

Master English

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PM: Malaysians must be competent in the language to compete globally

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysians must master the command of English to compete in a globalised world, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said.

He said competency and proficiency in the language were vital for success.

As a country, he said, Malaysia would stand a better chance of succeeding and safeguarding its interests if its people excelled in the language.

For instance, to be active and effec-

tive in negotiations at the World Trade Organisation, preparation on the subject was not the only strength required, he said.

"We must be competent and proficient in English. You must be able to put forward your ideas," he said at a pre-Budget 2005 dialogue at the Finance Ministry here yesterday.

Abdullah said in a Bernama report that a good idea would not be benefi

● **TURN TO PAGE 2**