Please submit a DETAILED REPORT using the following guidelines when examining the thesis. The objective is to help students to effectively incorporate all recommended amendments based on these comments.

The examiner is expected to keep the thesis material confidential until it is made public by the student through publication or by deposition in the library.

1. THESIS TOPIC (TITLE)
Determine whether the title is grammatically correct, contains important and pertinent keywords found in the abstract, and reflects the actual research issues addressed in the study. If the title requires improvement, do suggest a suitable title. Document JKPS255.08/27.03.06 (Appendix 1) provides additional guidelines for determining a suitable title for a thesis.

2. ABSTRACT
Determine whether the abstract accurately reflects the study that was conducted. The abstract should contain a (i) brief statement of the problem or objectives, (ii) concise description of the research method and design, (iii) summary of the major findings and (iv) brief conclusions. Please suggest improvements, where relevant.

3. RESEARCH PROBLEMS AND OBJECTIVES
Determine whether the background to the pertinent research issues is well discussed, the research problems well defined, and the hypotheses address the defined research problems. Determine whether the objectives are clearly stated and met by the research methodology/design used and findings. Suggest improvements, if necessary.

4. SCOPE AND RELEVANCE
Determine whether the scope of the study is appropriate for the degree it is intended and suggest improvements, where relevant. The level of appropriateness is a relative concept, and therefore, needs to be addressed by considering the following factors:

a) Field of study (Example: Pure sciences and social sciences have different perception of scope);

b) Research issues in a particular field; and

c) Practicability of the addressed research problems (Example: the scope could be limited by financial, time and other constraints).

d) Research objectives
5. **LITERATURE REVIEW**
   i) Determine whether the literature review:
      a) is relevant to the research issues
      b) is comprehensive and takes into consideration past and current literature
      c) is well reviewed, summarised, organised and consistent with the sequence of the research issues addressed in the study
      d) has identified the gap of knowledge
      e) is proportionate relative to the rest of the thesis
      f) contains too much text book materials (it should be kept to a minimum)

   ii) Please provide feedback to improve the literature review.

6. **METHODOLOGY/MATERIALS AND METHODS**
   Determine whether the:
   a) collection, strengths and weaknesses of the data used in the study are clearly specified
   b) research design (e.g. sample size, choice of methods etc) is suitable and appropriate to meet or address the specified objectives or research issues of the study.
   d) use or choice of methods is well defined and justified
   e) methods used in the study are clearly described to allow replication by other researchers
   f) statistical analysis or package used is appropriate
   g) methods used are properly and adequately referenced

7. **ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULTS**
   Determine whether the
   a) results obtained are in agreement with the stated objectives of study
   b) interpretation of the findings is logical or acceptable within the context of the issues of interest
   c) analysis of the data using the chosen methodology has been properly specified
   d) findings are discussed with appropriate references and candidate has related this to previous published work, where relevant.

   Please suggest ways to improve this section.

8. **PRESENTATION**
   Determine whether:
   a) the sequence of chapters, and sections in each chapter are able to facilitate the understanding of the research issues
   c) tables, pictures and any other form of summarised information properly labelled, numbered, and placed in the appropriate sequence and section of the thesis
   e) the same research data is presented in more than one form (e.g. both table and figure)
   f) figures especially photographs are clearly reproduced

   Please provide suggestions to improve the presentation as listed immediately above.

9. **REFERENCES/BIBLIOGRAPHY**
   Determine:
   a) the extensiveness of the bibliography/reference list
   b) whether current references are included
   c) whether any reference cited in the text is missing or wrongly cited, and
10. ACcomplishment And/OR Merits
Indicate whether:
- a) the author has clearly identified and discussed the contributions of the findings to the knowledge in the area, and the applicability of the findings in addressing the research problems in the study
- b) the stated objectives are achieved
- c) there are any other accomplishments that merit a mention

11. Demerits
Indicate whether:
- a) the main weaknesses of the research and their impacts on the findings are properly addressed by the author
- b) there are any other demerits (Example: contents, language, relevance, etc.)
- c) the Similarity Text Search Report shows text that have been plagiarised. Please provide further comments, where relevant.

12. Recommendation
Conclude the evaluation of the thesis by stating your professional opinion on the overall acceptability of the thesis (after taking into account all the above considerations), whether it is worthy of the degree pursued or otherwise. The outcome of the examination should be reported as one of the following:

(a) Accepted with Distinction
A thesis is accepted with distinction when all or most of the research findings have either been published or accepted for publication in citation-indexed journals, and requires minimal improvement in spelling, grammar and syntax only.

(b) Accepted with Minor Modifications
A thesis is accepted with minor modifications if it requires any of the following: reformatting of chapters, revision of literature, improvement in declaration of research objectives or statements, insertion of missing references, amendment of inaccurately cited references, and other minor improvements including improvements in spelling, grammar and syntax.

(c) Accepted with Major Modifications
A thesis is accepted with major modifications if it requires any of the following but not additional experimental work or data collection: extensive revision of the entire thesis to improve quality such as major improvement in description of methodology, statistical re-analysis of research data, removal of research chapter(s), and re-discussion of the results, and including improvements in spelling, grammar and syntax.

The examiner may recommend that the student seek the assistance of an editing service if errors in grammar and syntax are extensive.

(d) Re-submission of Thesis
The thesis should be recommended for re-submission if it does not meet the scope of the degree for which it is intended, the objectives of the research are not met and/or when
there are obvious flaws in the experimental design and/or methodology, and therefore, requires additional experimental work or data collection.

(e) Fail
A `Fail’ status is given if the thesis fails to meet the requirements of PhD or Masters academic level or found to have been plagiarised.

Appendix 1 (JKPS255.08/27.03.06)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING THE TITLE OF THESIS BY THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>When preparing the report for a thesis being examined, the examiner is required to determine whether the title of the thesis is grammatically correct and reflective of the study undertaken (as stated in the <code>Guidelines for Preparation of Thesis Examination Report’ and the </code>Final Examination Report Form’). In addition to the two, the examiners, being also members of the Examination Committee, should consider the following guidelines when deciding on the most appropriate title for the thesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Ensure that important keywords are found in both the title and abstract of the thesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. For titles in Bahasa Melayu, terms used are actually those found in the <code>Dewan Kamus’ or </code>Istilah Bahasa Melayu’ for the relevant fields of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Do not allow the use of abbreviations (e.g. AMN etc) and/or acronyms (e.g. UNITAR) unless they are universally accepted in the field of study e.g. DNA, ESL, PCR. Use, instead, the full terminology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Do not allow the use of a colon (:) or dash (-) e.g. ‘Bacillus subtilis amylase: Purification and Characterisation’ or ‘Bacillus subtilis amylase - Purification and Characterisation’. The title may be replaced with ‘Purification and Characterisation of Bacillus subtilis amylase’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Ensure that when both the common and scientific names of an organism (where applicable) are mentioned, the common name is stated first followed by the scientific name (including variety if known) in parenthesis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Where possible avoid, do not allow the title to begin with <code>The ......’. e.g. Use </code>Effect of ........‘ instead of `The Effects of ....‘.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Do not allow the use of phrases such as <code>A study of .....‘, </code>Studies on .....”</td>
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</table>