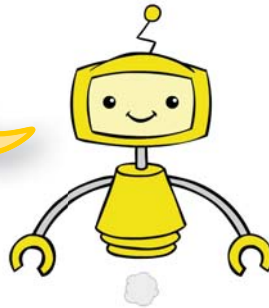


# It's my shout!

Let's shout everyone! No! Not that kind of shout. I mean, let's treat everyone to a meal. Indonesians entertain their guests a little differently to the way Australians do. Let's have a look ...



## LINKS TO:

Stage 2, Module 9

Learning Object 2: Can I go to both?

## Let's party

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Humans are social beings. We generally enjoy, if not need, the company of others. One way of fulfilling this need is by inviting others to meet for social occasions. These can include informal gatherings at home, eating together at a café or restaurant, or inviting friends for a party or other special occasions.

Such occasions usually involve eating together, whether it is light snacks or a complete meal. Who pays for the food depends on what is considered to be the usual practice in that particular country.

In Australia, we have a practice called 'shouting', whereby the person who invites others to an event also offers to pay their expenses. This is usually limited to food and drinks, but may also include other expenses such as entry costs to venues.

Some other countries also have a similar custom. For example, Indonesians use the word *traktir*, which means to pay for other peoples' expenses when inviting them to eat somewhere. It can also be applied to shouting friends to a movie or an amusement park.

If an Indonesian invites others to a meal, they will often use the phrase *Aku yang traktir*, 'I'm the one who is shouting'. In this case it is considered impolite for others to offer to pay.

In Indonesia, birthday parties with invited friends are a relatively recent concept adopted from the West. These parties range from small-scale events to grand occasions, where no expense is spared. Modern birthday parties such as these are generally held in a restaurant or hotel function room. It is always the parents of the birthday child who shout the guests to the meal.

On other occasions where guests are invited, guests are always shouted, or are provided with food. Guests are never expected to bring anything, unless specifically requested to do so. In Indonesia, this happens far less frequently than in Australia, where the guest may offer, or may be asked, to 'bring a plate'.

This work sheet will encourage you to think about the idea of shouting people in the context of social occasions such as birthday parties and other events.

**Exercise 1** \_\_\_\_\_

When have you been shouted to a meal or a movie?

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**Exercise 2** \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think people shout others to a meal or a movie?

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**Exercise 3** \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any rules that can be applied to shouting people?

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**Exercise 4**

**How are birthdays celebrated in Australia? Who pays for the meals?**

**How does this compare with Indonesia?**

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**Exercise 5**

**Are there any other events in Indonesia where invited guests are shouted, or provided with meals and all expenses are paid?**

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## Exercise 6

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If you were living in Indonesia, how would you feel if you were invited to eat in a local café with friends where one person offered to shout?

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## Exercise 7

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The word *traktir* means 'to shout someone'.

It is a word that is frequently used in social interaction among Indonesians, what does it tell you about Indonesian attitudes towards hospitality?

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## Exercise 8

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In Australia, when we invite people for a meal, sometimes we ask them to 'bring a plate'.

Do you think this expression may be confusing to an Indonesian? Why or why not?

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### **Exercise 9**

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**How do you think Indonesians might perceive the Australian practice of asking invited guests to bring food? Why?**

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### **Exercise 10**

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**Looking at your response to Exercise 9, what does this tell you about the similarities or differences between Australian and Indonesian attitudes and values concerning hospitality?**

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