

Describing your household

HOUSEHOLD:

If asked to describe our family, we usually begin with a description of immediate family members. Then, we might go on to describe the kind of dwelling we live in as well as the pets we have.

When we do this, we are describing the 'household'. In Indonesian, the word for household is ***rumah tangga***.

So far, you have learnt how to describe your family members and the kind of dwelling you live in. Now, let's look at pets.

HOUSEHOLD PETS:

- What sort of pets do you have at home? Do you keep them outside or are they allowed inside your house. Is your cat or dog allowed to sleep in your bedroom at night?
- Many Indonesian people like to keep pets. The most popular ones are fish and birds of many varied and exotic species.
- Dogs and cats are also kept as pets but they are less popular than in Australia. You are more likely to see them roaming the streets as strays. People who have dogs usually have them for security reasons only.
- In Indonesia, dogs are generally not considered 'a part of the family' as they often are in Australia. There, you will rarely see a dog allowed inside the house, let alone allowed to sleep on someone's bed.

NOTES ON LANGUAGE USE:

- The phrase for 'pets' is ***binatang peliharaan***. *Binatang* means 'animals' and *peliharaan* means 'things that you cultivate or rear'.
- In Learning Object 5, 'Where is my place', you heard the verb *mempunyai* (have / own) used to say what pets people have.

For example:

Kami mempunyai anjing dan kucing. We have a dog and a cat.

- In spoken Indonesian, people often use only the base word *punya* without the prefix *Mem-* or the suffix *-i* to say what pets they have.

For example:

Saya punya ikan emas dan burung parkit.

I have a gold fish and a parakeet.

Exercises



1. Answer these questions in Indonesian sentences. Use the vocabulary list on Page 3 for help.

a) *Apakah kamu tinggal di kota besar, kota kecil atau di pedalaman?*

b) *Apakah kamu tinggal di sebuah apartemen atau di sebuah rumah?*

c) *Ada berapa orang di keluargamu?*

d) *Ada berapa ruang di rumah atau apartemenmu?*

e) *Apakah rumah atau apartemenmu mempunyai krepyak atau gorden?*

f) *Apakah rumah atau apartemenmu mempunyai kebun? Apakah kebun itu besar atau kecil?*

g) *Apakah kamu suka rumah atau apartemenmu? Mengapa? Mengapa tidak?*

h) *Apakah kamu mempunyai binatang peliharaan?*

i) *Bagaimana kamarmu?*

- *Dindingnya berwarna apa?*
- *Sepreinya berwarna apa?*
- *Apakah ada lemari, meja atau rak buku?*
