Understanding
Indonesian Grammar

James Neil Sneddon

A student s reference and workbook

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Understanding Indonesian Grammar is a reference and practice book designed primarily for intermediate and advanced students, both in senior years of high school and at university. It is not meant for use with any particular language course.

There are 37 units in the book, each containing discussion of a grammar topic with accompanying exercises. Most units are broken up into a number of subsections, each dealing with one or more aspects of the topic for that unit. The book concentrates mainly on morphology (affixes) and syntax (sentence structure). There is very little on 'word usage', apart from consideration of the functions of a small number of syntactically important words. Discussion of grammar topics is far from exhaustive, often being quite brief. More weight is given to constructions likely to be studied at intermediate and higher levels, although some units contain reference to more elementary structures. A more comprehensive coverage of Indonesian grammar is provided in my *Indonesian Reference Grammar* (Allen & Unwin 1996).

To a considerable extent units are self-contained, enabling teachers to select topics in any order, depending on the structure of their course and the needs of their students. Teachers are certainly not expected to work through the book from unit 1 to unit 37. Nevertheless, since the grammar of any language is an interrelated network no unit can be entirely separate from others. Users may find that some exercises contain structures explained elsewhere in the book which they have not yet covered. This cannot be avoided if exercises are to contain more than the most elementary material. When a rule or pattern dealt with in one section needs to be mentioned in another section a cross-reference is given to avoid repetitive description. Grammatical terms are usually explained in the first unit in which they occur. Such terms are also defined in the glossary.

Within a unit users will usually find it practical to work through the subsections from the beginning to the end of the unit. However, in a few units it may not be appropriate to do so. For instance, in dealing with active and passive voice most teachers will find it appropriate to their course to cover some of the earlier discussion and exercises fairly early in their course but to leave the subsection on passives of ditransitive clauses until after the sections on ditransitive *-i* and *-kan* verbs have been covered.

Since the workbook is not intended for use with any particular Indonesian language course the question arises as to what vocabulary is appropriate for use in exercises. It is inevitable that students in any class will be unfamiliar with some

of the words occurring in some exercises. Teachers should use their own strategies to deal with this situation; it is important that students not be prevented from completing an exercise because some of the vocabulary is unfamiliar to them. Teachers may wish to provide translations for words which have not yet occurred in their course or allow students to use a dictionary to complete certain exercises.

Scattered through the book are 'note boxes'. These offer useful information which is additional to what is provided in the text but which is not tested in exercises.

One problem facing any work which deals with Indonesian grammar is that there is considerably less agreement on what is 'good standard language' than is the case in English. A construction which is perfectly acceptable to one educated speaker may be rejected by another or at best be regarded as unnatural or clumsy. Indonesian constructions have been checked with native speakers and I have chosen forms which were acceptable to those people.. Nevertheless, teachers and students need to be aware that people from different parts of Indonesia may differ in their attitude to the grammaticality or acceptability of some structures or the appropriateness of some words in certain contexts. They should not be surprised if a native speaker questions some aspects of grammar or vocabulary in this book.

In the discussion of a number of grammatical constructions, particularly verbal suffixes -kan and -i, mention is made of semantic roles. This is rarely done in teaching texts of Indonesian but is nevertheless very useful for revealing relationships within verbal clauses and thus for allowing a proper understanding of such constructions. The important semantic roles mentioned in this work are defined in the glossary.

To assist in the explanation of some structures 'grammar boxes' are provided. The format of these is as follows:

• A word covers anything directly below it in the box. Thus the following grammar box indicates that *Ali* is the subject and *tidur* is the predicate:

subject	predicate
Ali	**tidur.**
Ali	is sleeping.

• Where a structure contains two or more parts the second line, where those parts are identified, is indented from the label for the structure, given on the first line. Thus the following box indicates that the construction consists of a main clause and an adverb of time. The main clause is a structure containing two parts, a subject and a predicate:

main clause		adverb of time
subject	predicate	
Kami	**baru pulang**	**sore hari.**

For every exercise there are instructions on what the student needs to do. Often an example is included. The example begins with a structure typical of those in the exercise. The next line begins with an arrow (→). What follows, on the same line and any subsequent lines, is an application of the instructions to the example. The student is expected to apply the instructions to the forms in the exercise, as demonstrated in the example.

