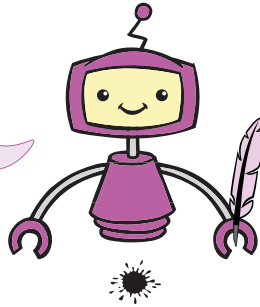


Home is where the heart is

Have you ever thought about what home means to you? Perhaps you have some personal opinions about the notion of home, and how it impacts on people's daily lives. It's time to express yourself. It's time to write!



LINKS TO:

Stage 3, Module 1
Learning Object 4: *Can I get a discount?*

PRIOR LEARNING:

Stage 1

Module 9 Work Sheet 7: *Our household, our home*

Stage 3

Module 7 Work Sheet 7: *There's no place like home*

1 A home among the gum trees

In Work Sheet 2, *There's no place like home*, you read a personal essay that an Australian had written on their blog. The essay was a piece of reflective writing in which the author explored the concept of home.

In this writing work sheet, you will be asked to compose a short personal essay using a range of the writing and language skills you have already learnt in Stages 1 and 2. You will also use some creative-thinking skills to develop a unique and exciting piece of writing.

Personal essay

A personal essay is a fairly flexible piece of writing. It is a short work of non-fiction in which you express your personal opinion about something.

There are very few rules about how to write a personal essay, but a few things to keep in mind are:

- write in the first person
- keep your tone friendly and informal — write as though you are speaking to a friend
- you may use one or two personal anecdotes (stories from your life) to illustrate your point
- express your opinions clearly and honestly
- back up your opinions with evidence based on your experience, knowledge, or understanding.

Feels like home

Your personal essay will be about the meaning of 'home'.

You might like to begin by considering:

- How would you define the word 'home'?
- What does home look like?
- What does home feel like?
- Who shares your home with you?
- How many different places have you, or do you, call home?
- What do you know about homelessness? Have you ever been homeless, or known someone who has been homeless?
- Is your home a house, a neighbourhood, a community, state or country? How far does your idea of home extend?
- What common phrases or idiomatic expressions do you know of that relate to the concept of home?
- What values, attitudes and beliefs inform your ideas about home? What assumptions underlie your ideas about home?
- You already know that the word *pulang* in Indonesian means 'to go home'. There is also an expression, *pulang kampung* or *mudik*, which literally means 'to go back to one's home town'. 'Home town' here can mean anything from an urban neighbourhood to a small village. *Pulang kampung* is widely used to describe the

movements of people all over Indonesia during the religious festival of Lebaran, which is a celebration at the end of Ramadan or the fasting month. Typically, at this time everyone heads home to

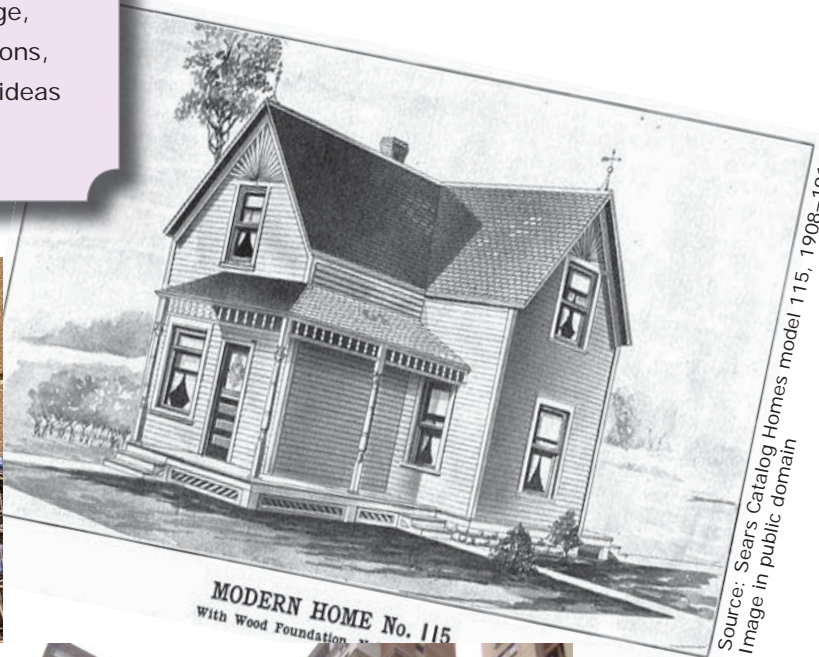
celebrate the special day with family and friends. What does the word *pulang* and the phrase *pulang kampung* suggest about Indonesian concepts of 'home'?

2 Stimulus material — home

As well as the questions on the previous page, you may like to use images, photos, quotations, stories or even memories to stimulate your ideas and thinking about the notion of home.



Used with permission of Matthew Waitunski



Source: Sears Catalog Homes model 115, 1908–1914. Image in public domain



Used with permission of Jim Athanasiadis

Exercise 1

In this work sheet, you will be writing your own short personal essay about what home means to you, in Indonesian.

