

What are you eating?

In Worksheet 3, you learnt how to use two verbs from the *meN-* group to make statements of fact and refer to actions in general.

For example:

Kanguru makan rumput.

Kangaroos eat grass.

Gajah minum air.

Elephants drink water.

These examples are statements of general fact. There is no time element.

However, you have also learnt that tense is not indicated in Indonesian by a change in the form of the verb. Instead, you must add a tense marker.

Do you remember that you have already learnt two of these tense markers?

- One indicates that something occurred in the past.
- The other indicates that something will occur in the future.

In the exercises in this worksheet, you will revise the tense markers you already know and you will also learn how to use a new one.

Exercises



1. Read these sentences:

Saya sudah makan.

I have eaten.

Dia akan mencuci piring.

He will/is going to wash the dishes.

Gorila itu sedang minum air.

That gorilla is drinking water.

- a) Underline the verb in each Indonesian sentence above.
- b) Write down what you think the tense marker word is in each sentence. One of these words is new.

c) Write down what you think each of these three tense markers indicates.

i)

ii)

iii)



2. Read these sentences:

Saya sedang makan ikan.

I am eating.

Dia sudah makan.

He has eaten.

Saya akan makan pizza.

I will eat pizza.

- a) Underline the verb in each of the Indonesian sentences.
- b) What do you notice about the form of the verb in each of the Indonesian sentences?

What are you eating?



3. Read these two sentences.

Ibu sedang makan apa?

What are you eating?

Kamu lagi makan apa?

What are you eating?

Notice that both questions have exactly the same meaning.

a) What do you notice about the tense marker in the second sentence?

b) Notice that the term of address *Ibu* is used in the first sentence and the personal pronoun *kamu* is used in the second. In what situation might an Indonesian use the word *lagi* instead of *sedang*?



4. How might you explain to a friend the difference between indicating tense in Indonesian and in English?