At the back of the book is an answer key to exercises. Frequently there are several possible translations to a sentence, from either language to the other. In most cases only one possibility is given in the key, on the understanding the teacher will know what alternative translations are possible. Thus if the translation given to 'the book which he read' is *buku yang dia baca*, the teacher should be aware that answers such as *buku yang dibacanya* and *buku yang dibaca oleh dia* are also correct. In such cases the alternative possibilities are described in the appropriate unit in the text. In the case of words, the use of one item does not preclude the possibility that other words may be equally appropriate translations. In such cases also it is assumed the teacher will be aware of the possibilities and that an alternative correct answer will not be ruled incorrect. Sometimes two alternative translations are given in the key if this is thought useful for clarity. In translating 'you' *kamu*, *saudara* and *Anda* are chosen fairly randomly, unless context indicates that *kamu* is more or less appropriate than the other two words.

GLOSSARY

The following terms are defined as used in this workbook of Indonesian. Some terms may be used in other ways in grammars of either Indonesian or English.

abilitative verb A verb with prefix **ter-** which indicates that the actor has the ability to perform the action.

accidental verb A verb with prefix **ter-** which refers to uncontrolled action. Depending on the particular verb and the context it may refer to action which is unintended, unexpected, agentless, involuntary or sudden.

active voice The form of transitive clause in which the subject refers to the one who performs the action (the actor) and in which the verb is marked by prefix **meN-**.

actor The participant who carries out the action. The actor is expressed by the subject in an active clause, such as **Ali** in **Ali menolong saya** 'Ali helps me'. It occurs as agent in a passive clause, which is optionally marked by **oleh** 'by', such as **Saya ditolong oleh Ali** 'I am helped by Ali'.

adjective A word which refers to a characteristic of a person or thing, such as **besar** 'big', **hijau** 'green'.

adjective clause A clause which has an adjective or adjective phrase as its predicate, such as **rumah itu besar** 'That house is big'.

adjective phrase A phrase which has an adjective as its head word.

adverb A word or phrase which is added to a clause to give information about such matters as manner, time, place and frequency.

adversitive verb A verb with circumfix **ke-...-an** which refers to the adverse effect of the action on the subject.

affix A sound or group of sounds added to a word base to produce a derived word. Depending on where they occur in relation to the base, affixes are called prefixes, suffixes or circumfixes.

agent The phrase in a passive clause which indicates the actor. It sometimes follows the preposition **oleh** 'by'.

base The part of a word which carries the essential meaning and to which affixes are attached, such as **jalan** in **berjalan** 'walk' and **perjalanan** 'journey'. Words are listed under their base in a dictionary.

basic clause A clause which is described without reference to any other clause type and which can occur alone as a sentence.

benefactive verb A verb with suffix **-kan** which indicates that the object is the person, the beneficiary, for whose benefit the action is done.

beneficiary The person for whose benefit an action is performed. It is usually marked by preposition **untuk** 'for'. With benefactive **-kan** verbs it occurs as object, such as **Ali** in **Saya membelikan Ali buku** 'I buy Ali a book'. In passives of such constructions it occurs as subject: **Ali dibelikan buku** 'Ali is bought a book'.

cardinal number a number which precedes a noun in counting, such as **satu** 'one', **dua** 'two', **tiga** 'three'.

causative verb A verb with suffix **-kan** which indicates that the object is caused to perform the action or have the quality mentioned by the verb base.

circumfix An affix which has two parts, one occurring before the base and the other occurring after the base, such as **per-...-an** in **perjalanan** 'journey'.

clause A construction which contains a predicate. Most clauses also contain a subject.

comparative adjective phrase An adjective phrase in which **lebih** 'more' or **kurang** 'less' precedes the adjective, as in **lebih besar** 'bigger'.