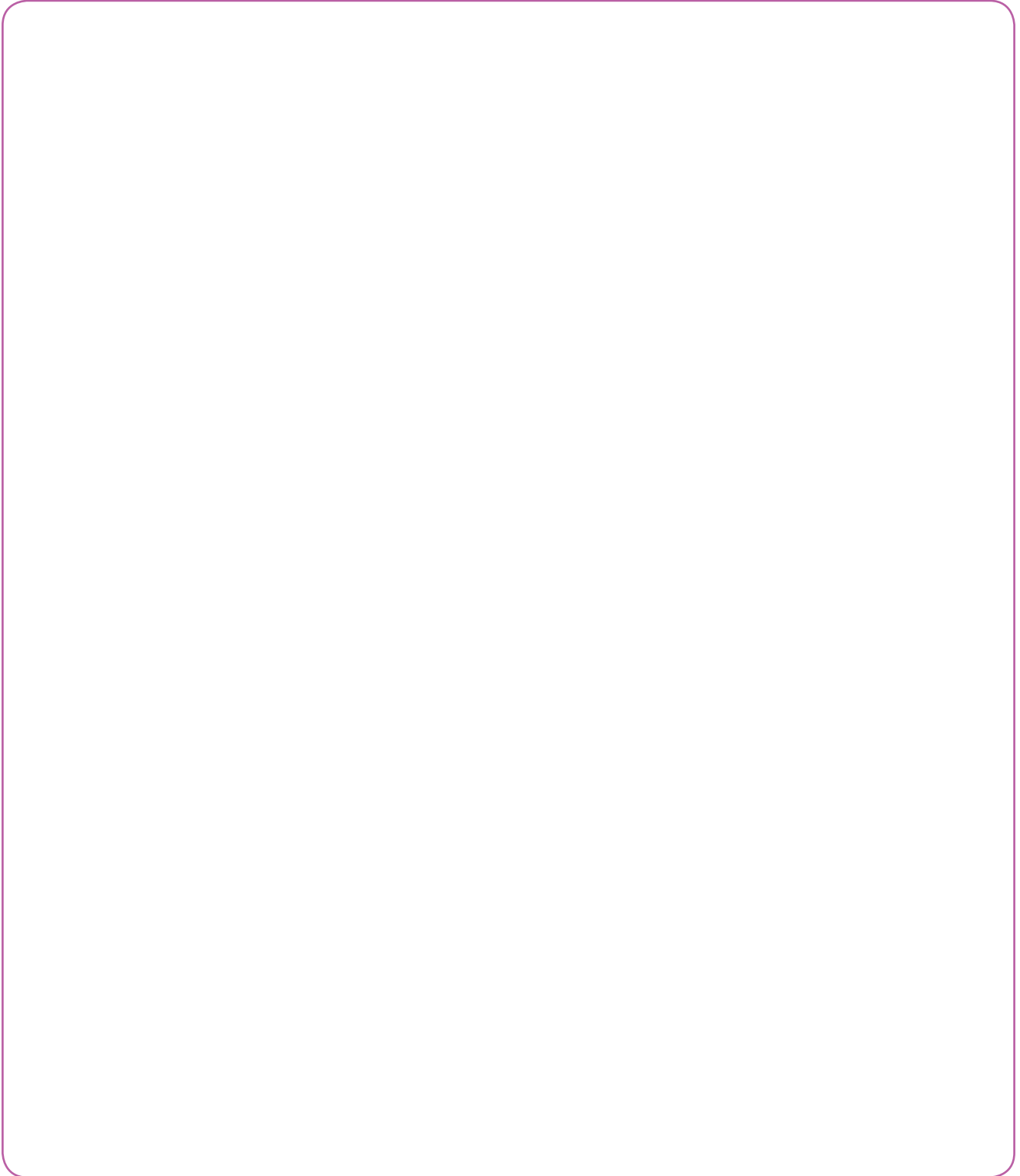
The first step is to think of some ideas for your piece of writing. Write down any ideas that come to you, without worrying about whether they are 'good' ideas or not. Generate as many ideas as you can. Use the material on the previous pages as a starting point.

1.1 On a separate page, put together images, phrases, ideas or quotations that relate to your ideas about home. You can also include photographs or drawings that relate to the topic.

In the space below, note your ideas in bullet form.



(continued on following page)



- 1.2** Highlight or circle four ideas from Exercise 1.1 to expand on in your essay. Choose the ideas that you think are the most interesting or unique, and which would work well together. Each of these ideas will become the focus of a paragraph in your personal essay.

Exercise 2

Now that you have four paragraph ideas to work on, you can begin to flesh out the plan for your personal essay.

Using the table below, arrange your four paragraph ideas in order. In English (for now), write some dot points about ideas you can include in each of the paragraphs. You might like to add some notes in Indonesian, such as specific phrases you could use in each paragraph.

Finally, add some dot points to the introduction and conclusion sections of the plan.

Introduction	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 1	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 2	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 3	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Paragraph 4	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
Conclusion	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

