

TULIS - words to do with “write”

* Tuti **menulis** surat itu.

*Tuti **wrote** that letter.*

* Surat itu **ditulis** oleh Tuti.

*That letter **was written** by Tuti.*

* Belum ada kontrak **tertulis**.

*There is no **written** contract yet.*

* Dia **penulis** terkenal.

*S/he is a well-known **writer**.*

* Dia dipenjara karena **tulisannya** yang mengkritik pemerintah.

*He was imprisoned because of his **writings** that criticised the government.*

Notes

* **menulis** (v): to write (something).

* **penulis** (n): a writer, an author. [A ‘penulis’ does the action of ‘menulis’.]

* **tertulis** (v) written, i.e., in written form.

[“Tertulis” is a verb, but there is no action going on. The “ter-“ here indicates that something is in a written *state*. For that reason, ‘tertulis’ is often used in phrases of the type “kontrak *tertulis*” (a written contract), “ujian *tertulis*” (a written exam), “peraturan yang *tidak tertulis*” (an unwritten rule) – as if ‘tertulis’ were just an adjective, like “a *formal* contract”, “a *difficult* exam”, “an *unfair* rule”, and so on.]

* **tulisan** (n): a piece of writing, writings; a text, a written sign.

[A “tulisan” is something which is ditulis.]

Practice. Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use a TULIS word.

(NB: to ensure natural sounding choices in the items below, choose “tertulis” only in cases where the prompt says: a written thing / an unwritten thing.)

1. If s/he sits at the back, s/he can’t read the **writing** on the whiteboard.

Jika duduk di belakang, dia tidak bisa membaca **tulisan** di papan tulis.

2. That novel **was written** in the 19th Century.

Novel itu **ditulis** pada abad ke-19.

3. In that community there is **written** law and **unwritten** law. [with ‘terdapat’]

Di masyarakat itu terdapat hukum **tertulis** dan hukum (yang) tidak **tertulis**.

4. Saski likes **writing** emails to her family. [with ‘email’]

Saski suka **menulis** email kepada keluarga.

5. This article’s good! Who’s the **author**?

Bagus artikel ini! (or ‘Artikel ini bagus!’). **Penulisnya** siapa?

6. Is there an oral exam, or only a **written** exam? [with ‘lisan’]

Ada ujian lisan atau hanya ujian **tertulis**?

7. That **writer** spoke Polish and French but he **wrote** in English. [with ‘Polandia’]

Penulis itu berbicara bahasa Polandia and Perancis tetapi dia **menulis** dalam bahasa Inggris.

8. There was a **sign** on the door: “Beware of the Dog”. [with ‘awas’]

Ada **tulisan** di pintu: “Awas Anjing”.

9. S/he’s one of the most popular **writers** in the world.

Dia salah satu **penulis** yang paling populer di dunia.

10. Sorry, the **writing**’s not very neat. [with ‘rapi’]

Maaf, **tulisannya** (or ‘tulisan tangannya’) kurang rapi.

11. I think s/he only **writes** short stories.

Saya kira dia hanya **menulis** cerita pendek.

12. **Written** communication is a very important skill. [with ‘keterampilan’]

Komunikasi **tertulis** adalah keterampilan yang sangat penting.

13. There will be a conference with the theme “Indonesian Women **Writers**”. [with ‘tema’]

Akan ada konferensi dengan tema “**Penulis** Perempuan Indonesia”.