

English may be made a must

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. —
The Government may make English language a compulsory subject in examinations if the standard among students continues to deteriorate, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister, expressing anxiety over the deterioration in the standard of the language, said it was necessary to master English along with Bahasa Malaysia.

"In this modern era, knowledge of one language only is insufficient, and English is recognised as an international language," he told reporters.

Dr Mahathir said he hoped the necessary measures would be taken by the Education Ministry, parents and teachers to upgrade the use of English.

He also said that proposals had been made repeatedly by various quarters to make a pass in the English language compulsory in examinations but the Government had yet to decide.