

The prefix me-

The prefix me- transforms root words into verbs.

They are mostly transitive verbs, which means that they have an object:

e.g.:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Saya akan membeli buku. | - 'I will buy a book'. |
| Kemarin Amir menulis surat. | - 'Yesterday Amir wrote a letter'. |

The transitive verbs with the prefix me- lose their prefix in the imperative forms:

e.g.:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Beli(lah) buku itu! | - 'Buy that book!'. |
| Tulis(lah) surat! | - 'Write a letter!'. |

However, verbs which are transitive in English may be intransitive in Indonesian, and vice-versa.

In English a verb is often both transitive and intransitive. However in Indonesian most verbs can be clearly categorized as either transitive or intransitive:

e.g.:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| The bell <u>rings</u> (intransitive) | - berbunyi | - 'Lonceng <u>berbunyi</u> '. |
| He <u>rings</u> the bell (transitive) | - membunyikan- | 'Dia <u>membunyikan</u> lonceng'. |

Me- root word that does not have an object (intransitive):

e.g.:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Anak itu <u>menangis</u> . | - 'That child cries'. |
| Orang itu <u>menyanyi</u> . | - 'That person sings'. |

When the prefix me- is attached to certain roots, changes occur in the initial sound of the root, or extra sound appears before the root (see the chart).

Some simple root verbs: tidur, mandi, bangun and ber- root verbs: berhenti, berbunyi, berkumpul, bertanya are all intransitive.

However, there are also some simple root verbs and ber- root verbs: mau, suka, belajar, berbicara that do not behave like normal transitive verbs in Indonesian.

There are a small number of simple root verbs such as: makan and minum which may be either transitive or intransitive.

The suffix -kan

The suffix -kan produces a causative effect, i.e. it causes the object to become

e.g.:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Ali menjalankan mobil. | - 'Ali causes the car to go'
(Ali operates the car). |
| Anwar mendirikan rumah. | - 'Anwar causes the house to stand up'.
(Anwar builds a house), etc. |

The prefix me- plus the suffix -kan verbs are transitive.

The *me-* prefix.

Initial sound	root	prefix	derived form	meaning
1. l m n ng ny r y w	lihat masak nanti ngeong nyanyi raba yakini wakil	me-	melihat memasak menanti mengeong menyanyi meraba meyakini mewakili	to see, look (at) to cook to wait to miaow to sing to feel, touch to convince to represent
2. b f p	baca fitnah pekik	mem-	<i>membaca</i> <i>memfitnah</i> <i>memekik</i>	to read to slander to scream
3. d j c t	dengar jual coba tangis	men-	<i>mendengar</i> <i>menjual</i> <i>mencoba</i> <i>menangis</i>	to hear to sell to try (to) to cry
4. a,e,i,o,u g h k	ajar gambar hafal karang	meng-	<i>mengajar</i> <i>menggambar</i> <i>menghafal</i> <i>mengarang</i>	to teach to draw (a picture) to memorize to write, compose
5. s	salin	meny-	<i>menyalin</i>	to copy

A summary of the table is:

Prefix

me + m

me + n

me + ng

me + ny

me-

Root beginning with

b,f,~~p~~,

d,j,c,~~t~~

vowel, g,h,~~k~~

~~s~~

all other sounds

The slashed sounds are dropped when the *me-* prefix is attached.

Kata kerja yang mulai dengan huruf K, T, P, S semua huruf ini hilang menjadi:

K – *meng*

T – *men*

P – *mem*

S – *meny*

Kata Kerja mulai dengan huruf **K** pakai awalan “**MENG-**“:

