

TANYA – words to do with ‘ask, inquire’

* Boleh saya **bertanya**?

*May I **ask** something?*

* Keluarga itu **bertanya** tentang keadaan pasien.

*The family **asked** about the patient’s condition.*

* Keluarga itu **menanyakan** keadaan pasien.

*The family **asked about** the patient’s condition.*

* Keadaan pasien **ditanyakan** oleh keluarga itu.

*The patient’s condition was **asked about** by the family.*

* Ada **pertanyaan**?

*Are there any **questions**?*

Notes

* **bertanya** (v): to ask / to inquire.

[This word alone can also mean: “to ask *a question*”, “to ask *things*”]

* **menanyakan** (v): to ask about (something), to inquire about (sth.).

[“*menanyakan*” in this sense means the same as “*bertanya tentang*”. For example, for “We asked about her job”, you can say “Kami *bertanya tentang* pekerjaannya” or “Kami *menanyakan* pekerjaannya”. Of the two, “*menanyakan*” tends to sound more formal.]

* **pertanyaan** (n): a question

Practice. Say it in Indonesian. For each word in bold use a TANYA word. (Be ready to choose between *menanyakan* and *ditanyakan* as needed.)

1. That’s a very interesting **question**.
2. Those pupils rarely **ask questions** in class.
3. What things **are** most often **asked about** on Google? [with ‘Hal-hal’]
4. Excuse me, *Bu*. May I **ask a question**?
5. He **asked about** very personal things.
6. There was a very long list of **questions**.
7. That **question** made her very angry.

8. I **asked** to the hotel clerk where there was a cheap restaurant. [with 'petugas'].
9. I've never **asked** about her past.
10. Your essay isn't relevant to the topic that **was asked about**. [with 'relevan']
11. Her parents always **ask** about my family.