

KURANG – words to do with ‘not enough, less’

* Mesin ini **kurang** kuat untuk mengangkat benda berat.

*This machine is **not strong enough** to lift heavy objects.*

* “Bagaimana bukunya?” “Hmm, **kurang** bagus.”

*“How’s the book?” “Hmm, **not very good**.”*

* Ada cara mudah untuk **mengurangi** konsumsi gula.

*There are easy ways to **reduce** the consumption of sugar.*

* Konsumsi gula bisa **dikurangi** dengan mudah.

*Consumption of sugar can easily **be reduced**.*

* Masih ada **kekurangan** air bersih di daerah itu.

*There is still **a shortage / a lack** of clean water in that region.*

* Daerah itu **kekurangan** air bersih.

*That region **has a shortage of / has a lack of** clean water.*

Notes

* **kurang** (adv): not (something) enough; insufficiently (sth.); not very (sth).

[“kurang + adjective” can be used to mean, literally, “not ADJ *enough*”. So, e.g., “Mesin itu *kurang* kuat untuk ...” ‘The machine is not strong *enough* to’. But more often, “kurang” + adjective simply means “not very ADJ.” For example, “Buku itu *kurang* bagus”: “That book is *not very good*”. It sounds softer than “Buku itu *tidak* bagus”.]

* **mengurangi** (v): to reduce (something), to decrease (sth.).

* **kekurangan** (n): a shortage, a lack, a deficiency, a shortcoming.

* **kekurangan** (v): to be short of (something); to lack (sth.)

[The “ke-an” on the verb “kekurangan” suggests that something unpleasant or unwanted happens. When a region “*kekurangan* air”, it suffers from water being insufficient / in short supply.]

Practice. Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use a KURANG word. (Be ready to choose between *mengurangi* and *dikurangi* as needed.)

1. That classroom is **not big enough** to fit 30 pupils. [with ‘menampung’]

Kamar kelas itu **kurang** besar untuk menampung 30 murid.

2. S/he likes to talk about other people’s **shortcomings**.

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Dia suka membicarakan (or ‘berbicara tentang’) **kekurangan** orang lain.

3. For Susi’s parents, life in the big city is **not very** attractive. [with ‘kehidupan’]

Bagi orang tua Susi, kehidupan di kota besar itu **kurang** menarik.

4. There is a **shortage** of labour in that country. [with ‘tenaga kerja’]

Ada **kekurangan** tenaga kerja di negara itu.

5. We can learn to accept our own **shortcomings**. [with ‘diri sendiri’]

Kita bisa belajar menerima **kekurangan** diri sendiri.

6. What is the most effective way to **reduce** global warming? [with ‘pemanasan’]

Apa cara yang paling efektif untuk **mengurangi** pemanasan global?

7. That hotel is certainly cheap, but it’s **not very** pleasant. [with ‘nyaman’]

Hotel itu memang murah tetapi **kurang** nyaman.

8. If the body **is short of** iron we might feel tired. [with ‘zat besi’]

Jika tubuh **kekurangan** zat besi (maka) kita mungkin merasa lelah.

9. S/he says that the export of raw materials should **be reduced**. [with ‘bahan mentah’]

Dia mengatakan bahwa ekspor bahan mentah harus **dikurangi**.

10. S/he always chooses food that is **not so** healthy.

Dia selalu memilih makanan yang **kurang** sehat.

11. The country **is running short of** stocks of rice. [with ‘stok’].

Negara itu **kekurangan** stok beras.

12. That company was forced to **reduce** the number of employees. [with: ‘terpaksa’]

Perusahaan itu terpaksa **mengurangi** jumlah karyawan.

13. In that province, there’s almost no one who **is short of** food.

Di provinsi itu hampir tidak ada orang yang **kekurangan** makanan.

14. That party promised to **reduce** the crime rate. [with ‘tingkat’]

Partai itu berjanji untuk **mengurangi** tingkat kejahatan.