INFO BAHASA

The word **kamu** (your) can also be shortened to **-mu** by attaching it to the word. For example, **nama kamu** becomes nama*mu* (your name). Similarly, **dia** (his/her) can be changed to **-nya**, provided that it is also attached to the possession word. Thus 'his name' can be expressed as either **nama dia** or **nama***nya*.

There are some occasions when you must use other words. For example, the word **kamu** (you) would never be used to address someone older. **Anda** is a formal use of 'you', used to address someone with whom you are not very familiar. Some people use **Anda** to address an older person. However, this word is never used to address your parents or teachers. See the **Pojok budaya** below to find out why.

Honorifics

The Indonesian culture regards older people with much respect. Your female teachers should be called **Ibu**, which means 'Miss' or 'Mrs'. You can also shorten it to **Bu** and put it before her last name, for example Bu McFarlane. For a male teacher, the term of address is **Bapak**, which means 'Sir'. You can shorten it to **Pak**, for example **Pak Dent.** So the next time you speak to your Indonesian teacher, why not address them as **Ibu** or **Bapak?** The same words can also be used when speaking to your parents, because **Ibu** literally means 'mother' while Bapak means 'father'.

Siapa namamu?

What is your name:

Siapa namamu? literally means 'Who is your name?' In Indonesia, **siapa?** [who] is always used to ask a person's name instead of 'what?' You can use the question **apa nama?** [what is the name?] when referring to an object or thing, but not a person.