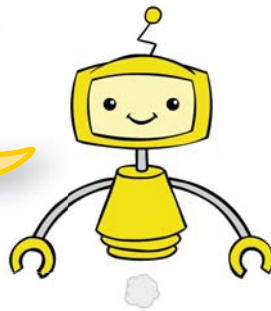


Actions speak louder than verbs

Everywhere I go I see and hear different variations of Indonesian verbs. My superior artificial intelligence can't cope with this chaos! I've got to bring some order to this madness before it causes a short circuit in my CPU!



LINKS TO:

Stage 2, Module 6

Learning Object 4: I want to play this part

PRIOR LEARNING:

Stage 1

Module 4 Work Sheet 4: *Introduction to Indonesian verbs*



Understanding meN~

1



Bringing order to these verbs is not as easy as I thought it would be.

I remember, in Stage 1, learning the five variations in the form of the **meN~** prefix that can be attached to base words, depending on the initial sound of the verb. However, I don't recall being told what these prefixes actually do to the verb.

Stage 1, Module 4, Work Sheet 4, *Introduction to Indonesian verbs*

Maybe the following extract from Anna's *Bahasa Indonesia* notebook will help me crack the code. Let's have a look ...

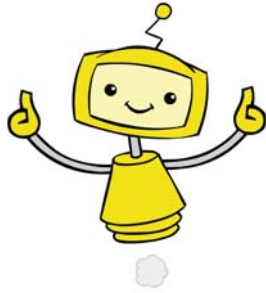
simple verbs	auxiliary verbs	ber~ verbs	meN~ verbs
<i>bangun</i>	<i>akan</i>	<i>berangkat</i>	<i>mengirim</i>
<i>datang</i>	<i>bisa</i>	<i>berbicara</i>	<i>menjual</i>
<i>duduk</i>	<i>dapat</i>	<i>berkumpul</i>	<i>membeli</i>
<i>lari</i>	<i>harus</i>	<i>berjalan</i>	<i>membuat</i>
<i>makan (tr)</i>	<i>hendak</i>	<i>berdiri</i>	<i>melihat</i>
<i>masak</i>	<i>ingin</i>	<i>berhenti</i>	<i>mendengar</i>
<i>mandi</i>	<i>mau</i>	<i>berenang</i>	<i>mengunjungi</i>
<i>pergi</i>		<i>bermain (tr)</i>	<i>menelpon</i>
<i>pulang</i>		<i>belajar (tr)</i>	<i>membaca</i>
<i>tidur</i>			<i>mengajar</i>
<i>tinggal</i>			<i>menulis</i>
<i>tunggu</i>			<i>membawa</i>
<i>minum (tr)</i>			

Stand alone

2

Hmm, I've discovered that the simple verbs and the **ber~** verbs are **intransitive**.

Do you know what that means? All languages have intransitive verbs!



- ▶ An intransitive verb is one that stands alone.
- ▶ It does not take an object, nor does it need an object to complete it.
- ▶ Where an object is mentioned, it is separated from the intransitive verb by a preposition.

For example:

Anna bangun, mandi dan berangkat.

Anna woke up, showered and departed.

This sentence could also be expressed as three simple sentences using intransitive verbs:

For example:

Anna bangun. Anna woke up.

Anna mandi. Anna showered.

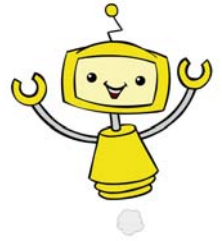
Anna berangkat. Anna departed.

Never stand alone

3

I've also worked out all this *meN~* business. It seems that the **meN~** prefix indicates that a verb is **transitive**.

- ▶ A transitive verb never stands alone.
- ▶ It is always partnered by a direct subject, and one or more objects.



For example:

Peter membantu Zak mengisi formulir pendaftaran.

Peter helped Zak to fill in the application form.

meN~ at work

4



Finally, just as I thought that I had deciphered this verb-prefix system, it has come to my attention that some intransitive verbs can also be used as transitive verbs, most notably **makan**, **minum**, **belajar** dan **bermain**.

These are marked with (tr) in the extract from Anna's notebook in Block 1.

For example:

Anna suka makan es krim dan Peter suka minum es kelapa muda.

Anna likes to eat ice cream and Peter likes to drink iced coconut.

and

Anna suka bermain sepak bola dan Peter suka belajar Musik.

Anna likes to play soccer and Peter likes studying Music.

I now think I have a basic grasp of these verbs, although, no doubt, some exceptions to the rule will always pop up as is usually the case with Indonesian!

Exercise 1

View Learning Object 3, *I want to be a star*, again.

In the spaces provided, retell the events of this learning object from the point of view of each of the three characters. The character's thoughts have been started for you.

- Take care to use the appropriate form of the verb (simple, *ber~*, or *meN~*) in each instance.
- Use your dictionary to find relevant verbs to use in this task.

1.1

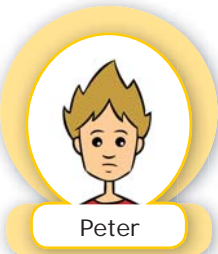


Anna

Aku lagi sibuk mengerjakan PR ketika Zak mendekati aku dan meminta tolong.

Dia ingin ... _____

1.2

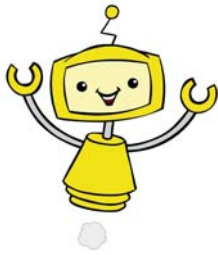


Peter

Zak masuk kamarku dan terbang menggapung dekat aku. Dia meminta tolong ... _____

(continued on following page)

1.3



Aku
mendatangi Anna
untuk melamar menjadi Kelelawar.

Dia memberi aku ... _____

Exercise 2

2.1 Circle the simple verbs, underline the auxillary verbs, highlight the *ber-* verbs and use a dotted line for the *meN-* verbs that you used in each of the thought bubbles in Exercise 1.

2.2 Did you tend to use one particular type of verb in preference to the others?

If so what type of verb was dominant and why do you think this was the case.

(continued on following page)

(continued from previous page)

2.3 In your responses did you come across any verbs that appeared to be exceptions to the rules established in this work sheet, for example, intransitive verbs with a *meN-* prefix?

If this occurred, identify these verbs and attempt to explain how this anomaly, or exception, might have arisen.
