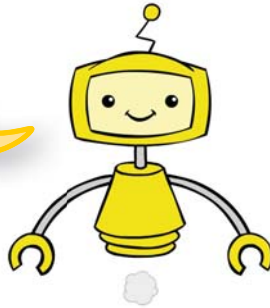


# Back from Mars

Humans are such curious and excitable beings! I haven't had a moment to myself since returning from Mars. It's interview after interview and an endless stream of questions. Now I know exactly how Neil Armstrong and Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin must have felt after returning from the moon. Radio one night, television the next, and paparazzi camped outside the Smart's apartment 24/7!



**LINKS TO:**  
 Stage 2, Module 11  
 Learning Object 4: Holiday news

**PRIOR LEARNING:**  
**Stage 2**  
 Module 11 Learning Object 2: *Here is the news*  
 Module 11 Work Sheet 1: *Headline Act*  
 Module 11 Work Sheet 2: *I've got a scoop!*



## Next question, please!

1

In Work Sheet 2, *I've got a scoop!*, you learnt that a good reporter bases his story around six guiding questions:

<i>Siapa?</i>	Who?
<i>Apa?</i>	What?
<i>Kapan?</i>	When?
<i>Di mana?</i>	Where?
<i>Mengapa?</i>	Why?
<i>Bagaimana?</i>	How?

*Bagaimana* can also mean 'to describe' (something).

→ For example:  
**Bagaimana permukaan Mars?**  
**How** is the surface of Mars?  
 or  
**Describe** the surface of Mars.

Another important question marker in Indonesian is *Berapa* which is used in all instances where the response required is a numerical value or a quantity.

→ For example:  
*Berapa banyak penduduk Mars?*  
 How many is the population of Mars?

*Penduduk Mars terdiri dari 500 unit robot.*  
 The population of Mars consists of 500 robotic units.

or

*Berapa lama perjalanan ke Mars?*  
 How long does the journey to Mars take?

*Perjalanan ke Mars tidak begitu lama.*  
 The journey to Mars doesn't take all that long.

## Note:

Did you notice in the above answer that *tidak begitu lama* is not a numerical value but still refers to a period of time.

## Please be objective

2

Questions focusing on the event rather than on the perpetrator of the action are expressed using the passive voice, or object focus construction.

They follow the pattern:

*Apa yang* + pronoun + base verb + adjunct of time or place.

➔ For example:  
*Apa yang Anda lakukan selama di Mars, Bung Zak?*

Just what was it that Zak (you) did during your stay on Mars?

This method of questioning is sometimes deliberately used because it deflects attention away from the individual by focusing on the event. Indonesians will do this so as to be sensitive to other people's fear of exposure and vulnerability and to help maintain others dignity and respectability.

## A simple 'yes' or 'no' would suffice!

3

In Stage 1, Module 1, Work Sheet 5, *Asking 'yes' / 'no' questions*, you learnt that the question marker *Apakah* is used to generate questions requiring 'yes' or 'no' answers.

In colloquial language *Apakah* is often shortened to *Apa* or even omitted altogether, with intonation used instead to indicate that a question is being asked.

Compare:

*Apakah ada informasi yang berguna dari Mars?*

and

*Ada informasi yang berguna dari Mars?*  
(rising intonation) ➔

} Is there any useful information from Mars?

## Good on ya, Bung!

4

The title *Bung* is an informal title given to a small number of high-profile individuals. It has populist overtones suggesting that the bearer of the title, while being an important person, is close to ordinary people. Some figures who have been popularly accorded the title include *Bung Karno* (Soekarno, the first president of the Republic of Indonesia) and *Bung Hatta* (Mohammad Hatta, Indonesia's first vice-president).

Colloquially, *Bung* is used to address young, unfamiliar men, invariably in the service industry, when wishing to attract their attention. It equates to the Australian expression 'mate'.

➔ For example:  
*Bung, minta menu!*  
Could I please have a menu, mate!

