

BANTU - words to do with 'help, assist'

* Keluarganya **membantunya** mencari pekerjaan.

His family helped him find a job.

* Dia **dibantu** oleh keluarganya mencari pekerjaan.

He was helped by his family to find a job.

* Dia jarang meminta **bantuan** dari rekan.

S/he seldom asks for help from colleagues.

* He asked the **servant** to wash the car.

Dia meminta pembantu untuk mencuci mobil.

* Berapa gaji **pembantu** (rumah tangga) di kota itu?

How much is the wage of a domestic servant in that city?

Notes

* **membantu** (v): to help (somebody), to aid (sb.), to assist (sb.).

['menolong' is another word that means: 'to help (somebody).' In some contexts, one of the two words is clearly more suitable than the other. "Membantu" tends to mean: to assist a person to do something that they're trying to do, while 'menolong' is often used to mean: to come to a person's aid; to rescue them from their plight. (If you were taken to hospital after a bad accident you would be "ditolong" by an emergency medical team, then later while you were recovering you would need to be "dibantu" to bathe, get dressed, etc.)

* **bantuan** (n): help, aid, assistance

* **pembantu** (n): a helper, an assistant, a servant; a domestic helper, domestic servant.

[The word 'pembantu' is most commonly used to refer to a *domestic* helper, a *domestic* servant; in other words, to refer to a 'pembantu rumah (tangga)'.]

Practice. Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use a BANTU word. (Be ready to choose between *membantu* and *dibantu* as needed.)

1. Who can **help** me learn English?
2. She worked in Singapore as a domestic **servant**.
3. Several regions in that country need humanitarian **aid**. [with 'kemanusiaan']
4. We can **help**, but there isn't enough money to **help** everybody.
5. The flood victims will get **assistance** from the government.

6. In that large house there are three **servants**.
7. S/he needs to **be helped** to cross the street. [with 'menyeberang']
8. I'm used to living without domestic **servants**. [with 'terbiasa']
9. That agency gives free legal **aid** to poor people. [with 'Lembaga']