

## BICARA - words to do with 'talk'

\* Mereka sudah **berbicara** tentang masalah banjir di Jakarta.

*They have **talked** about the problem of flooding in Jakarta.*

\* Mereka sudah **membicarakan** masalah banjir di Jakarta.

*They have **talked about / discussed** the problem of flooding in Jakarta.*

\* Masalah banjir itu sudah banyak **dibicarakan**.

*That problem of flooding has **been much talked about / has been much discussed**.*

\* Sering ada **pembicaraan** tentang masalah banjir di Jakarta.

*There are often **discussions** about the problem of flooding in Jakarta.*

### Notes

\* **berbicara** (v): to talk, to speak

\* **membicarakan** (v): to talk about (something); to discuss (sth.)

[“membicarakan” means the same as “berbicara *tentang*”. For example, for “We talked about that film”, you can say “Kami berbicara tentang film itu” or “Kami membicarakan film itu”. Of the two, “membicarakan” tends to sound more formal.]

\* **pembicaraan** (n): a discussion.

**Practice.** Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use a BICARA word. (Be ready to choose between *membicarakan* and *dibicarakan* as needed.)

1. S/he can **speak** Portuguese.
2. S/he participates actively in **discussions** in class. [with ‘aktif’]
3. Have you **discussed** your financial plans? [with ‘keuangan’]
4. That topic **is** rarely **talked about** by men.
5. Mbak Nia never **talks** about her family.
6. They held **talks** with the North Korean government. [with ‘mengadakan’]
7. There are several things that need to **be discussed** with a partner before marrying. [with ‘pasangan’]
8. They learn through **discussion**, not only through lectures. [with ‘ceramah’]
9. S/he always **talks** too fast.
10. They **discussed** plans to build a new factory.