Modifying adverb 'very'

In English, the adverb 'very' is used to modify adjectives, for example 'a very tall building'.

In Indonesian, there are three words for 'very'. They are: **sekali**, **sangat** and **amat**.

You can use any of them at any time. However, you need to pay attention to the position of these words in a sentence.

(i) If using **sekali**, place it **after** the adjective.

    Monas tinggi sekali.   Monas is very tall.

    Be careful! You may encounter **sekali** in other situations where it means 'once'.

    *Saya makan **sekali** saja hari ini.*   I have only eaten **once** today.

    However, if *sekali* comes straight after an adjective, you can be sure it means 'very'.

(ii) If using **sangat**, place it **before** the adjective.

    Monas sangat tinggi.   Monas is very tall.

(iii) In formal, standard Indonesian **amat** should be placed **before** the verb.

    Monas amat tinggi.   Monas is very tall.

    However, in informal, spoken Indonesian, **amat** is often placed **after** the verb.

    Wah! Tinggi amat gedung itu!   Wow, it's very tall, that building!

Modifying adverb 'very'

Exercises

1. Below is a list of adjectives that you heard in Module 3. Do you know what they mean? If you're not sure, use your dictionary to help you. Remember that you will find *menarik* and *mengesankan* under *tarik* and *kesan*.

   When you are sure of the meaning of the adjectives, match them with their antonyms in the table below. The reason *jelek* appears twice is because it can mean both 'bad' and 'ugly'.

   | tinggi | besar | indah | mengesankan |
   | bagus | menarik | keren | |

Adjective	Antonym	Meaning of antonym
	membosankan	boring
	pendek	short
	jelek	bad
	jelek	ugly
	kecil	small
	biasa saja	unimpressive

2. Use adjectives and the modifying adverbs **sangat**, **sekali** and **amat**, to write descriptions of the following famous landmarks and attractions. If the attraction has the Indonesian equivalent in brackets, use the Indonesian. Otherwise, it is fine to use the English.

   For example:

   Disneyland: *Disneyland sangat keren!*

   a) The Sydney Harbour Bridge *(Jembatan Sydney Harbour)*

   b) The Eiffel Tower *(Menara Eiffel)*

   c) Dream World

Modifying adverb 'very'

d) The Grand Canyon

_____

e) The Great Barrier Reef

_____

f) The Simpson Desert *(Gurun Pasir Simpson)*

_____