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| 1. kejar | = _____ | 14. korbankan | = _____ |
| 2. kirim | = _____ | 15. kecilkan | = _____ |
| 3. kupas | = _____ | 16. kelilingkan | = _____ |
| 4. kunci | = _____ | 17. kacaukan | = _____ |
| 5. kubur | = _____ | 18. kosongkan | = _____ |
| 6. kumpulkan | = _____ | 19. kurangi | = _____ |
| 7. kabarkan | = _____ | 20. kunjungi | = _____ |
| 8. kembalikan | = _____ | 21. kelilingi | = _____ |
| 9. katakan | = _____ | 22. kepalai | = _____ |
| 10. kemukakan | = _____ | 23. kasihi | = _____ |
| 11. kenalkan | = _____ | 24. kuasai | = _____ |
| 12. kalahkan | = _____ | 25. ketahui | = _____ |
| 13. kerjakan | = _____ | 26. kasihi | = _____ |

Ka Kerja mulai dengan huruf T pakai awalan "MEN-":

- | | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------|----------------|---|-------|
| 1. tanam | = | _____ | 16. telaah | = | _____ |
| 2. tambah | = | _____ | 17. tinggalkan | = | _____ |
| 3. terima | = | _____ | 18. tumpahkan | = | _____ |
| 4. tampar | = | _____ | 19. turunkan | = | _____ |
| 5. telan | = | _____ | 20. teruskan | = | _____ |
| 6. tunggu | = | _____ | 21. tetapkan | = | _____ |
| 7. tempuh | = | _____ | 22. timbulkan | = | _____ |
| 8. terobos | = | _____ | 23. tegaskan | = | _____ |
| 9. teliti | = | _____ | 24. terapkan | = | _____ |
| 10. tutup | = | _____ | 25. tempatkan | = | _____ |
| 11. tekan | = | _____ | 26. tayangkan | = | _____ |
| 12. tunda | = | _____ | 27. teliti | = | _____ |
| 13. tulis | = | _____ | 28. tempati | = | _____ |
| 14. tiru | = | _____ | 29. tandatangi | = | _____ |
| 15. tabrak | = | _____ | 30. telusuri | = | _____ |

Kata Kerja mulai dengan huruf P pakai awalan "MEM-":

- | | | | | | |
|------------|---|-------|----------------|---|-------|
| 1. pakai | = | _____ | 14. potong | = | _____ |
| 2. pajang | = | _____ | 15. panggil | = | _____ |
| 3. pangku | = | _____ | 16. potret | = | _____ |
| 4. pasang | = | _____ | 17. pinjam | = | _____ |
| 5. paksa | = | _____ | 18. pikirkan | = | _____ |
| 6. petik | = | _____ | 19. pusatkan | = | _____ |
| 7. periksa | = | _____ | 20. pameran | = | _____ |
| 8. pilih | = | _____ | 21. pastikan | = | _____ |
| 9. pikul | = | _____ | 22. pentingkan | = | _____ |
| 10. putar | = | _____ | 23. pulangkan | = | _____ |
| 11. pikul | = | _____ | 24. perlukan | = | _____ |
| 12. puji | = | _____ | 25. pindahkan | = | _____ |
| 13. pilih | = | _____ | 26. pisahkan | = | _____ |

Kerjakan Kerja mulai dengan huruf S pakai awalan "MENY-":

- | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|-------|-------------------|---|-------|
| 1. serbu | = | _____ | 16. selesaikan | = | _____ |
| 2. sentuh | = | _____ | 17. serahkan | = | _____ |
| 3. semprot | = | _____ | 18. satukan | = | _____ |
| 4. sembelih | = | _____ | 19. siapkan | = | _____ |
| 5. sapu | = | _____ | 20. serukan | = | _____ |
| 6. simpan | = | _____ | 21. selenggarakan | = | _____ |
| 7. susun | = | _____ | 22. sembuhkan | = | _____ |
| 8. susul | = | _____ | 23. sediakan | = | _____ |
| 9. serang | = | _____ | 24. suburkan | = | _____ |
| 10. siram | = | _____ | 25. salahkan | = | _____ |
| 11. singgung | = | _____ | 26. sembahyangkan | = | _____ |
| 12. suruh | = | _____ | 27. sukai | = | _____ |
| 13. sumpah | = | _____ | 28. seberangi | = | _____ |
| 14. serempet | = | _____ | 29. sakiti | = | _____ |
| 15. sampaikan | = | _____ | 30. selidiki | = | _____ |