complement A component of a clause which resembles an object but which cannot become the subject of a passive clause. Complements include the noun or noun phrase following intransitive verbs, such as **bahasa Perancis** in **Dia belajar bahasa Perancis** 'He is studying French'. Complements can also be clauses, such as **pergi** in **Dia menyuruh saya pergi** 'He ordered me to go'.

copula A word which occurs optionally between the subject and predicate in non-verbal clauses. The copulas are **adalah** and **ialah**.

defining relative clause A relative clause whose subject is omitted because it corresponds to the head noun of the embedding phrase. It is preceded by **yang**, as in **Orang yang duduk di situ** 'The person who is sitting there'.

demonstrative The words **ini** 'this' and **itu** 'that'.

ditransitive verb A verb which has a primary object to indicate the recipient or beneficiary and a secondary object to indicate the patient, such as **memberi** 'give' in **memberi dia uang** 'give him money' and **memilihkan** 'choose' in **memilihkan dia hadiah** 'choose him a present'.

ellipsis The omission of a word because it is clear from context.

equative adjective phrase An adjective phrase which says that one thing is similar to another in the quality indicated by the adjective, such as **sebesar** 'as big as'.

equative clause Another name for a noun clause. Equative constructions state that the person or thing expressed by the predicate is the same as the person or thing expressed by the subject.

exclamation An utterance which expresses the speaker's feelings or attitude, usually in an emphatic way.

first person See **person**.

head word The word around which a phrase is built. A noun phrase always has a noun as its head word. The head word of the noun phrase **mobil besar itu** 'that big car' is **mobil** 'car'. An adjective phrase has an adjective as its head, and so on.

imperative An utterance addressed to someone with the intention that something is done. Imperatives range from strong commands to requests, appeals and suggestions.

indefinite pronoun A pronoun which indicates that a person or thing is being spoken about without a particular person or thing being identified, such as **apa saja** 'anything' and **siapa saja** 'anyone'.

identifying clause A derived clause in which the predicate is placed first for focusing and whose subject is a nominalised relative clause, such as **Orang itulah yang mencuri dompet saya** 'It was that person who stole my wallet'.

indirect question A question which is placed within a statement. Thus the question **Kapan dia akan pindah?** 'When will he move?' becomes an indirect question in **Saya tidak tahu kapan dia akan pindah** 'I don't know when he will move'.

intransitive clause A verbal clause which does not have an object and which contains an intransitive verb.

intransitive verb A verb which occurs in an intransitive clause. It refers to an action which involves only one participant, the actor, such as **tidur** 'sleep', **berjalan** 'walk'.

locative noun   A noun which indicates location in relation to the following noun, such as **atas** 'top, above' in **di atas meja** 'on top of the table'.

locative preposition   A preposition indicating position or direction. The three locative prepositions are **di** 'at', **ke** 'to' and **dari** 'from'.

locative pronoun   A pronoun which indicates position with relation to the speaker. The locative pronouns are **sini** 'here (near speaker)', **situ** 'there (not far off)', and **sana** 'there (far off)'.

main clause   A clause in a complex sentence which occurs with a subordinate clause, a complement or other minor sentence component.

main verb   The verb in an independent clause which occurs with a subordinate clause or complement. It is called the main verb to distinguish it from the verb in the complement or subordinate clause.

modal   A word in the predicate which refers to concepts like possibility, ability and necessity, such as **dapat** 'can' and **harus** 'must'.

modifying noun   A noun which follows another noun to give more specific information about it. Thus **buku** 'book' modifies **toko** 'shop' in **toko buku** 'book shop'.

modifying verb   A verb which follows a noun to give more specific information about it. It usually indicates what the thing is used for. Thus **tidur** 'sleep' modifies **kamar** 'room' in **kamar tidur** 'bedroom'.

nominalised clause   A clause acting as a noun.

nominalised predicate clause   A clause acting as a noun by having **-nya** attached to its predicate, such as the first word in **ditutupnya beberapa jalan** 'the closure of several roads'.

