

What's your name?

In English, when we ask someone's name, we use the word 'what'.

What's your name?

What's' his/her name?

In Indonesian, when we ask someone's name, we use the word 'who' *siapa*.

For example:

Siapa nama Anda?

What's your name? (formal)

Siapa nama kamu?

What's your name? (informal)

Siapa nama dia?

What's his/her name?

To tell someone your name, you say, for example:

Nama saya Peter/Anna.

My name is Peter/Anna.

Read the following dialogues about asking for and giving names.

Asking someone what their name is:

Siapa nama Anda?

What's your name?

Nama saya Peter.

My name's Peter.

Asking someone what another person's name is:

Siapa nama dia?

What's her name?

Nama dia Anna.

Her name is Anna.

Siapa nama dia?

What's his name?

Nama dia Peter?

His name is Peter.

In the previous worksheets, you learned the personal pronouns *saya*, *Anda*, *kamu* for 'I' and 'you'.

In Indonesian, these words are also used to indicate ownership and possession.

Read the examples below and see how they are used when talking about names.

Nama saya Peter.

My name is Peter.

Nama Anda David.

Your name is David. (formal)

Nama kamu David.

Your name is David. (informal)

Nama dia Anna.

Her name is Anna.

NOTE: 1

Notice that the words for possession are placed *after the thing you own*.



NOTE 2:

When asking someone else their name, you need to use the appropriate term of address depending on whom you are speaking to. Should you use *Anda*, *kamu*, *Ibu* or *Bapak*?

NOTE 3:

If it is appropriate to use *kamu* when asking someone their name, then it is common practice to change **kamu** to **mu** and add it to the end of the word *nama*.

For example:

Siapa nama kamu? → *Siapa namamu?* What is your name?
(informal)

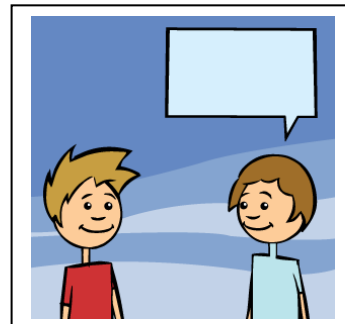
Exercises



1. Read the following dialogues about asking people their names. Then answer the questions below.

Dialogue 1: Asking someone your own age (informal)

Siapa namamu?
Nama saya Peter.



Dialogue 2: Asking an adult you do not know or an adult in a position of authority (formal)

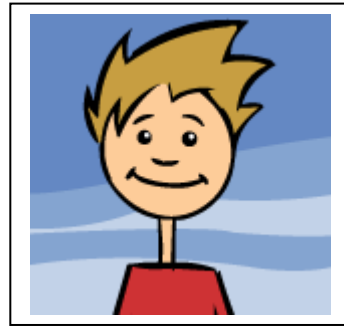
Siapa nama Bapak?
Nama saya Sugianto.



Dialogue 3: Asking about someone else (his or her name)

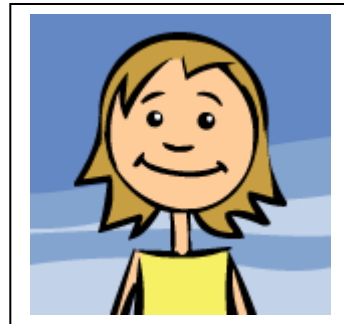
Siapa nama dia?

Nama dia Peter.



Siapa nama dia?

Nama dia Anna.



- a) You have already learnt the Indonesian words for 'I', 'my', 'you' and 'your'. What is the new word in dialogue 3? What does it mean?

- b) What do you notice about this word that is different from its English equivalent?



2. How would you do the following in Indonesian?

a) Ask a classmate their name.

b) Tell someone your name.

c) Tell someone Peter's full name.

d) Tell someone Anna's name.

e) Ask a teacher their name.

f) Tell someone your teacher's name.
