

‘ter-’ to describe a state (‘Pintunya **terbuka**’, etc)

‘Ter-’ is used with many verbs to describe a state of affairs. Look below:

Anda bisa masuk. Pintunya **terbuka**. You can enter. The door is **open**.

‘Terbuka’ refers to the *state* of the door, i.e. that it is open.

Compare with ‘di-’:

Dia mengetuk, lalu pintunya **dibuka**. She knocked, and the door was opened.

‘Dibuka’ refers to the *action* of the door being opened.

With ‘ter-’ verbs that describe a state, no action is being done. So no Actor is mentioned. Look:

Anda bisa masuk. Pintunya **terbuka oleh pembantu**. X [this does not make sense]

But with ‘di-’ verbs, we can mention an Actor. Look:

Dia mengetuk, lalu pintunya **dibuka oleh pembantu**. √ ‘...the door was opened by a servant.’

Another example of ‘ter-’ to describe a state:

- Pipa ini **terbuat** dari besi. Berat sekali. This pipe is made of iron. It’s very heavy.
- Kueh segar **dibuat** di sini tiap pagi. Fresh cakes are made here each morning [i.e. by someone].

‘Terbuat’ refers to the state of the pipe, i.e. that it is made of iron. But ‘dibuat’ describes the action of the cake being made.

A final example:

- Nama Anda **tertulis** pada buku ini. Your name is written on this book.
- Nama Anda harus **ditulis** pada buku ini. Your name must be written on this book (i.e. by someone)

‘Tertulis’ refers to a state. You simply mean: the name is there. ‘Ditulis’ above refers to the action of writing the name.

With ‘ter-’ verbs that refer to a state, most speakers usually drop ‘-i’ or ‘kan’ off the verb. Examples:

dihormati BUT terhormat [not: terhormat*i*]
diletakkan BUT terletak [not terletakkan]

Exercise 1. Choose 'ter-' for one of the sentences in each pair.

- 1 a) Pintu itu selalu (terbuka/ dibuka) oleh pembantu. The door is always opened by a servant.
b) Pintu itu (terbuka/ dibuka). The door is open.
- 2 a) Bu Nia (terhormat/dihormati) oleh anaknya. Bu Nia is respected by her children.
b) Bu Nia seorang ilmuwan yang (terhormat/ dihormati). Bu Nia is a respected scientist.
- 3 a) Bali adalah pulau yang sangat (terkenal/dikenal). Bali is a very well-known island.
b) Erna (terkenal/ dikenal) semua orang desa. Erna is known by all the villagers.
- 4 a) Orang (tersebut/disebut) tinggal di Jawa. The above-mentioned person lives in Java.
b) Namanya jarang (tersebut/ disebut) sekarang. His name is rarely mentioned nowadays.
- 5 a) Surat itu tidak (tertanggal/ ditanggal)nya. She didn't date the letter.
b) Kontrak itu (tertanggal/ditanggal) 8 Februari. The contract is dated 8th February.
- 6 a) Model itu juga (tersedia/ disediakan) dalam warna biru? Is that model also available in blue?
b) Rp 40 milyar (tersedia/ disediakan) untuk korban banjir. Rp 40 billion was set aside for flood victims.
- 7 a) Kemarin, bank itu masih (tertutup/ ditutup). Yesterday, the bank was still closed.
b) Pintu itu (tertutup/ ditutup)nya baik-baik. He closed the door firmly.
- 8 a) Foto itu (terletak/diletakkan) Tuti pada mejanya. Tuti placed the photo on her table.
b) Rumah itu (terletak/ diletakkan) di hutan. The house is situated in the forest.
- 9 a) Kain ikat harus (terbuat/ dibuat) dengan hati-hati. Ikat cloth must be made carefully.
b) Patung ini (terbuat/ dibuat) dari perunggu. This statue is made of bronze.
- 10 a) Uang kami sangat (terbatas/ dibatasi). Our funds are very limited.
b) Uang kami (terbatas/ dibatasi) gubernor. Our funds were restricted by the governor.
- 11 a) Sajak itu (tertulis/ ditulis) oleh siapa? Who wrote that poem?
b) Apa ada perjanjian (tertulis/ ditulis)? Is there a written agreement?
- 12 a) Para prajurit itu sangat (terlatih/ dilatih). Those soldiers are highly trained.
b) Dia akan berlatih/ dilatih) sebagai perenang. S/he will be trained as a swimmer.
- 13 a) Terlarang? O, ya?! (Terlarang/dilarang) oleh siapa? Forbidden? O, yeah?! Forbidden by whom?
b) Buku (terlarang/dilarang) ada yang tetap beredar. Some prohibited books still circulate.

