

Prepositions after intransitive verbs and adjectives ('cinta **pada**', 'setuju **dengan**', etc)

Many words are followed by 'pada'. It means "to, towards." Examples:

Dia takut pada anjing.	She is scared of dogs
Dia lupa pada mimpi buruk itu.	She quickly forgot that bad dream.
Dia kagum pada Jepang.	He admires Japan.
Dia curiga pada orang itu.	He is suspicious of that person.

A few words are followed by 'akan' instead (meaning "about, regarding"). Examples:

Kami sadar akan hal itu.	We are aware of that matter.
Dia paham akan soal hukum.	She understands legal issues.
Hadi malu akan masa lalunya. ¹	Hadi is ashamed of his past.

'Akan' is sometimes is used in place of 'pada' (so e.g. "*takut akan*", "*lupa akan*", etc).² But replacing 'pada' with 'akan' tends to sound quite formal.

After certain words with 'pada', 'akan' cannot be used. Examples:

marah pada	angry at	hormat pada	respectful to	sopan pada	polite to
bergantung pada	depends on	bertanya pada	to ask (someone)		

To sum up, it is generally safest to use 'pada' rather than 'akan'.

Another common preposition is 'dengan'. Examples of words followed by 'dengan':

Saya setuju dengan Bu Nur.	I agree with Bu Nur.
Kamar ini penuh dengan tamu.	That room is full of guests.
Indonesia kaya dengan gas alam.	Indonesian is rich in natural gas.

Others are:³

bosan dengan (bored with)	bertemu dengan (meet with)
berbeda dengan (different from)	terkenal dengan (well-known for)
biasa dengan (used to)	sesuai dengan (suited to, suitable for)

A few words are followed by 'atas'. Examples:

Saya bertanggung jawab atas proyek ini.	I'm responsible for this project.
Dia berterima kasih atas bantuan Erna.	He is grateful for Erna's help.
Kami minta maaf atas kesalahan kita itu.	We apologise for that mistake of ours.
Dia berduka cita atas kehilangan anaknya.	She grieved over the loss of her child.

In standard, correct Indonesian, the preposition may be *dropped* after a few intransitive verbs.

Saya tahu (tentang) rahasia mereka.	I know their secret.
Ali masuk (ke) gereja itu.	Ali entered the room.
Dia suka (pada) adiknya.	She likes her younger brother.

¹ "malu *pada*" also occurs, but tends to mean "ashamed *in front of*" (rather than ashamed of")

² It is hard to state precisely before which words 'akan' may replace 'pada'. Educated Indonesians disagree among themselves on this.

³ Actually, 'dengan' is now very common before a great many other words, too (e.g. 'marah dengan', 'takut dengan', 'lupa dengan'), although it still has a slightly informal flavour before such words.

Exercise 1. Insert a word plus below plus 'pada'.

bangga benci curiga ingat ~~cinta~~ kagum lupa percaya sopan suka takut

1. Erna cinta pada pacarnya. Erna loves her boyfriend.
2. Saya _____ orang itu. I'm suspicious of that man.
3. "Kita harus selalu _____ Allah". "We must always remember Allah."
4. Tuti _____ Tuhan. Tuti believes in God.
5. Saya _____ sekolah itu. I hated that school.
6. Kami semua _____ Yanti. We all admire Yanti.
7. Dia lebih _____ musik klasik. He prefers classical music.
8. Dia sering _____ janji. She often forgets appointments
9. Bu Tuti _____ anaknya. Bu Tut is proud of her child.
10. Apa Anda _____ laba-laba? Are you afraid of spiders?
11. Dede sangat _____ saya. Dede was very polite to me.

Exercise 2. Insert a word plus 'pada' or 'akan' (whichever is correct).

1. Saya bertanya pada guru. I asked the teacher (something).
2. Mereka belum _____ risikonya. They aren't aware of the risks.
3. Mengapa Anda _____ mereka? Why are you angry at them?
4. Elvi _____ adiknya. Elvi is ashamed of her younger sister.
5. Gaji mereka _____ inflasi. Their wage depends on inflation.
6. Sri _____ arti cinta. Sri understands the meaning of love.
7. Siti kurang _____ ibunya. Siti isn't very respectful to her mother.

Exercise 3. Insert a word plus 'dengan' or 'atas' – whichever is correct.

1. Apa Anda setuju dengan Wayan? Do you agree with Wayan?
2. Mobil itu sudah _____ barang-barang. The car is full of luggage.
3. Dia _____ kematian suaminya. She mourned the death of her husband.
4. Saya harus _____ manager. I have to meet the manager.
5. Kami _____ kebaikan hati Ibu. We are grateful for your kindness, Bu.
6. Dia belum _____ cuaca begini. She's not yet used to this weather.
7. Ikat itu _____ batik. Ikat is different from batik.
8. Dia _____ kesalahannya. He apologised for his mistakes.
9. Bali _____ pantainya yang indah. Bali is well-known for its beautiful beaches.
10. Buku ini tidak _____ minat mereka. This book isn't suited to their interests.
11. Daerah itu _____ minyak bumi. That area is rich in oil.
12. Anda yang _____ keselamatan dia. You are responsible for his safety.

13. Fivi sudah _____ kursus itu. Fivi is bored with that course.

Exercise 4. Say it with a preposition (When both “pada” and “akan” are possible, use “pada”).

1. **Kami bertemu DENGAN pembantu baru kita.** We met our new servant.
2. _____ Everyone is scared of Pak Saman.
3. _____ We are all aware of that problem.
4. _____ Why are you suspicious of them?
5. _____ English is rich in foreign words.
6. _____ You are responsible for that child.
7. _____ This truck is full of wood.
8. _____ I admire that singer.
9. _____ You must trust your friends.
10. _____ They hate foreigners.
11. _____ Bu Nia is ashamed of her children.
12. _____ I was grateful for that present.
13. _____ Java is well-known for gamelan music.
14. _____ Pak Nur apologised for that incident.
15. _____ She isn't polite to my parents.
16. _____ He's very proud of his new car.

Answer Key

Exercise 1. 2. curiga pada 3. ingat pada 4. percaya pada 5. benci pada 6. kagum pada 7. suka pada 8. lupa pada 9. bangga pada 10. takut pada 11. sopan pada

Exercise 2 2. sadar akan 3. marah pada 4. malu akan 5. bergantung pada 6. paham akan 7. hormat pada

Exercise 3: 2. penuh dengan 3. berduka cita atas 4. bertemu dengan 5. berterima kasih atas 6. biasa dengan 7. berbeda dengan 8. minta maaf atas 9. terkenal dengan 10. sesuai dengan 11. kaya dengan 12. bertanggung jawab atas 13. bosan dengan

Exercise 4: 2. Semua orang takut pada Pak Saman.. 3. Kita semua sadar akan masalah itu. 4. Mengapa Anda curiga pada mereka? 5. Bahasa Inggris kaya dengan (or formally, 'kaya akan') kata-kata asing. 6. Anda bertanggung jawab atas anak itu. 7. Truk ini penuh dengan kayu. 8. Saya kagum pada penyanyi itu. 9. Anda harus percaya pada teman Anda. 10. Mereka benci pada orang asing. 11. “Saya malu pada anak-anak saya”, katanya. 12. Saya berterima kasih atas kado itu. 13. Pulau Jawa terkenal dengan musik gamelan. 14. Pak Nur minta maaf atas kejadian itu. 15. Dia tidak sopan pada orang tua saya. 16. Dia bangga sekali pada mobilnya yang baru.