

A neighbourhood in Indonesia

Indonesians do not have a word for 'neighbourhood'. In cities and towns, the closest equivalent is the **kampung**. However, this generally refers to the crowded, close-quarter area in the poorer parts of a town. Wealthier people live in apartment complexes, **kompleks apartemen**, or residential estates, **kompleks perumahan**.

Kampung are a hive of activity and wonderful places to explore. Many of their streets are only wide enough for a single file of motorbikes to pass. As well as densely-packed houses, many small home-based businesses and industries are located in the *kampung*. There are also places of worship. Some *kampung* have a kindergarten, a primary school or a high school. There are also quite a few small eating places called **warung**.

A *kampung* never sleeps. There is always someone up and about even in the very early hours of the morning. Some *warung* are open 24 hours a day, so there is always a place to buy a snack or meal. Groups of adolescent boys can be found sitting on the side of the street chatting or playing guitars waiting for the sun to rise. Staying awake all night like this is called **begadang**. Some Muslims get up at dawn and go to morning prayers at the **mesjid** (mosque). Others say their morning prayers at home.

In Worksheet 6, you saw a list of places in a neighbourhood. Here is a list of some of the most common places you can find in a *kampung*.

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|------------------------------|--|
| <i>mesjid</i> | mosque (a Muslim place of worship) |
| <i>gereja</i> | church |
| <i>taman kanak-kanak</i> | kindergarten |
| <i>sekolah dasar</i> | primary school |
| <i>sekolah menengah umum</i> | high school |
| <i>warung</i> | eating place (like a small restaurant or café) |
| <i>lapangan bola voli</i> | volleyball court |
| <i>penjahit</i> | tailor |
| <i>kuburan</i> | small cemetery |
| <i>pasar</i> | traditional market |
| <i>bengkel sepeda motor</i> | motorbike repair shop |
| <i>salon</i> | hairdresser |
| <i>tanah kosong</i> | vacant land |

Exercises



1.

You are a town planner. You have been employed by an Indonesian mayor to help design the layout of a new *kampung*. The mayor needs you to include **all** the places from the list on Page 1.

You have been provided with a plan of the prospective *kampung*. Decide on your design and draw in the positions of each of the places on the plan.

Label each place in Indonesian. You may have more than one of each place if you like. For example, there would usually be at least two or three *warung* in a *kampung*.

| | | |
|--|----------------------|--|
| | | |
| | <i>Jalan Merah</i> | |
| | <i>Jalan Panjang</i> | |
| | <i>Jalan Putih</i> | |
| | | |

2.

The mayor is concerned that you include places of worship and educational facilities, as these are very important to Indonesians. He also requires that you leave some land vacant for future development. He asks that you submit a written statement describing the proposed positions of these particular places in relation to other places so that he can approve their locations.

Using language you have learnt so far, write a paragraph outlining the position of each of these places on your plan.