### Note:

When used colloquially in the manner of this example no names follow the title, *Bung*.

5

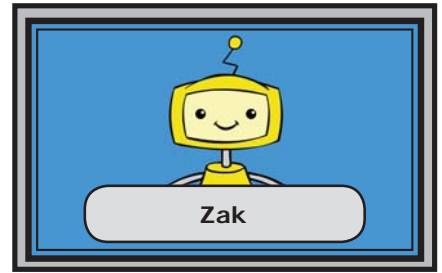
## Exercises

Zak has been invited to appear on *Jakarta Malam Ini*, Jakarta's premier late-night chat show hosted by Hendra Budiono. Unfortunately, Peter and Anna missed Zak's interview on *JMI*, as the Smart family were invited to attend yet another company function. When he returned home, Peter logged on to the *Jakarta Malam Ini* website and downloaded the transcript of the interview.

**Read the transcript of the interview starting on the following page and use the information to answer the accompanying questions.**

(continued on following page)

### Exercise 1



Selamat malam, Bung Zak dan selamat datang di acara Jakarta Malam Ini bersama saya, Hendra Budiono.

Selamat malam, Hendra dan terima kasih atas kesempatan untuk tampil di acara ini. Sebenarnya saya penggemar berat acara JMI tetapi tidak saya duga suatu saat saya dapat tampil sebagai selebriti.

Kalau berbicara tentang selebriti, tidak ada yang lebih terkenal daripada Bung Zak. Anda adalah selebriti yang lagi hangat-hangatnya dibicarakan di surat kabar di seluruh dunia saat ini.

Anda terlalu memuji saya. Saya tidak melakukan apa pun yang luar biasa dibandingkan dengan robot patriotik lainnya.

Jangan salah, Bung! Tidak ada robot patriotik lainnya. Bung adalah satu-satunya di dunia!

Masa begitu? Jangan lupa bahwa saya baru saja kembali dari Mars di mana saya bertemu dengan 500 unit robot patriotik lainnya.

Kalau kita berbicara tentang planet Mars, bagaimana Bung Zak dapat pergi ke sana pada awalnya?

Kira-kiri enam minggu yang lalu, saya dihubungi oleh pihak NASA yang memberitahu bahwa mereka telah menerima komunikasi dari sekelompok penjelajah robotik prototipe yang diperkirakan hilang dalam misi ke Mars.

Berapa tahun yang lalu misi itu dikirim ke Mars?

Kira-kira 40 tahun yang lalu, pada tahun 1970. Setahun setelah Neil Armstrong dan Buzz Aldrin menginjak permukaan bulan.

Siapa yang menjadi pemimpin misi itu?

Nah, itu yang menjadi kejutan bagi saya! Saya baru menemukan bahwa yang menjadi ketua misi itu adalah nenek saya. Nenek yang tidak pernah saya kenal selama ini!

Berapa jumlah awak robotik dalam kapal ruang angkasa itu?

Selain nenek saya, ada sembilan awak lainnya. Jadi jumlahnya sepuluh unit robot.

(continued on following page)







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**1.2.3 Summarise the circumstances behind Zak's mission to Mars.**

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**1.2.4 What did Zak expect to find when he arrived at Mars? Were there any surprises?**

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**1.2.5 Throughout the interview the host of the chat show refers to Zak as Bung Zak. What is the significance of this?**

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**1.2.6 Is Zak being modest during this interview? Provide evidence to support your view.**

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**1.2.7 Who were Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin? What is the significance of Zak mentioning these two individuals during his interview?**

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**1.2.8 Do you think humans would be able to survive on Mars? Explain your answer.**

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**1.2.9 Why do you think NASA is planning to send Zak back to Mars in six months' time?**

