

Formal and informal words for 'You'

In Indonesian, there are many ways to address another person. In this worksheet, we will look at a few of them.

Two commonly used words for 'you' (personal pronoun) are **Anda** and **Kamu**.

Anda is formal and the safest option when talking to people you have only just met or to whom you wish to show respect.

Kamu is informal and should only be used with friends and siblings of your own age or younger.

Never use *kamu* with an adult.

You can also respectfully address an older person by using the word **Bapak** which literally means 'father' or **Ibu** which literally means 'mother'.

If you know their name, you can also respectfully address an older person by using the shortened forms – **Pak** or **Bu** plus their name: **Pak Budi** or **Bu Yuli**.

NOTE:

Do you remember it was mentioned in this module that many Indonesian people don't have a surname?

This means, that in these instances, Indonesian students can call their teachers by their first name with the shortened titles of *Pak* or *Bu*. An Indonesian student can address his teacher, for example, as *Pak Budi* or *Bu Yuli*.

Of course, this is very different from Australia, where teachers are addressed by their surname and the title Mr, Mrs or Ms.



Exercises



1. Read the list of the different people below. Decide which pronoun for 'you' and which title you could or should use with them.

Write you answers in the appropriate column. Think about whether you need to put some of them in more than one column.

- your younger brother or sister
- your mother
- your classmate
- a male friend from your father's workplace whom you have not met before
- your cat
- a shopkeeper whose name you know
- the customs officer in the airport
- a best friend
- your teacher
- your next door neighbour who is the same age as your parents

Anda	Kamu	Bapak/Ibu	Pak (name) / Bu(name)

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2. Were there any people that you put in more than one column? If so, which ones and why?