nominalised relative clause   A relative clause which takes the place of a noun when the noun it would usually follow is omitted. Thus the relative clause **yang biru** in the noun phrase **mobil yang biru itu** 'that blue car' is nominalised when **mobil** 'car' is omitted, as in **Yang biru itu mobil saya** 'That blue one is my car'.

noun   A word which refers to a person, such as **guru** 'teacher', thing, such as **pohon** 'tree', or abstract concept, such as **perjalanan** 'journey'.

noun clause   A clause whose predicate is a noun, such as **Dia guru** 'He is a teacher'. The negative in a noun clause is **bukan**.

noun phrase   A sequence of words which functions in the same way as a noun (for instance, as the subject or object of a clause) and which has a noun as its head word.

object   The noun or noun phrase which occurs immediately after an active transitive verb. It usually indicates the patient of the action but with some verbs it identifies the beneficiary or recipient. The object noun phrase becomes the subject when an active clause is changed to a passive clause.

ordinal number   A number which indicates where something comes in a sequence and has the prefix **ke-**, such as **kedua** 'second', **kelima** 'fifth'.

participant   One of the semantic relationships involved in an event and expressed by a noun phrase standing as subject, object, and so on. Important participants include the actor, which occurs as subject in an active clause and as agent in a passive clause, and the patient, which occurs as object in an active clause.

passive type one   A passive clause in which the verb has prefix **di-** and the agent by a follows the verb, sometimes marked by the preposition **oleh** 'by', such as **Surat itu ditulis oleh Ali** 'That letter was written by Ali'. It can only occur if the agent is third

person, except with **ter-** and **ke-...-an** verbs, in which a passive construction is always passive type one.

passive type two A passive clause in which the verb has no prefix and the agent precedes the verb, such as **Surat itu saya tulis** 'That letter was written by me'. The agent phrase must be a pronoun.

passive voice The form of transitive clause in which the subject refers to the patient. The actor, if mentioned, is expressed by an agent phrase. The verb is marked by prefix **di-** (passive type one) or has no prefix (passive type two).

patient This participant, sometimes called the *goal*, is the one which is moved or affected by the action. It occurs as object in most active clauses, such as **Ali** in **Mereka menolong Ali** 'They help Ali'. It occurs as subject in passive clauses like **Ali ditolong oleh mereka** 'Ali is helped by them'. With ditransitive verbs the patient can occur as the secondary object. Thus the patient **uang** 'money' occurs as secondary object in **Saya memberi dia uang** 'I give him money'.

person One of three classes of people involved in what is said; first person refers to the person speaking, such as **saya** 'I', second person refers to the person being spoken to, such as **kamu** 'you', and third person refers to the person or thing being spoken about, such as **mereka** 'they' and **orang itu** 'that person'.

phrase A group of words which is grammatically equivalent to a single word, being able to occur in the same places as that word. The phrase is built around a head word, which is a member of the class to which the phrase is equivalent. For instance, a noun phrase is built around a noun. Prepositional phrases have a different structure.

possessive relative clause A relative clause which refers to something possessed, corresponding to a phrase with 'whose' in English, as in **sopir yang namanya Ali** 'the driver whose name is Ali'.

predicate The part of a clause which says something about the subject. The predicate contains a word (verb, noun, and so on) which determines much of the structure of the rest of the clause.

prefix An affix which occurs before a base, such as **ber-** in the word **berjalan** 'walk'.

preposition A word which links a following noun phrase to the rest of a sentence, telling what the relationship of that noun phrase is to the sentence. For instance, the preposition **di** 'in' tells that the following noun **kota** is the location, in **Mereka tinggal di kota** 'They live in the city'.

prepositional phrase A construction consisting of a preposition followed by a noun phrase, such as **untuk orang itu** 'for those people' and **dengan teman saya** 'with my friend'.

primary object The object which immediately follows a ditransitive verb and which becomes the subject when the clause is changed to a passive.

pronoun A word which stands for a noun when it is clear who or what is being spoken about, such as **kita** 'we', **mereka** 'they'.

question word A word occurring in a specific question which corresponds to one of the 'wh-' words in English, such as **siapa** 'who', **kapan** 'when'. Also called an interrogative.

