

## Bahasa Indonesia Language Course: Meeting/Greeting people

### Identifying, describing and discussing oneself, family, peers and colleagues

#### Introduction

This topic covers the language for talking about self, family and friends. Asking about family is a normal 'getting to know' small talk in Indonesia. This topic covers some common native speaker expressions and questions.

#### Key vocabulary and phrases

|                                      |                                                |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Asal</b>                          | - 'Origin'                                     |
| <b>Mana</b>                          | - 'Where'                                      |
| <b>Sudah</b>                         | - 'Already'                                    |
| <b>Berkeluarga</b>                   | - 'Have family'                                |
| <b>Saya dari...</b>                  | - 'I am from...'                               |
| <b>Di</b>                            | - 'in/at'                                      |
| <b>Saya tinggal di...</b>            | - 'I live in...'                               |
| <b>Saya kerja di...</b>              | - 'I work at...'                               |
| <b>Saya punya...</b>                 | - 'I have...'                                  |
| <b>Saya punya tiga anak</b>          | - 'I have three children'                      |
| <b>Anak saya sudah dua</b>           | - 'I have two children'                        |
| <b>Bapak/Ibu sudah berkeluarga?</b>  | - 'Do you have a family?'                      |
| <b>Kenalkan ini istri/suami saya</b> | - 'Let me introduce, this is my wife/husband.' |
| <b>Kenalkan ini putra/putri saya</b> | - 'Let me introduce, this is my son/daughter.' |
| <b>Kenalkan ini rekan saya</b>       | - 'Let me introduce, this is my colleague.'    |
| <b>Namanya...</b>                    | - 'His/her name is....'                        |
| <b>Baik</b>                          | - 'Nice/good' (person), 'okay'                 |
| <b>Baik hati</b>                     | - 'Kind hearted'                               |
| <b>Ramah</b>                         | - 'Friendly'                                   |
| <b>Rajin</b>                         | - 'Diligent'                                   |
| <b>Pintar</b>                        | - 'Smart/good at'                              |
| <b>Pintar di sekolah</b>             | - 'Good at school'                             |
| <b>Pintar olahraga</b>               | - 'Good at sport'                              |
| <b>Semuanya</b>                      | - 'All of them'                                |
| <b>Masih</b>                         | - 'Still'                                      |
| <b>Sekolah</b>                       | - 'School'                                     |
| <b>Pasti</b>                         | - 'Surely/definitely'                          |
| <b>Belajar</b>                       | - 'Learning/studying'                          |
| <b>Belum</b>                         | - 'Not yet'                                    |

### Text

Speaker B: **Mr John asal mana?**

Speaker A: **Saya dari Sydney, Australia.**

Speaker B: **Sudah berkeluarga?**

Speaker A: **Saya belum punya anak.**

Speaker B: **Di Jakarta tinggal di mana?**

Speaker A: **Tinggal di Kemang.**

Speaker B: **Oh di Kemang.**

Speaker A: **Pak Joko sudah berapa anaknya?**

Speaker B: **Saya punya tiga anak. Satu putra dua putri. Semuanya masih sekolah.**

'I have three children. One son and two daughters. All still at school.'

Speaker A: **Pintar-pintar pasti ya.**

Speaker B: **Ya alhamdulillah semuanya rajin belajar.**

### Semantic translation

'Where are you from Mr John?'

'I'm from Sydney, Australia.'

'Do you have a family?'

'I don't have children yet.'

'Where do you live in Jakarta?'

'I live in Kemang.' (Suburb in Jakarta)

'I see, in Kemang.'

'How many children do you have Pak Joko?'

'They must all be very smart.'

'Thankfully they're all good learners.'

### Literal/gloss translation

Speaker B: 'Mr John origin where?'

Speaker A: 'I from Sydney, Australia.'

Speaker B: 'Already *ber\**-family?.' \*Intransitive verb prefix: 'have'

Speaker B: 'I not yet have children.'

Speaker A: 'In Jakarta live where?'

Speaker B: 'Live in Kemang.'

Speaker B: 'Oh I Kemang.'

Speaker A: 'Pak Joko already how many children-*nya\**? ' \*Determiner - possessive.

Speaker B: 'I have three children. One son two daughters. All-*nya\** still school.' \*Determiner

Speaker B: 'Smart-smart surely yes.'

Speaker A: 'Yes thanks be to God all-*nya* diligent learning.'

### Intercultural and linguistic information

Indonesians always ask if you are married or have a family.

Always give and receive with the right hand in Indonesia. The left hand is reserved for cleansing oneself.

Indonesian is a contextual pro-drop language, meaning that when obvious, the subject of the sentence can be omitted such as in the question *Tinggal di mana?* ['Where do (you) live?'].

It is common that an Indonesian refers to a caucasian male foreigner as 'Mr'.