

## **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?

Siapa yang bisa **membantu** saya belajar bahasa Inggris?

2. She worked in Singapore as a domestic **servant**.

Dia bekerja di Singapura sebagai **pembantu** rumah (tangga).

3. Several regions in that country need humanitarian **aid**. [with 'kemanusiaan']

Beberapa daerah di negara itu membutuhkan (or ‘memerlukan’) **bantuan** kemanusiaan.

4. We can **help**, but there isn't enough money to **help** everybody.

Kita bisa **membantu**, tetapi tidak ada cukup uang untuk **membantu** setiap orang.

5. The flood victims will get **assistance** from the government.

Korban banjir itu akan mendapat(kan) **bantuan** dari pemerintah.

6. In that large house there are three **servants**.

Di rumah yang besar itu ada tiga **pembantu**.

7. S/he needs to **be helped** to cross the street. [with ‘menyeberang’]

Dia perlu **dibantu** untuk menyeberang jalan.

8. I'm used to living without domestic **servants**. [with ‘terbiasa’]

Saya sudah terbiasa hidup tanpa **pembantu** rumah.

9. That agency gives free legal **aid** to poor people. [with ‘Lembaga’]

Lembaga itu memberikan **bantuan** hukum gratis kepada orang miskin.