recipient The person at whom an action is directed. It can follow prepositions **kepada** and **pada** 'to'. With some verbs, especially **-i** verbs, it can occur as object, such as **dia** in **Saya memberi dia uang** 'I give him money'. In passives of such constructions it occurs as subject: **Dia diberi uang** 'He is given money'.

reciprocal verb A verb which indicates that two people do the same thing to each other or that two people or things stand in the same relation to each other. Corresponding verbs in English usually have 'each other' as object, as in **Mereka pukul-memukul** 'They hit each other'.

reflexive The word **sendiri** 'self', which occurs with nouns and pronouns to emphasise or make clear who or what is being referred to.

reflexive phrase A phrase which usually occurs as the object of a verb to indicates that the object refers to the same person as the subject. The full phrase is **diri** + pronoun + **sendiri**, as in **Dia meyakinkan dirinya sendiri** 'He convinced himself'.

reflexive pronoun The word **diri** 'self', which can occur alone, as in **menjaga diri** 'look after oneself', or in a reflexive phrase.

relative clause A clause preceded by **yang** and occurring in a noun phrase to give information about the noun. The term usually refers to a defining relative clause, as in **orang yang duduk di situ** 'the person who is sitting there'.

second person See **person**.

secondary object A noun which indicates the patient and which follows the primary object of a ditransitive verb, such as **uang** 'money' in **Dia memberi mereka uang** 'He gave them money'.

semantic role See **participant**.

sentence A construction which can stand alone as a complete utterance. A sentence can be a statement, question, command or exclamation.

sentence tag A word attached to the end of a question for such purposes as seeking confirmation, such as **bukan** in **Saudara mahasiswa, bukan?** 'You are a student, aren't you?'

simple intransitive verb An intransitive verb which has no affixation, such as **tidur** 'sleep', **duduk** 'sit'.

simple transitive verb A transitive verb which consists only of a base and one of the affixes **meN-** or **di-**, such as **menulis** 'write', **ditulis** 'written'.

specific question A question which requires specific information as an answer and which cannot be answered by 'yes' or 'no'. It contains a question word, such as **siapa** 'who', **di mana** 'where'.

stative verb A verb with prefix **ter-** which refers to a state rather than an action and which thus has no actor, such as **terletak** 'located'.

subject The component of a clause which is the thing being discussed, the 'theme' of the utterance. It is frequently something which has been mentioned previously, about which something new (the predicate) is said, as **Ali** in **Ali sudah pulang** 'Ali has gone home'.

subordinate clause A clause which cannot stand alone as a sentence but which occurs with another clause (the main clause) in a complex sentence. It can occur either before or after the main clause to add information to it. The subordinate clause is preceded by a subordinator, such as **sesudah** 'after', in **Mereka berangkat sesudah makan** 'They left after eating'.

suffix An affix which occurs after the base, such as **-an** in **tulisan** 'writing'.

superlative adjective phrase A phrase in which an adjective is preceded by **paling** or **ter-** 'most', as in **paling besar** 'biggest', **tertinggi** 'highest'.

temporal marker   A word within the predicate which indicates that the action has occurred, is occurring, or is yet to occur in relation to the moment of utterance or in relation to some other event referred to, such as **masih** 'still', **akan** 'will'.

third person   See **person**.

topic   The component of a topic-comment clause which occurs first for focusing. It is identified with a component of the basic clause from which the topic-comment clause derives and its place in that clause is marked by **-nya**. Thus, **sopir itu** 'that driver' is the topic in **Sopir itu namanya Ali** '(As for) that driver, his name is Ali'.

topic-comment clause   A clause which contains a topic, the rest of the clause, which includes a subject and predicate, forming a comment on the topic.

transitive clause   A verbal clause which has an object and which contains a transitive verb.

transitive verb   A verb which occurs in a transitive clause. It refers to an action which has two participants, an actor and a patient, such as **membawa** 'carry', **melempar** 'throw'.

verb   A word which refers to an action, such as **lari** 'run', **membaca** 'read', or a state, such as **tidur** 'sleep', **terletak** 'located'. It occurs as the predicate of a verbal clause.

yes-no question   A question which can be answered by 'yes' or 'no'. It does not contain a question word.

