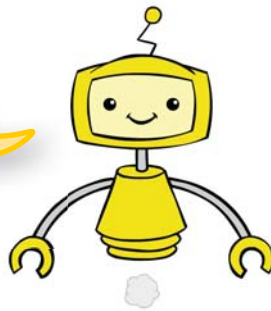


# Use your dictionary!

I'm surrounded by unfamiliar words in this new land and new language. Problem is, I can't seem to find them in the dictionary! Maybe I need a refresher course in how to use a dictionary properly.



## 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*



## 1 The friendly dictionary

1

When learning a new language, a dictionary can be a very good friend. An English-Indonesian dictionary can be used to learn new words, to find or double-check the meaning of a word,

or to find the right word to use. However, using an Indonesian-English dictionary is not straightforward. Read on ...

## 2 Prefixes and suffixes

2

The complexity of the Indonesian language is not in its grammar.

For example, you have learnt that Indonesian does not contain any tenses — the bane of many who study English. Indonesians simply tell you up-front when an action takes place.

The complexity of formal Indonesian lies in its system of affixation, in other words, its use of prefixes and suffixes. To truly master Indonesian, you need to master its affixation system.

However, more important than this, to be able to use a dictionary you will need to do some detective work to get to the base of the word by removing any prefixes and suffixes attached to the base.

### Note:

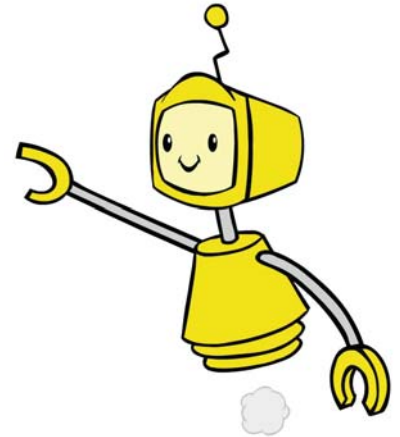
Take heart from the fact that in everyday spoken language, Indonesians tend to drop most prefixes and suffixes, using only the base form of the word, unless they are vital to establish the meaning of the word.

### 3

## Different affixes, different results

Just to give you an idea of the flexibility of Indonesian affixes and their derivatives, examine the following simplified table:

Affixes	Resulting parts of speech
<i>ber~</i>	verbs and, in some isolated instances, nouns
<i>meN~</i>	verbs
<i>meN~ ... ~kan</i>	verbs
<i>meN~ ... ~i</i>	verbs
<i>memper~</i>	verbs
<i>memper~ ... ~i</i>	verbs
<i>memper~... ~kan</i>	verbs
<i>ter~</i>	verbs
<i>peN~</i>	nouns
<i>peN~ ... ~an</i>	nouns
<i>ke~ ... ~an</i>	nouns and some verbs
<i>~an</i>	nouns



You will learn more about these affixes as you progress through the work sheets.

### 4

## Listen for the base sound

You may recall being introduced to the five variations in the form of the transitive *meN~* prefix and learning that the form of the prefix changed, depending on the first sound of the base verb.

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

The table below summarises this important point.

<i>meN~</i> prefix	Words beginning with the sounds
<i>me~</i>	l, m, n, r, w and y
<i>men~</i>	c, d, j, z and <b>(t)</b>
<i>mem~</i>	b, f, v and <b>(p)</b>
<i>meng~</i>	a, e, g, h, i, o, u and <b>(k)</b>
<i>meny~</i>	<b>(s)</b>

If the base word begins with one of the sounds in bold, then the first letter of that word is dropped when attaching the *meN~* prefix. This rule also applies to any of the *peN~* prefixes as well.

If you can remember which word beginnings take on which prefix, you are well on your way to mastering your Indonesian dictionary skills.

## Words within words

5

Examine the tree below.



Did you notice that all 13 words on this tree are derived from the base word *ajar*?

This means that to find the definition of any of these words, all you would need to do is to look up the word *ajar* in the dictionary.

Look at it positively. By being able to identify the base word, you have narrowed down the dictionary search for 13 words to a single one. How convenient is that!

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## Exercises

### Exercise 1

1.1 Refer to the *ajar* word tree.

Complete the table below by writing the definitions for all of the 13 words, including the base word *ajar*.

Use a reputable dictionary, such as *Kamus Indonesia Inggris* by Echols and Shadily, or the online dictionary *Sederet* to help you.

<b>Ajar derivative</b>	<b>Definition</b>
1.1.1 <i>ajar</i>	_____
1.1.2 <i>belajar</i>	_____
1.1.3 <i>pelajar</i>	_____
1.1.4 <i>terpelajar</i>	_____

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1.1.5 *pelajaran* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.6 *berpelajaran* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.7 *ajaran* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.8 *mengajar* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.9 *mengajarkan* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.10 *mengajari* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.11 *pengajar* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.12 *pengajaran* \_\_\_\_\_

1.1.13 *mempelajari* \_\_\_\_\_

1.2 What did you notice about the *meN~* and *peN~* prefixes and their impact on the base word *ajar*?

Can you generalise and create a rule for the use of these prefixes and the resulting outcomes on the base word?

