

## Object – Focus With Third Person Subjects

Mastering the Object – Focus construction is probably the most difficult of all Indonesian grammar. Take a minute to carefully read the information in the box below. Then complete the activities on the following pages. Once you have completed this activity, email it to your teacher for correction.

- Most sentences which contain a me-verb can be turned into an object – focus sentence.
- In object- focus sentences, the emphasis or focus is on the **Object**.
- It is important that you learn and remember that:
  - the **VERB** is the *action* or *doing* word
  - the **SUBJECT** is the person or thing *which does the verb*
  - the **OBJECT** is the person or thing *affected by the verb*
  - **AUXILIARY VERBS** are verbs such as *akan, sudah, belum, harus*

To turn a sentence into an object-focus sentence, follow these simple steps:

- 1) Identify the VERB. (easy because starts with me-)
- 2) Identify the OBJECT
- 3) Identify any AUXILIARY VERBS
- 4) Identify the SUBJECT – who or what is doing the verb?

- **Here is the tricky bit!!!!**

You probably already know that there are 2 types of object – focus constructions – which one you use for a particular sentence depends on whether the **SUBJECT is First / Second or Third Person. (Below is the table you saw in Topic 1)**

Table from: Bahasa  
Tetanggaku, Stage 3.

<i>First</i>	<i>Second</i>	<i>Third</i>
saya	kamu (mu)	beliau
aku (ku)	engkau (kau)	dia (ia)
kami	kalian	mereka
kita	saudara	-nya
	anda	
	ibu (bu)	ibu
	bapak (pak)	bapak
	ayah	ayah
	nona	*Nona Herawati
	nyonya	*Nyonya Tobing
	tuan	*Pak Sudarmo
		*Ibu Sujiman
		*Saudara Hasan

(cont. over)

- ❖ If the SUBJECT is First or Second Person, follow this formula:

**Object + (aux. verb) + Subject + Verb Root**

Example: **Saya sudah memasak makan malam.**  
(O) (aux.) (S1st) (V)  
**Makan malam sudah saya masak.**

- ❖ If the SUBJECT is Third Person , follow this formula:

**Object + (aux. verb) + di + verb root + (oleh)+ Subject.**

Example: **Ibu saya sudah memasak makan malam.**  
**S3rd (aux.) (V) (O)**  
**Makan malam sudah dimasak oleh ibu saya.**

a) Turn these sentences into object-focus sentences. Label the Subject, Verb and Object in each sentence and follow the formula above. Please Note: All of these sentences have 3<sup>rd</sup> person subjects.

1. Mereka membaca buku di perpustakaan.

2. Ibu memakai sepatu baru.

3. Murid-murid sedang mengerjakan P.R.

4. Dia akan menunggu teman-temanya di setasiun.

(cont. over)

5. Guru akan menjelaskan soal yang sukar itu.

6. Petani-petani sedang menanam sawah.

7. Siapa akan membersihkan kamar yang kotor itu?

(cont. over)

8. Pekerja-pekerja harus memperbaiki jalan yang rusak.

9. John belum menutup pintu dan jendela.

10. Mereka akan membangun rumah baru.

From: VCE Indonesian, Unit 1 p.3.7.

b) Now write the English meaning of each sentence in a).

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

(cont. over)

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

c) For extra practice, see if you can write these 5 sentences in Indonesian using the Third Person Object-Focus construction.

1. My dad bought a ticket last week.

2. My mum usually cleans the house.

3. My older sister listens to music in her bedroom.

4. He borrowed her hat.

5. The book was given to him by our teacher.

Save this file and email it to your teacher for correction.