1 PREFIXES

A *N* in prefix *meN-*

The symbol **N** in the prefix **meN-** stands for a number of different nasal sounds or no sound (zero). What the sound will be in a particular word depends on the first sound of the base following the prefix, as listed below. If the base begins with one of the sounds marked with an asterisk that sound is lost after the nasal.

N	→	**m** before *__p, b, f, v__
N	→	**n** before *__t, d, c, j, sy, z__
N	→	**ny** before *__s__
N	→	**ng** before *__k, g, h, kh__ and vowels
N	→	zero before **m, n, ny, ng, w, y, l, r**

EXERCISE 1

Below are a number of verb bases.
- Give the correct form of the verbs with the prefix **meN-**.

Example
tulis
→   **menulis**

1.	**ajar**		8.	**garuk**
2.	**beli**		9.	**dengar**
3.	**olah**		10.	**nyanyi**
4.	**lihat**		11.	**serah**
5.	**rasa**		12.	**kirim**
6.	**pakai**		13.	**minta**
7.	**coba**		14.	**jual**

> **NOTE** Initial **p**, **t**, **s** and **k** are sometimes retained in words borrowed from other languages. These forms must be learned separately. The first sound becomes less likely to be retained as the word becomes more accepted as an Indonesian word. Sometimes variation occurs before the word becomes fully 'Indonesianised'. Thus you will come across both **menaati** and **mentaati** 'obey' from the base **taat** and both **mengritik** and **mengkritik** 'criticise' from the base **kritik**.

- Sometimes we cannot be certain from the **meN-** form of a verb what the base is. Thus the words **menyewa** 'rent' and **menyanyi** 'sing' begin with the same sequence of sounds. However, the first consists of prefix **meny-** and base **sewa** while the second consists of prefix **me-** and base **nyanyi**. In such cases it

may be necessary to look up a number of possibilities in the dictionary to find which the base is.

EXERCISE 2

- Give the meaning, prefix and base of each of the following verbs.
- Note: You will need to use a dictionary.

Example
menulis
→   'write' **men- + tulis**

1.	**menikah**	9.	**menanti**
2.	**menikam**	10.	**menganga**
3.	**mengantar**	11.	**memilih**
4.	**mengecil**	12.	**menyambut**
5.	**memasak**	13.	**menyala**
6.	**mengeja**	14.	**mengisi**
7.	**menganggap**	15.	**mengobrol**
8.	**menyikat**	16.	**menanam**

> **NOTE** Initial **p** in the prefix **per-** is retained after **mem-**: **meN- + per- + kecil →
> memperkecil**. It is also retained in some words whose base begin with **per** if this
> 'looks like' a prefix: **meN- + percaya** 'believe' **+ -i → mempercayai**. Initial **p** is
> retained in a few other words, the most common being **mempunyai** 'have, own' and
> **mempengaruhi** 'influence'.
>
> Prefix **peN-** undergoes the same changes as occur to **meN-**. The one exception is that
> following **peN-** the initial **p** of prefix **per-** is lost: **peN- + per- + satu → pemersatu**
> 'unifier'.

- Verbs with prefix **meN-** can be reduplicated. In this case the prefix is not reduplicated. The reduplicated form of **membagi** 'divide' is **membagi-bagi** 'divide out'. If the sound represented by **N** replaces the first sound of the base then it does occur in the reduplicated part of the base. Thus the reduplicated form of **menunggu** 'wait' – from **meN- + tunggu**, where **n** replaces **t** – is **menunggu-nunggu** 'keep waiting'.

EXERCISE 3

- Give the reduplicated forms of the verbs with prefix **meN-** from the following bases.

Example
tunggu
→   **menunggu-nunggu**

1.	sedot	7.	jadi
2.	ulang	8.	omong
3.	pijat	9.	tulis
4.	garuk	10.	baca
5.	minta	11.	karang
6.	putar	12.	cari

• With single syllable bases, which are all borrowings from other languages, **meN-** optionally becomes **menge-**. The regular form of the prefix can occur instead. In this case initial **p**, **t**, **s**, and **k** are not lost as forms without them would sometimes be difficult to interpret. Thus **meN-** added to base **pel** 'mop' gives **mengepel** or **mempel** 'to mop'.

