

# TENTU — words to do with ‘certain, definite’

\* Saya **tentu** akan kembali ke Padang tetapi saya belum tahu kapan.

*I will **definitely** / **certainly** come back to Padang, but I don't know when yet.*

\* Orang yang terlihat sehat **belum tentu** sehat.

*People who look healthy are **not necessarily** healthy.*

\* Kami sudah **menentukan** tanggal pernikahan.

*We **have already set / decided on** a wedding date.*

\* Tanggal pernikahannya sudah **ditentukan**.

*The wedding date has already **been set / decided on**.*

\* Ada diskriminasi terhadap migran dari negara-negara **tertentu**.

*There was discrimination towards migrants from **particular** / **specific** / **certain** countries.*

## Notes

\* **tentu** (adj / adv.): definite, certain; definitely, certainly

[a very common phrase is “*belum tentu*”, meaning ‘not necessarily’.]

\* **menentukan** (v): to determine (something), to set (sth.), to decide on (sth.). [i.e., to cause it to be “tentu”: definite.]

\* **tertentu** (adj.): particular, specific, certain.

[“tertentu” means “particular, specific”. Unfortunately the English word “certain” can also be used to convey that meaning (e.g., “*certain* types of foods”), and that confuses some students into thinking, wrongly, that they can use the word “tentu” to mean “particular, specific”. But the word must be ‘tertentu’. ]

**Practice.** Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use a TENTU word. (Be ready to choose between *menentukan* and *ditentukan* as needed.)

1. Next year I will **definitely** ask for a raise in wages. [with ‘kenaikan’]

Tahun depan saya **tentu** akan meminta kenaikan gaji.

2. This book can help you **to set** realistic goals. [with ‘tujuan’]

Buku ini dapat membantu Anda untuk **menentukan** tujuan yang realistis.

3. That subsidy will not **necessarily** help people to buy their own house. [with ‘belum’]

Subsidi itu belum **tentu** akan membantu orang untuk membeli rumah sendiri.

4. There are **certain** / **particular** fields of work that are rarely chosen by women. [with 'bidang']

Ada bidang pekerjaan **tertentu** yang jarang dipilih oleh perempuan.

5. S/he believes that the future **is determined** by fate. [with 'takdir']

Dia percaya bahwa masa depan **ditentukan** oleh takdir.

6. Raising a child alone is **certainly** not easy. [with 'Membesarkan']

Membesarkan anak seorang diri **tentu** tidak mudah.

7. That fish market is extremely busy at **certain** / **particular** hours. [with 'ramai']

Pasar ikan itu sangat ramai pada jam-jam **tertentu**.

8. The president is still popular, but s/he will not **necessarily** win next year. [with 'belum']

Presiden masih populer tetapi dia belum **tentu** akan menang tahun depan.

9. We have to write an essay but I haven't **decided on** a topic. [with 'esai' and 'topik']

Kami harus menulis esai tetapi saya belum **menentukan** topik.

10. That regulation is **definitely** not fair for students from overseas.

Peraturan itu **tentu** tidak adil bagi mahasiswa dari luar negeri.

11. Most children reject **certain** / **specific** types of foods. [with 'menolak']

Kebanyakan anak menolak jenis makanan **tertentu**.