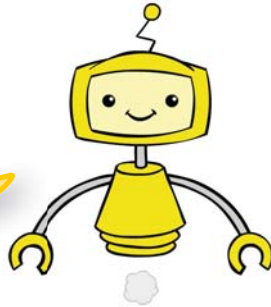


You can't please everybody

Anna is always complaining about something, but no one asks my opinion about anything. It's just not fair! *Aku juga punya pendapat!*

This work sheet focuses on giving your opinion and offers some different ways of expressing likes and dislikes.



LINKS TO:

Stage 2, Module 10
Learning Object 3: I agree

PRIOR LEARNING:

Stage 1

Module 5 Work Sheet 2: *What do you like to play*

Stage 2

Module 2 Work Sheet 2: *Comparing stuff*



In my opinion ...

1

Generally, Indonesian people are not inclined to give blunt or frank opinions about things, unless they are very close to the person to whom they are speaking, or are in a position of authority, such as an employer. This is closely tied to the cultural practice of maintaining face, where being humble and not imposing on other people is viewed as a virtue.

Indonesians often soften their opinions by commencing the sentence with *saya kira ...*, or *saya pikir ...*, which means 'I think ...'

In formal Indonesian *saya kira...* and *saya pikir...* are followed by *bahwa*, but in everyday conversation *bahwa* is usually omitted.

For example:

Saya kira bahwa akting Jacki Topp kurang meyakinkan (formal).

Saya pikir akting Jacki Topp kurang meyakinkan (informal).

I think Jacki Topp's acting is not all that convincing.

In the group discussion in Module 10, Learning Object 3, *I agree*, we heard Peter's classmate disagreeing with someone. To soften her opinion, she said:

Aku pikir hip-hop adalah musik yang paling baik.

I think hip-hop music is the best.

Other phrases that can be used to express opinion in a more forthright manner are *menurut (pendapat) saya*, 'in my opinion', and *bagi saya ...*, 'for me ...'

All these expressions, while normally placed at the beginning of a sentence, can also be placed at the end when used in spoken language. The effect is to emphasise the topic and make *your* personal opinion an afterthought.

For example:

Hip-hop adalah musik yang paling baik, menurut saya.

Hip-hop music is the best, in my opinion.

More ways of expressing like

In Learning Object 3, *I agree*, we saw Peter participating in a group discussion about topics such as sport, music, food and movies. You even had a chance to submit a *pendapat*, 'opinion', on Peter's behalf.

You already know how to use the phrases *suka* and *tidak suka* to say whether you like something or not.

If you're having trouble recalling these patterns, you might like to revise the work you have already done.

In Stage 1, Module 1,
Work Sheets 7 and 8,
*Expressing likes
and dislikes 1 and 2*

Let's look at some of the phrases covered in Learning Object 3.

These will help you expand your range of expressions, so you can say something more than just 'I like it', or 'I don't like it'.

Positive	Negative (not ...)
<i>menyenangkan</i> (enjoyable)	<i>tidak menyenangkan</i>
<i>enak</i> (delicious)	<i>tidak enak</i>
<i>asyik</i> (fantastic, awesome)	<i>tidak asyik</i>
<i>keren</i> (cool, good-looking)	<i>tidak keren</i>

We also heard one of Peter's classmates talking about *telur asin*, saying that the dish was *sangat tidak enak*, 'very unpleasant'.

... *sama sekali tidak suka* ... is used when talking about something considered repulsive or loathsome.

For example:

Aku sama sekali tidak suka telur asin.

I absolutely detest salted duck eggs.

Note:

Telur asin, or salted duck egg, is a preserved food product made by soaking duck eggs in brine, or packing each egg in damp, salted charcoal. From the salt-curing process, the salted duck eggs have a briny aroma, a liquid egg white and a firm-textured, round yolk that is bright orange-red in colour.

Salted duck eggs are normally boiled before being peeled and eaten as a condiment to steamed rice, and a range of other foods. The egg white has a sharp, salty taste. The orange red yolk is rich, fatty, and less salty.

The regency* of Brebes, an area in Central Java, is famous throughout Indonesia for the production of *telur asin*, where it has been a local specialty since about 1770.

*Indonesia is divided into government administrative areas called provinces. In turn, provinces are divided into regencies, each with its own capital city.



Exercise 1

Following on from the group discussion in Learning Object 3, *I agree*, Peter has been asked to lead a small group discussion with his Indonesian classmates about some Australian cultural icons.