> **NOTE**   Many people regard only the **menge-** forms as acceptable. One-syllable verb bases take the prefix **di-** in the passive: **dipel** 'mopped'.
>
> Prefix **menge-** also occurs with **tahu**: **mengetahui** 'know'. In the passive **ke-** is placed before the base: **diketahui** 'known'.

EXERCISE 4

• Give the two possible **meN-** verbs from the following bases.
• Give the meanings of the verbs.

Example
pel
→   **mengepel, mempel** 'to mop'

1.	cek	4.	rem
2.	tik	5.	lap
3.	bom	6.	dor

B   Prefixes *ber-*, *per-* and *ter-*

These prefixes undergo the following changes:

The final **r** is lost if the following base begins with **r**:

ber-	+	**renang**	→	**berenang**
per-	+	**rusak**	→	**perusak**
ter-	+	**rasa**	→	**terasa**

If the base begins with **CerC**, where **C** is any consonant, **r** is lost:

ber-	+	serta		→	beserta
per-	+	kerja	+ -an	→	pekerjaan
ter-	+	pergok		→	tepergok

> **NOTE**   Loss of **r** before a base beginning with **CerC** is not entirely regular; in a few words it does not occur or is optional: **ter- + percaya** → **tepercaya, terpercaya** 'trustworthy'.

With the base **ajar** the **r** of the prefixes is replaced by **l**: **ber- + ajar** → **belajar** 'study'.

EXERCISE 5

In each number below is a prefix (**ber-**, **per-** or **ter-**), base and, sometimes, a suffix.

- Give the correct form of the word when these combinations occur.
- Give the meaning of each word.

Example
ber- + angkat
→   **berangkat** 'depart'

1. ter- + serah
2. ber- + terbang + -an
3. per- + kerja
4. ter- + rasa
5. ber- + kerja
6. per- + ajar + -an
7. ber- + pergi + -an
8. ber- + keras

2   NOUN AFFIXES

Many nouns are formed by the addition of an affix to the base. The important noun-forming affixes are discussed in the following sections.

A   Suffix *-an*

This suffix derives nouns from a number of word classes but most commonly attaches to verb bases. With many verb bases it produces a noun which stands as object of the related verb. Thus **makanan** 'food' refers to what is eaten (**makan** 'eat'), **pakaian** 'clothes' refers to what is worn (**memakai** 'wear').

Another large group are 'action nouns', which refer to the action of the verb. Thus **serangan** 'attack', as in the noun phrase **serangan terhadap musuh** 'an attack on the enemy', expresses the same action as the verb **menyerang** 'to attack', as in **mereka menyerang musuh** 'they attacked the enemy'. In the same way the noun **ancaman** 'threat' relates to the verb **mengancam** 'threaten'.

EXERCISE 1

In each item below the first sentence contains an underlined verb. The second sentence contains a gap.
- Translate the first sentence.
- Fill in the gap in the second sentence with the **-an** noun corresponding to the underlined verb in the first sentence.
- Translate the second sentence.

   Example
   Dia <u>menulis</u> surat.   ____nya indah sekali.
   → She wrote a letter.
      Tulisannya indah sekali.
      Her writing is very beautiful.