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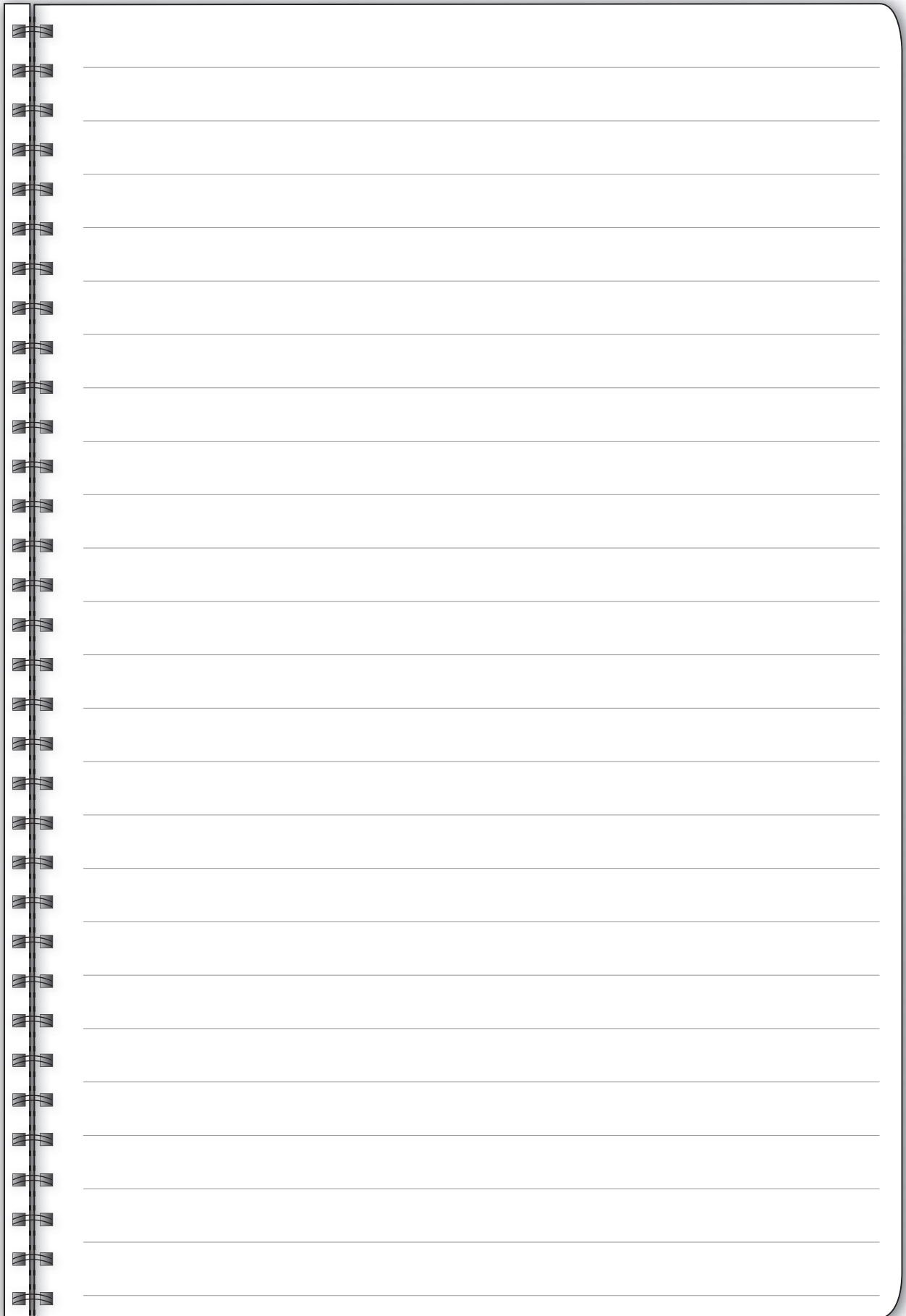
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## Exercise 2

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Produce a radio news bulletin covering Bung Zak's appearance on the *Jakarta Malam Ini* program. Discuss any new information that has surfaced about his recent mission to Mars.

A spiral-bound notebook with 20 horizontal lines for writing. The spiral binding is on the left side. The notebook is open and ready for use.