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### Exercise 2

You may recall that in Stage 2, Module 1, Work Sheet 1, *Come to school with me!*, you were introduced to the Indonesian Pledge or *Pancasila* which must be recited by all Indonesian school children and government workers during the weekly flag-raising ceremony.

The table below lists the nouns used in the *Pancasila*.

- **Determine the base word of these nouns. Write the base word in the space provided.**
- Then look up the base word in the dictionary so that you can define the nouns. **Write the definition in the space provided.**

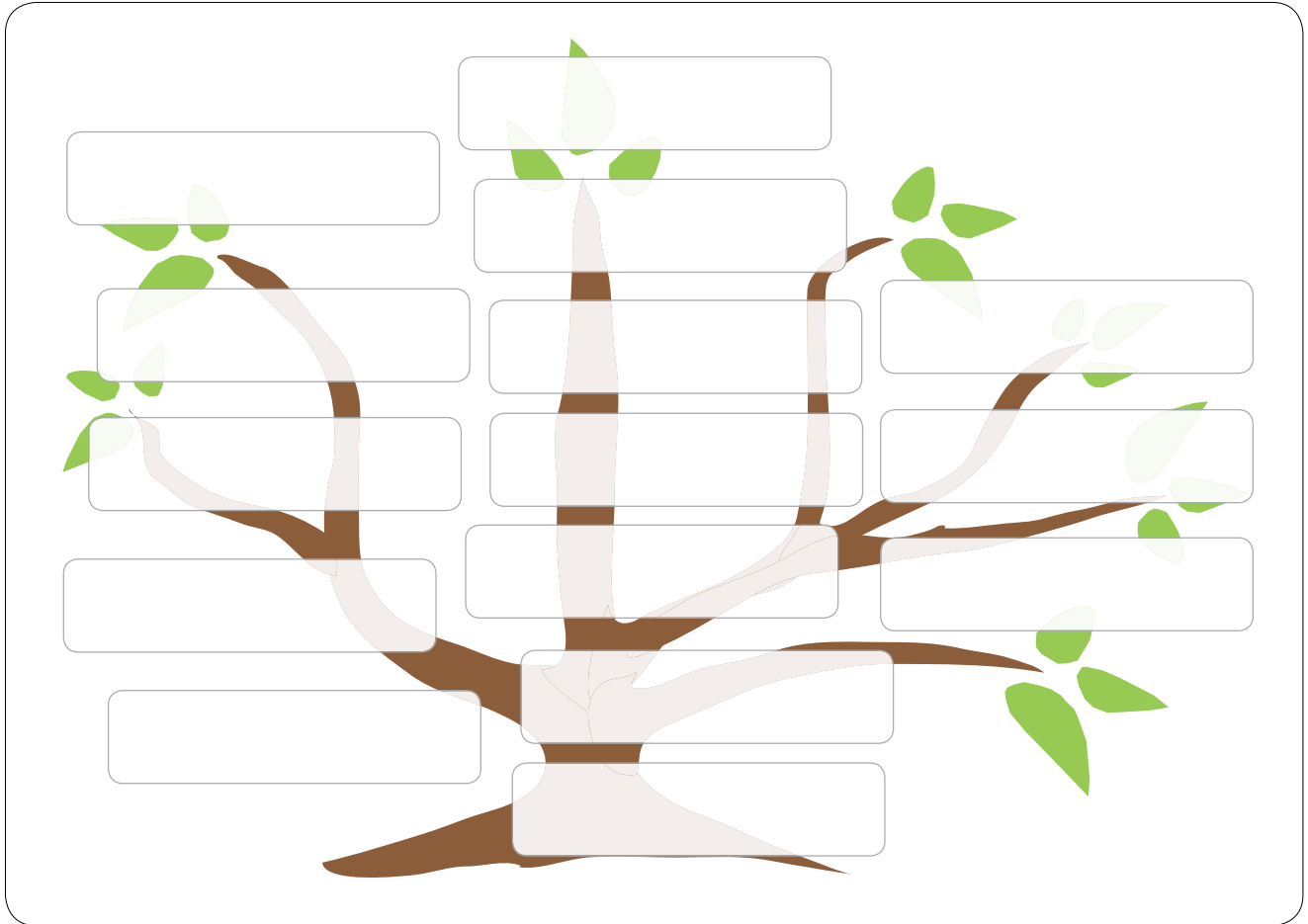
Base word	Derived noun	Definition of the derived noun
<hr/>	<i>ketuhanan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>kemanusiaan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>persatuan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>kerakyatan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>kebijaksanaan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>permusyawaratan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>perwakilan</i>	<hr/>
<hr/>	<i>keadilan</i>	<hr/>

### Exercise 3

3.1 Below is another word derivation tree.

Select either base word *ada* or *buat* then label the tree with all the words that can be derived from your selected base word.

**Hint!** Depending on which base word you select, not all of the text boxes may be required.



3.2 Transfer the words from the tree to the table below.

Use a dictionary to define each of the words.

Base word and derivative	Definition
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