

Asking for and giving opinions

In module 3, you learnt that *bagaimana* means 'How is ...?' or 'What is ... like?'

For example:

Bagaimana Peter?

How is Peter?

Bagaimana Jakarta?

What is Jakarta like?

Asking for opinions:

When asking for someone's opinion, you can also use the phrase *Bagaimana pendapat Anda tentang ... ?*

- *pendapat* (a noun) means 'opinion'
- *tentang* (a preposition) means 'about' or 'concerning'.
- *Bagaimana pendapat Anda tentang ... ?* corresponds to 'What do you think of ...?'

Remember, you have already learnt that *bagaimana* is often shortened to *gimana* in spoken, informal Indonesian.

Read these examples:

Bagaimana pendapat Anda tentang Jakarta?

What do you think of Jakarta?
(formal)

Gimana pendapatmu tentang Brisbane?

What do you think of Brisbane?
(informal)

Positive responses:

There are two ways you can respond positively.

- You can simply state your opinion.

For example:

Saya suka Jakarta. Jakarta bagus sekali. I like Jakarta. It's great.

- Or, you can begin with the phrase *Saya pikir...* (I think ...).

For example:

Saya pikir Jakarta bagus sekali. I think Jakarta is great.

Negative responses:

There are several ways of responding negatively.

- You can use adjectives that express negative feelings, such as *membosankan* (boring).

For example:

Saya pikir film itu membosankan. I think that movie is boring.

- You can put *tidak* before adjectives that express positive feelings, such as *bagus* (good).

For example:

Saya pikir film itu tidak bagus. I don't think that's a good movie.

Other ways of giving negative responses will be dealt with at a later stage.

Exercises



1. Read this list of Indonesian adjectives and verbs that are used to express opinions.

menarik *bagus* *hebat* *menakutkan*
membosankan *enak* *mungil* *menjengkelkan*
menyenangkan *jelek* *lucu* *mengesankan*

Decide which words are used to give positive or negative opinions. Then write each word in the appropriate column in the table below.

You may feel that a word could fit into both categories depending on the situation.

You have seen or heard all of these words at some point in the previous modules. Refer to the vocabulary list on Page 4 if you need to refresh your memory.

<i>Pendapat positif</i>	<i>Pendapat negatif</i>

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2. Read the sentences a) to d) below in which four different people give their opinion about Jakarta.

Then write a sentence on the line provided saying whether each person has a positive (*positif*) or negative (*negatif*) opinion.

Begin your sentences with the phrase: *Saya pikir pendapat orang ini ...*

Example:

Saya sangat suka sekolah. Ada banyak teman.

Saya pikir pendapat orang ini positif.

Refer to the vocabulary list on Page 4 for help.

- a) *Saya cinta Jakarta. Jakarta kota yang bagus sekali.*

Saya pikir _____

- b) *Saya pikir Jakarta menarik. Banyak atraksi.*

Saya _____

- c) *Saya pikir Jakarta tidak enak . Jakarta terlalu ramai dan terlalu banyak orang.*

- d) *Saya pikir Jakarta bagus sekali. Saya bisa melakukan banyak kegiatan.*

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3. Answer the questions below in complete Indonesian sentences.

Use words from Exercise 1 in your answers.

Try to use conjunctions such as *dan* (and) or *tetapi* (but) and modifiers such as *sangat*, *amat*, or *sekali* which all mean 'very'.

Example:

- *Bagaimana pendapatmu tentang filem komedi?*

- *Saya pikir filem komedi lucu dan sangat menyenangkan.*

a) *Bagaimana pendapatmu tentang Queensland?*

b) *Bagaimana pendapatmu tentang filem horor?*

c) *Bagaimana pendapatmu tentang Zak?*

d) *Bagaimana pendapatmu tentang pizza?*

e) *Bagaimana pendapatmu tentang sekolah?*

Vocabulary:

<i>bagus</i>	good
<i>menarik</i>	interesting
<i>hebat</i>	great
<i>menakutkan</i>	scary
<i>membosankan</i>	boring
<i>menyenangkan</i>	enjoyable
<i>indah</i>	beautiful (of scenery / places / pictures but not for people)
<i>menjengkelkan</i>	annoying
<i>mungil</i>	cute
<i>lucu</i>	funny
<i>mengesankan</i>	impressive
<i>jelek</i>	bad / ugly
<i>enak</i>	tasty (for food) / pleasant (for places and feelings)