investigates students’ self-perception on their readiness and ability to perform in simulated job interviews. A total of 39 students participated in the study, completing a self-evaluation questionnaire. The findings reveal that while students generally perceived themselves as being prepared especially in aspects such as appearance, demeanour, and basic interview etiquette—there is a noticeable gap in their perceived performance, particularly in areas related to spoken grammar, clarity, and fluency. The results underscore the need for targeted instruction in linguistic accuracy, structured speaking, and real-time communication strategies. This study offers practical implications for educators seeking to enhance students’ employability through language training and interview skill development.