The topics are:

- 1.1 Kriket adalah olahraga yang menyenangkan.
- 1.2 Jack Thompson aktor yang sangat meyakinkan.
- 1.3 Vegemite adalah makanan yang sehat dan enak.

Hint! If you are having trouble getting started, go back and view Learning Object 3, *I agree*, one more time for some hints.

For each topic, or statement, write a brief conversation between Peter and at least two other classmates.

Include an opinion *for* and an opinion *against* the statement.

1.1 Kriket adalah olahraga yang menyenangkan.

Peter

Ardi

Tono

Peter

1.2 Jack Thompson aktor yang sangat meyakinkan.

Peter

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Ardi



Tono



Ardi

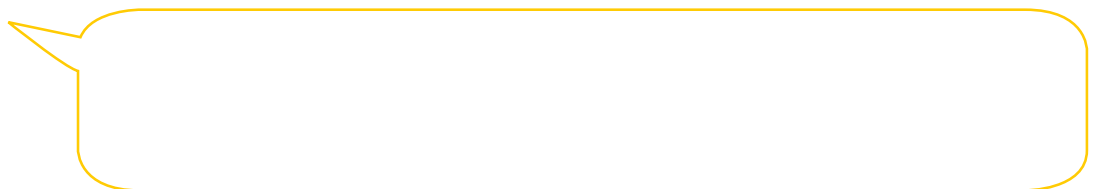


1.3 Vegemite adalah makanan yang sehat dan enak.


Peter



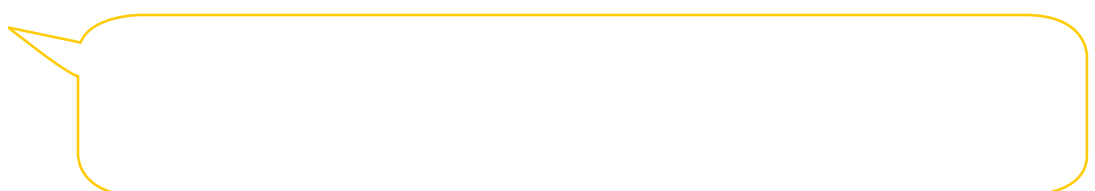
Ardi



Tono



Ardi



Exercise 2

Anna is flicking through an Indonesian magazine. She finds a page entitled *Pendapat Pembaca* and reads some of the contributions.

Read the contributions and answer the questions that follow.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 **S**aya pikir film Indonesia adalah film yang terbagus. Rano Karno adalah seorang aktor yang paling hebat dan juga sangat ganteng. Saya pikir film Amerika kurang begitu menarik. Tolong jelaskan lebih lanjut tentang film Indonesia di majalah Anda.
Tuti Sudharmono

2 **T**erima kasih atas artikel tentang Susi Susanti, mantan pebulutangkis Indonesia yang pernah meraih medali emas di Olimpiade Barcelona pada tahun 1992. Saya pikir dia sangat hebat dan rendah hati karena dia bersedia mengorbankan waktunya untuk menyampaikan pengetahuan dan ketrampilannya kepada generasi pemain muda berikutnya.
Yulianna Pertiwi

3 **T**erima kasih untuk resep masakan bulan Juli (spaghetti ala Spanyol). Ibu saya berpendapat resep masakan itu sangat 'aneh' tetapi bagi saya makanannya lezat. Tolong jelaskan lebih lanjut tentang resep masakan yang menggunakan tahu.
Ayu Darmadi

2.1 What are the three contributions about? Answer briefly in English.

2.1.1 Contribution 1: _____

(continued on following page)

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2.1.2 Contribution 2: _____

2.1.3 Contribution 3: _____

2.2 Would you say that the overall tone of each contribution is positive or negative? Why?
What words or phrases in Indonesian helped you to reach this conclusion?

2.2.1 Contribution 1: _____

2.2.2 Contribution 2: _____

2.2.3 Contribution 3: _____

2.3 Who do you think is the target audience of the magazine?

Give reasons to support your answer.

Exercise 3

3.1 You have read about *telur asin* in Indonesia.

Does your family eat any food item that might be considered *sangat tidak enak* by an Indonesian? Explain why.

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

3.2 Based on your knowledge of Indonesian culture, if you asked your Indonesian guest if they liked the food you suggested in 3.1 above, how do you think they would answer?

Answer in either **Indonesian** or **English** or a mixture of both.
