

SPM listening tests to be improved periodically – minister

Malaysiakini

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Education Minister Fadhlina Sidek acknowledged receiving complaints on the SPM English listening test and promised that there will be improvements.

"God willing, we will make improvements from time to time," she told reporters in Bangi, Selangor, today, according to Sinar Harian.

Fadhlina was responding to complaints by SPM candidates who complained that they had trouble comprehending the speaker in the English listening test last Thursday (Feb 16).

Among others, there were complaints on social media claiming that the speaker was speaking too fast, slurring and carrying a strange accent.

Some social media users are also speculating that voice actor used was a Tiktok influencer.

Fadhlina (above) said there should be no issue regarding the Tiktok influencer

because the English listening test was recorded a long time ago.

"I wish to stress that the test was recorded earlier. The issue surrounding the Tiktok influencer does not arise.

"Secondly is the issue of integrity. This needs to be discussed. The Examination Board and the Education Ministry will ensure that there is integrity by taking into account the authenticity, veracity and credibility of the voice used," she said.

Yesterday, the Examination Board denied using a Tiktok influencer to create the listening test. Instead, the voice actor used were teachers, lecturers, and school and university students who are proficient in English.

The Examination Board said the speaker's speech speed rate was based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages competency level.

"In addition, pre-tests were also conducted with the participation of students in different locations - urban and rural - to check whether the items or instruments are suitable and meet the specified quality level," according to the board.

Malaysiakini has reached out the to Tiktok influencer, identified by some social

media, and the person's manager for comments.

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