

Bahasa Indonesia Language Course: Travel

Read, write, recognise and demonstrate proficiency in time and numbers

Introduction

This topic covers the language for telling time in Indonesian.

Key vocabulary and phrases

Jam satu	-	'One o'clock'
Satu jam	-	'One hour'
Jam berapa	-	'What time?/At what time?'
Datang	-	'Come'
Katanya	-	'He/She said/It is said'
Jadi	-	'Happening/become'
Nggak jadi	-	'Not happening anymore'
Macet	-	'Traffic jam'
Banget (l)	-	'Very' An informal alternative of <i>sekali</i> .
Jalan	-	'Road/street/walk'

Text

Semantic translation

Speaker A:	<i>Jam berapa mau datang Ibu Ratna?</i>	<i>'What time is Bu Ratna coming?'</i>
Speaker B:	<i>Katanya jam setengah dua Mr John.</i>	<i>'She said at half-past one Mr John.'</i>
Speaker A:	<i>Mbak Yani masih jadi ke mall?</i>	<i>'Are you still going to the Mall?'</i>
Speaker B:	<i>Nggak jadi Mr John.</i>	<i>'Not anymore Mr John.'</i>
Speaker A:	<i>Kenapa nggak jadi?</i>	<i>'Why not?'</i>
Speaker B:	<i>Macet banget, bisa dua jam di jalan.</i>	<i>'The traffic is really bad, I could be stuck on the road for two hours.'</i>

Literal/gloss translation

Speaker A:	'Hour what want come Ibu Ratna?'
Speaker B:	'Said-she hour half-two Mr John.'
Speaker A:	'Mbak Yani still happening to mall?'
Speaker B:	'Not happening Mr John.'
Speaker A:	'Why not happening?'
Speaker B:	'Traffic jam very, can two hours on road.'

Intercultural information

Plan only one daytime outing in Indonesian big cities, the traffic might not allow you to do more. Traffic and random events could defy Google map travel time estimation.

Expect and be tolerant of *jam karet* (rubber time) in Indonesia. It is wise to arrange meeting at a hot spot cafe. Bring your laptop - you could be waiting.