Exercise 2. Say it in Indonesian. Use a different *ter-* verb from Exercise 1 each time.

1. Sorry. The office is still closed. Maaf. Kantor ini *masih tertutup* .
2. The letter is dated 6th March. Surat itu _____ .
3. Is this ring made of gold? Apa cincin ini _____ ?
4. Nh Dini is a well-known writer. Nh Dini adalah _____ .
5. Our time is very limited. Waktu kita _____ .
6. Medan is situated in North Sumatra. Medan _____ .
7. The heroin was searched for by trained dogs. Heroin itu dicari _____ .
8. That book is not available yet. Buku itu _____ .

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 9. He often uses <u>illegal drugs</u> . | Dia sering memakai _____. |
| 10. I had to do <u>a written exam</u> . | Saya harus mengikuti _____. |
| 11. The new hospital <u>is already open</u> . | Rumah sakit baru itu _____. |
| 12. <u>The above-mentioned country</u> is still poor. | _____ masih miskin. |
| 13. Pak Ari is <u>a respected teacher</u> . | Pak Ari itu seorang _____. |

Exercise 3 Insert a 'ter-' verb from Ex 1 when possible. (If 'ter-' is not possible, use the 'di-' form).

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Apa yang <u>tertulis</u> pada kaos oblong itu? | What's written on that T-shirt? |
| 2. Pintunya <u>ditutup</u> nya sebelum Ari masuk. | She shut the door before Ari entered. |
| 3. Ini karyanya yang paling _____. | This is her best-known work. |
| 4. Ada daftar kursus yang _____. | Is there a list of the available courses? |
| 5. Ini tidak _____ pada tempatnya! | This wasn't put in its right place! |
| 6. Kotak ini _____ dari apa? | What's this box made of? |
| 7. (in a letter): "Ibu Yani yang _____." | (in a letter): "Dear Ibu Yani," |
| 8. Dia seorang yang ramah dan _____. | He's a friendly, open person. |
| 9. Pawai ini _____ 2 jam lalu. Bubarlah! | This parade was forbidden 2 hours ago. Disperse! |
| 10. Stok beras masih agak _____. | Rice supplies are still rather limited. |

Answer Key

Exercise 1: 1a) dibuka 1b) terbuka 2a) dihormati 2b) terhormat 3a) terkenal 3b) dikenal 4a) tersebut 4b) disebut 5a) ditangali 5b) tertanggal 6a) tersedia 6b) disediakan 7a) tertutup 7b) ditutup 8a) diletakkan 8b) terletak 9a) dibuat 9b) terbuat 10a) terbatas 10b) dibatasi 11a) ditulis 11b) tertulis 12a) terlatih 12b) dilatih 13a) dilarang 13b) terlarang

Exercise 2: 2) tertanggal 6 Maret 3) terbuat dari emas 4) penulis (yang) terkenal 5) sangat terbatas 6) terletak di Sumatera Utara 7) oleh anjing terlatih. 8) belum tersedia 9) obat terlarang 10) ujian tertulis 11) sudah terbuka 12) Negara tersebut 13) guru (yang) terhormat

Exercise 3: 3) terkenal 4) tersedia 5) diletakkan 6) terbuat 7) terhormat 8) terbuka 9) dilarang 10) terbatas