

# What's in a noun?

**LINKS TO:**

Stage 3, Module 7

Learning Object 2: *Where do we start?*

## Exercise 1

Answers:

**1.1 Complete the table with the *ke~...~an* circumfix of the base words, and the definitions of both the base word and the *ke~...~an* circumfix.**

Base word	Definition	<i>ke~...~an</i> verb	Definition
<i>dingin</i>	cold	<i>keinginan</i>	to suffer from the cold
<i>haus</i>	thirsty	<i>kehausan</i>	to be thirsty
<i>hujan</i>	rain	<i>kehujan</i>	to be caught in rain
<i>kering</i>	dry	<i>kekeringan</i>	to suffer from drought
<i>lapar</i>	hungry	<i>kelaparan</i>	to be starved
<i>panas</i>	hot	<i>kepanasan</i>	to suffer from the heat
<i>semut</i>	ant	<i>kesemutan</i>	to get pins and needles

**1.2 Complete the table with the *ke~...~an* circumfix of the base words, and the definitions of both the base word and the *ke~...~an* circumfix.**

Base word	Definition	<i>ke~...~an</i> verb	Definition
<i>jatuh</i>	to fall	<i>kejatuhan</i>	to have something fall on top of you
<i>curi</i>	to steal	<i>kecurian</i>	to have something stolen
<i>habis</i>	finished	<i>kehabisan</i>	to run out of something
<i>hilang</i>	missing	<i>kehilangan</i>	the loss of something
<i>maling</i>	intruder	<i>kemalingan</i>	to have your house broken into
<i>tidur</i>	to sleep	<i>ketiduran</i>	to fall asleep

**1.3 Complete the table with the *ke~...~an* circumfix of the base word, and the definition of both the base word and the *ke~...~an* circumfix.**

Base word	Definition	<i>ke~...~an</i> verb	Definition
<i>takut</i>	afraid	<i>ketakutan</i>	to be overcome by fear
<i>susah</i>	difficult	<i>kesusahan</i>	to be overcome by difficult circumstances

**1.4 Complete the table with the *ke~...~an* adjective, and the definitions of both the base word and the adjective.**

Base word	Definition	<i>ke~...~an</i> adjective	Definition
<i>besar</i>	large	<i>kebesaran</i>	too large
<i>capai</i>	tired	<i>kecapaian</i>	exhausted
<i>gemuk</i>	fat	<i>kegemukan</i>	too fat
<i>kecil</i>	small	<i>kekecilan</i>	too small
<i>kurus</i>	thin	<i>kekurusan</i>	too thin
<i>mahal</i>	expensive	<i>kemahalan</i>	too expensive
<i>murah</i>	cheap	<i>kemurahan</i>	too cheap
<i>panjang</i>	long	<i>kepanjangan</i>	too long
<i>pendek</i>	short	<i>kependekan</i>	too short

**1.5 Complete the table with the *ke~...~an* adjective, and the definitions of both the base word and the adjective.**

Base word	Definition	<i>ke~...~an</i> adjective	Definition
<i>pagi</i>	morning	<i>kepagian</i>	too early in the morning
<i>siang</i>	early afternoon	<i>kesiangan</i>	too late in the day (for example, waking up too late)
<i>sore</i>	late afternoon	<i>kesorean</i>	too late in the afternoon
<i>malam</i>	night	<i>kemalaman</i>	too late at night

**1.6 Complete the table with the *ke~...~an* noun, and the definitions of both the base word and the noun.**

Base word	Definition	<i>ke~...~an</i> noun	Definition
<i>bahagia</i>	happy	<i>kebahagiaan</i>	happiness

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<i>bersih</i>	clean	<i>kebersihan</i>	cleanliness, hygiene
<i>cantik</i>	beautiful	<i>kecantikan</i>	beauty
<i>gembira</i>	excited	<i>kegembiraan</i>	excitement
<i>hidup</i>	to live	<i>kehidupan</i>	life
<i>kacau</i>	mixed up	<i>kekacauan</i>	havoc
<i>kuat</i>	strong	<i>kekuatan</i>	power
<i>maju</i>	to go forward	<i>kemajuan</i>	progress, advancement
<i>mati</i>	to die	<i>kematian</i>	death
<i>puas</i>	satisfied	<i>kepuasan</i>	satisfaction
<i>sedih</i>	sad	<i>kesedihan</i>	sadness
<i>sehat</i>	healthy	<i>kesehatan</i>	health

**1.7 Complete the table with the definitions of the abstract nouns and the adjectives.**

<i>ke~ ... ~an word</i>	<b>Abstract noun</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
<i>kelaparan</i>	famine	overcome by hunger (famished)
<i>kepanjangan</i>	unabbreviated form of something	too long
<i>kependekan</i>	abbreviated form of something	too short
<i>ketinggian</i>	altitude	too high

**Exercise 2**

Sample answers:

**2.1**

**2.1.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke~ ... ~an* circumfix?**

*Kebersihan* is an abstract noun formed from the adjective *bersih* and means 'cleanliness' or 'hygiene'.