1. **Dia <u>mengancam</u> pelayan toko. ____nya didengar banyak orang.**
2. **Dia <u>melukis</u> ayahnya. ____ itu akan digantung di dinding kantor.**
3. **Sandra <u>memilih</u> gaun merah. Teman-temannya menggemari ____nya.**
4. **Rusli mencoba <u>menjawab</u> pertanyaan polisi. Sayang, ____nya tidak meyakinkan polisi.**
5. **Siti selalu <u>mengeluh</u>. ____nya menjengkelkan rekan-rekannya.**

6. **Karena haus dia harus <u>minum</u> banyak. Dia mengambil ____ itu dari kulkas.**

7. **Anak-anak itu <u>dilarang</u> ke luar rumah. ____ itu berlaku sampai besok.**

8. **Mereka <u>mengumpulkan</u> cerita-cerita rakyat di pulau Sulawesi. ____ cerita itu akan diterbitkan di Australia.**

9. **Para seniman <u>memamerkan</u> lukisannya di Taman Ismail Marzuka. ____ itu dikunjungi banyak orang.**

10. **Bambang sudah bertahun-tahun <u>menabung</u> uangnya di bank ini. Sekarang ____nya sudah banyak.**

B   Circumfix *ke-...-an*

The circumfix **ke-...-an** forms abstract nouns. Many such nouns are based on adjectives, such as **kebersihan** 'cleanliness' (from **bersih** 'clean'), **kecantikan** 'beauty' (from **cantik** 'beautiful').

A few are based on intransitive verbs, such as **kedatangan** 'arrival' (from **datang** 'come'), **kehidupan** 'life' (from **hidup** 'live'). The verbal prefixes **ber-** and **ter-** are retained with this affix: **keberangkatan** 'departure' (from **berangkat** 'depart'), **keterbatasan** 'limitation' (from **terbatas** 'limited').

Other **ke-...-an** nouns are based on simple nouns, such as **keanggotaan** 'membership' (from **anggota** 'member'), **kedaerahan** 'regionalism' (from **daerah** 'region'). Many of these forms frequently occur attributive to another noun, such as **kedokteran** 'medical, having to do with doctors' (from **dokter** 'doctor'), as in **fakultas kedokteran** 'faculty of medicine', **keimigrasian** 'having to do with immigration' (from **imigrasi** 'immigration'), as in **undang-undang keimigrasian** 'immigration laws'.

EXERCISE 2

- Translate the following sentences.
- Form sentences with **ke-...-an** nouns according to the pattern in the example.
- Translate your sentences.

Example
Banyak orang tahu dia malas.
→   Many people know he is lazy.
     Banyak orang tahu tentang kemalasannya.
     Many people know about his laziness.

1. **Banyak orang tahu dia berani.**

2.   **Banyak orang tahu dia pergi.**
3.   **Banyak orang tahu dia berhasil.**
4.   **Banyak orang tahu dia gagal.**
5.   **Banyak orang tahu dia sehat.**
6.   **Banyak orang tahu dia menang.**

C   Circumfix *peN-...-an*

The **N-** on prefix **peN-** changes according to the same rules as for **meN-** [see section 1A]. This includes use of **penge-** with one-syllable bases: **peN- + cek + -an → pengecekan** 'checking'. Most **peN-...-an** nouns are based on verbs. They usually refer to the action expressed by the verb and are translatable 'the act of doing what the verb refers to'. Thus **penulisan** means 'the act of writing, the writing': **Penulisan buku ini memerlukan waktu dua tahun** 'The writing of this book required two years'. As in the above example, such nouns can usually occur with an indication of length of time.

EXERCISE 3

In each of the following sentences a verb is underlined.
- Translate the sentences.
- Form sentences containing the **peN-...-an** noun based on the underlined verb, according to the pattern in the example.
- Translate your sentences.

Example
Mereka <u>membuat</u> batik di pabrik ini.
→   They make batik in this factory.
      Pembuatan batik terjadi di pabrik ini.
      The making of batik takes place in this factory.

1.   **Perusuh <u>membakar</u> kantornya tahun lalu.**
2.   **Panitia <u>mengumumkan</u> keputusannya tadi pagi.**
3.   **Bapak menteri <u>membuka</u> acara di ruangan utama.**
4.   **Orang miskin <u>menderita</u> di mana-mana.**
5.   **Harry <u>mencuri</u> emas itu tahun lalu.**
6.   **Polisi <u>memeriksa</u> pencuri itu kemarin.**
7.   **Orang yang punya senjata harus <u>mendaftarkan</u> senjatanya di kantor ini.**
8.   **Dia <u>menerjemahkan</u> buku saya tahun lalu.**