

'Already' 'yet' and 'not yet'

In Indonesian, the word **sudah** has several uses.

Statements:

Sudah is used to say that something has already been done or has occurred.

For example:

Saya sudah pergi ke Monas. I have already been to Monas.

Questions:

Sudah is used to ask if something has already been done or has occurred.

For example:

Apa kamu sudah pergi ke Monas? Have you been to Monas yet?

As you can see in the examples above, *sudah* is used in both the statement and the question. This is different from English, where we use 'already' in the statement and 'yet' in the question.

Affirmative answers:

Sudah is also used to answer questions in the affirmative. Notice that in the reply you do not have to say *Ya* (Yes).

For example:

Apa kamu sudah pergi ke Monas? Have you been to Monas yet?
Sudah. Yes, I have.

Negative answers:

Sudah is not used to answer in the negative or to say that something has not yet occurred. In this case, you need to use the word **belum**.

For example:

(i) *Apa kamu sudah pergi ke Monas?* Have you been to Monas yet?
Belum. Not yet.

(ii) *Saya belum pergi ke Monas.* I have not been to Monas yet.

NOTE:

In spoken Indonesian, *belum* is frequently used as a tag on a question.

For example:

Kamu sudah makan, belum? Literally: Have you eaten yet or not?



Exercises



1. Answer the following questions in complete sentences using **sudah** or **belum**. (See the vocabulary list on Page 3.)

Example:

Kamu sudah mandi, belum?

Sudah, saya sudah mandi.

- a) *Kamu sudah makan pagi belum?*

- b) *Kamu sudah gosok gigi belum?*

- c) *Kamu sudah nonton 'Driving to the Hotel' belum?*

- d) *Kamu sudah makan siang belum?*

- e) *Kamu sudah lulus dari sekolah belum?*



2. An Indonesian friend of yours is travelling around Australia. Write a short dialogue on the lines provided on Page 3. Find out whether your friend has already been to certain places. Don't forget appropriate greetings. (See the vocabulary list on Page 3.)

Example:

A: *Hai Nina, apa kabar?*

B: *Hai Anna, baik-baik.*

A: *Apa kamu sudah pergi ke Melbourne, belum?*

B: *Sudah. Menarik sekali.*

A: *Apa kamu sudah pergi ke ...*

'Already' 'yet' and 'not yet'

A: _____

B: _____

A: _____

B: _____

A: _____

B: _____

A: _____

B: _____

A: _____

B: _____

A: _____

B: _____

Vocabulary:

<i>makan pagi</i>	to eat breakfast
<i>gosok gigi</i>	to brush your teeth
<i>nonton</i>	to watch a movie
<i>makan siang</i>	to have lunch
<i>lulus</i>	to graduate from school
<i>apa kabar</i>	How are you?
<i>baik-baik</i>	I'm fine
<i>pergi ke</i>	to go to