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Two win trip to England in contest

VISITING England may be just a dream for many but for two Malaysian students, the dream became a reality when they won the Oxford University Malaysia Club Ethos-British Airways Essay Competition.

The competition which ended on July 31 was open to students aged between 15 and 24 studying in local institutions of higher learning.

Ananthi Ramiah of Help College, Petaling Jaya, won in the English category while Mimi Azreen Abdullah of Sekolah Menengah Tok Jiring, Terengganu, won in the Bahasa Malaysia section.

In the English category students were required to discuss a statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the importance of having authority as reported in the Dec 9, 1996 edition of Time magazine while in the Bahasa Malaysia category participants were required to discuss how critical mindedness is a hindrance to Malaysia's development.

The winners won a British Airways ticket to England where they would spend four nights and be able to experience life at Oxford University.

The uniqueness of this trip is that the students will be privy to the life of a real Oxford scholar where they will have meals at the dining halls, attend lectures and be given guided tours of the famed hall where Einstein expounded his theories.

Ananthi and Mimi, together with consolation prize winners, received their Prizes from Universiti Malaya former vice-chancellor Professor di-Raja Ungku Abdul Aziz Ungku Abdul Hamid at Taylor's College, Subang Jaya recently.

The competition which attracted 40 entries for both categories was judged by Ungku Abdul Aziz.

British Airways marketing and business analysis manager Amy Ho said the airline was delighted to be able to offer the winners the opportunity to visit the United Kingdom.

Ananthi who was thrilled with her win heard about the competition from an old school teacher.

"I did a lot of research and talked to a few people before starting on the essay," she said.

Ananthi who recently finished her A-Levels will be going to Oxford in October to further her studies.

The competition also offered five consolation prizes of a year's subscription of Ethos magazine.

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