

## ke-an and peN-an to make nouns (kebersihan, pembersihan, etc).

“Ke-an” is used to make many nouns. Generally, these nouns refer to abstract things (e.g. “beauty”, rather than concrete objects.

Many are based on an adjective. Most simply mean: the quality described by the adjective.

Examples:

[Public health slogan] Jagalah **kebersihan**!

Maintain cleanliness! [*bersih*: clean]

**Kecepatan** mobil itu 200 kilometer per jam.

The speed of that car is 200 kph. [*cepat*: fast]

The quality of being ‘bersih’ is ‘kebersihan’ (cleanliness). The quality of being ‘cepat’ is ‘kecepatan’ (‘fastness’; speed). And so on.

“peN-an” is also used to make many nouns. They come from “meN-” verbs, and nearly all mean: the act of doing what that verb says. Examples:

**Penulisan** buku itu sangat lambat. The **writing** of that book was very slow. [*menulis*: to write]

**Pengajaran** kimia itu penting. The **teaching** of chemistry is important. [*mengajar*: to teach]

We call these nouns *peN-an* nouns because the exact form taken by “pe” depends on the base word. The sound rules are the same as when forming ‘meN-’ verbs. So, for example:

\* tulis → MENulis → PENulisan

\* ajar → MENGajar → PENGajaran

Some ‘ke-an nouns have a matching ‘peN-an’ noun. In most cases, there is a neat contrast in meaning. the ke-an’ noun refers to a quality, while the ‘peN-an’ noun refers to an act. Compare:

Dia sangat menghargai **kebebasan**. She values **freedom** highly. (i.e. the *quality* of being free)

Dia ikut organisasi **pembebasan** Palestina. She joined an organisation for the **freeing** of Palestine. (i.e. for the *act* of freeing it; of liberating it.)

Other such pairs are:

**kebersihan** (cleanliness) vs **pembersihan** (the act of cleaning something)

**kekuatan** (strength) vs **penguatan** (the act of strengthening something)

**keselamatan** (safety) vs **penyelamatan** (the act of saving something)

Exercise 1. Say it with a ke-an noun. (Use this list of adjectives below to help you.)

**kuat cepat merdeka cantik selamat kaya bersih miskin bebas**

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|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Saya kagum pada <b>kebersihan</b> desa itu.              | [cleanliness]  |
| 2. <b>Kekayaan</b> keluarga itu luar biasa.                 | [wealth]       |
| 3. Aktor itu terkenal dengan <b>keindahannya</b> .          | [beauty]       |
| 4. Bagaimana mengoptimalkan <b>kecepatan</b> komputer Anda? | [speed]        |
| 5. Tanggal berapa tanggal <b>kemerdekaan</b> ?              | [independence] |
| 6. <b>Keselamatan</b> penumpang sangat penting.             | [safety]       |
| 7. Kamu tahu apa sih tentang <b>kemiskinan</b> ?            | [poverty]      |
| 8. Sudah ada <b>kebebasan</b> pers di sana.                 | [freedom]      |
| 9. Yang penting bukan <b>kekuatan</b> badan.                | [strength]     |

Exercise 2. Supply the right peN-an noun each time. Use this list of verbs to help you:

**mengajar:** to teach    **membakar:** to burn    **menjual:** to sell    **membebaskan:** to free  
**menulis:** to write    **menembak:** to shoot    **memakai:** to use    **menutup:** to close    **menemukan:** to discover

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Bagaimana <b>pengajaran</b> di sekolah itu?                        | What's the <u>teaching</u> like in that school?                                       |
| 2. Guru itu melarang <b>pemakaian</b> bahasa Inggris di kelas.        | The teacher forbade the <u>use</u> of English in class.                               |
| 3. <b>Pembebasan</b> warga asing itu telah diumumkan.                 | The <u>freeing</u> of that foreigner has been announced.                              |
| 4. <b>Penutupan</b> cabang bank sering terjadi di kota kecil..        | The <u>closure</u> of bank branches often occurs in towns.                            |
| 5. Anda setuju dengan <b>penjualan</b> uranium ke luar negeri?        | Do you agree with the <u>sale</u> of uranium to...?                                   |
| 6. Ada berita tentang <b>penemuan</b> dua mayat.                      | There was news about the <u>discovery</u> of two bodies.                              |
| 7. Riset untuk esai ini mudah saja. Yang sulit, <b>penulisannya</b> . | Research .... is easy. What's hard is the <u>writing</u> .                            |
| 8. <b>Penembakan</b> orang itu melanggar Konvensi Geneva.             | The <u>shooting</u> of those people violates the Geneva ...                           |
| 9. Kendi menonton upacara <b>pembakaran</b> mayat di Bali.            | Kendi watched a cremation: i.e., a ceremony of the <u>burning</u> of a body, in Bali. |

Exercise 3. Say it using a 'peN-an' word from Exercise 2 each time.

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. [The closure of nightclubs] | Isu <b>penutupan klub malam</b> selama bulan suci itu agak kontroversial. |
| 2. [The use of dictionaries]   | <b>Pemakaian kamus</b> di ujian ini terlarang keras.                      |

3. [the teaching of maths]      **Pengajaran matematika** agak sulit dibuat menarik.
4. [important discoveries]      Banyak **penemuan penting** di bidang fisika tahun lalu.
5. [that burning of the US flag] Aksi **pembakaran bendera AS** dilakukan di pusat kota.
6. [the sale of alcohol]      **Penjualan alkohol** terlarang di negeri itu.
7. [Mysterious Shootings]      Masih ingat “Petrus”? Artinya “**Penembakan Misterius**”.
8. [the freeing of slaves]      Ada kampanye untuk **pembebasan budak**.
9. [the writing of short stories] Pada dekade itulah **penulisan cerita pendek** menjadi populer.