**2.1.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?**

The overall message of the sign is 'Thank you for caring about hygiene'.

**2.1.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.**

I would not be surprised to see a sign like this at various points around an Australian school such as near the toilet blocks, or where students gather to eat their lunch, as a reminder of the importance of cleanliness and hygiene.

**2.2**

**2.2.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke~ ... ~an* circumfix?**

*Kemauan* is an abstract noun formed from the verb *mau* and, in this context, means 'will' or 'desire'.

### 2.2.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'Where there's a will, there's a way'.

### 2.2.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

Although this is a common proverb in the English language, I would not expect to see it prominently displayed in an Australian school. It is likely that more up-to-date motivational phrases such as 'It's better to soar with the eagles than walk with the turkeys' would be displayed. Even so, motivational signs or banners are not common in most Australian schools.

## 2.3

### 2.3.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke~ ... ~an* circumfix?

*Kejujuran* is an abstract noun formed from the adjective *jujur* and means 'honesty'. *Kebijaksanaan* is an abstract noun formed from the adjective *bijaksana* and means 'wisdom'.

### 2.3.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'Honesty is the best policy'.

### 2.3.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

This proverb is an important principle to live by. It is an important message for school children and should be taught at school, however, I would not expect it to be prominently displayed in public places throughout a school. It is more likely that, when necessary, students would be reminded individually of the importance of telling the truth.

## 2.4

### 2.4.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke~ ... ~an* circumfix?

*Keberhasilan* is an abstract noun formed from the verb *berhasil* and means 'success'.

### 2.4.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'Success is a glorious thing'.

### 2.4.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

Again, this is a motivational sign with an important life message saying that it is OK to be successful. In Australia there is something called the 'tall poppy syndrome', where successful people are subject to intense scrutiny and harsh criticism. Schools might want to encourage success, but are unlikely to display such a sign.

## 2.5

### 2.5.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke~ ... ~an* circumfix?

*Kesopanan* is an abstract noun formed from the adjective *sopan* and means 'politeness' or 'civility'.

### 2.5.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'You can't put a price on politeness'.

### 2.5.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

This is one sign that might be displayed in all classrooms in an Australian school as a reminder to students about being polite and respectful to each other and to their teachers.

## 2.6

### 2.6.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke~ ... ~an* circumfix?

*Kesejahteraan* is an abstract noun formed from the adjective *sejahtera* and means 'prosperity' or 'wealth'.

### 2.6.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'Health is better than wealth'.

### 2.6.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

Concepts of 'health' and 'wealth' are more of a focus in adult life so it is unlikely that an Australian school would display such a sign. If anything, Australian

schools would promote both health and success in students' futures but this is different to the specific intent of the Indonesian poster.

## 2.7

### 2.7.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke- ... -an* circumfix?

*Keberhasilan* is an abstract noun formed from the verb *berhasil* and means 'success'.

### 2.7.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'Effort, prayer and a fear of God are the keys to success'.

### 2.7.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

This poster has religious references and would therefore cause some controversy if it appeared in a state or secular school. In a country like Indonesia, however, where it is compulsory for everyone to have a religion and where 85 per cent of the population are Muslims, signs such as this would be acceptable.

## 2.8

### 2.8.1 What is the meaning of the word created by using a *ke- ... -an* circumfix?

*Kebersihan* is an abstract noun formed from the adjective *bersih* and means 'cleanliness' or 'hygiene'.

### 2.8.2 What is the overall message or intent of the sign?

The overall message of the sign is 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness'.

### 2.8.3 Would you expect to see this sign in an Australian school? Explain your answer.

Again, this poster has religious overtones linking cleanliness to one's faith and, as such, would not appear in state or secular schools. Australians tend to correlate cleanliness with health rather than with religion.

## Exercise 3

Sample answers:

### 3.1 If you visited an Indonesian school that displayed signs such as these in all the corridors of the school, how would you feel, and what impression would it give you of the school and its students?

If I were visiting an Indonesian school and saw a large number of signs or posters such as these displayed throughout the school, at first I may find it a little intimidating. However, from previous modules and work sheets, I have learnt that Indonesians value community-centred principles of ethical behaviour, as evidenced in the subjects taught at school and the format of the school flag-raising ceremony. In that light, I would be impressed by the way the school guides the students' code of ethics, not through boring lists found in a rule book, but through legible and strategically-placed posters.

### 3.2 How do you think Indonesian students feel about signs such as these adorning their schools?

I think Indonesian students are probably accustomed to signs such as these.

Indonesians are very community-oriented. Pride in their community and the place in the group takes precedence over individualism. Signs such as these offer an attractive and gentle reminder of Indonesian students' personal and social responsibilities, which are important to maintain the harmony of the greater community.