

AJAR – words to do with ‘learn, teach’

*Dia **belajar** bahasa Inggris.

*She **studies** English.*

* Tahun lalu Bu Ina **mengajar** kami.

*Last year Bu Ina **taught** us.*

* Tahun lalu kami **diajar** oleh Bu Ina.

*Last year we **were taught** by Bu Ina.*

* Guru baru itu akan **mengajarkan** bahasa Cina.

*That new teacher will **teach** Chinese.*

* Bahasa Cina akan **diajarkan** oleh guru baru itu.

*Chinese will **be taught** by that new teacher.*

* Saya membeli buku **pelajaran** itu.

*I bought the textbook (literally: the ‘**lesson** book’).*

Notes

* **belajar** (v): to learn, to study.

* **mengajar** (v): to teach [+ somebody, e.g., ‘mengajar *murid*’]

[It can also mean simply ‘to teach’, i.e. to do the activity, e.g., ‘Dia suka mengajar’.]

* **mengajarkan** (v): to teach [+ something: e.g. ‘mengajarkan *fisika*’]

[To muddy the waters, speakers often drop the ‘-kan’ off the word “mengajarkan”, and say it too as simply “mengajar”. In such cases they would say, for example, “mengajar *fisika*”. In this unit we will not practice that variant with the dropped -kan’.]

* **pelajaran** (n): a lesson

Practice. Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use an AJAR word. (Be ready to choose between *mengajar* and *diajar*, and between *mengajarkan* and *diajarkan*, as needed.)

1. S/he wants to **learn** to cook.
2. Natural Sciences can **be taught** in an interesting way. [with ‘IPA’]
3. That **lesson** was about reptiles.
4. She has **taught** in that school for a long time.

5. We didn't understand that **lesson**.
6. S/he prefers to **teach** university students.
7. He wants to **teach** English to his child.
8. S/he **learned** to be more patient.
9. Religion **is** not **taught** at that school.
10. "How rude! I'll give him a **lesson**!" [with 'Kurang ajar!']
11. You're good at **studying** but you're lazy. [with 'pandai']
12. How many hours a week do they **teach**?