

Chapter 2

SENTENCES, PHRASES, CLAUSES & CONJUNCTIONS

Discussed in this section are the three basic sentence patterns in Malay and Indonesian: equational, verbal and existential; the basic phrases: noun, adjective, adverb, preposition and verb; the relative clause, and the main coordinating conjunctions.

2.1 Sentences

There are three basic sentence patterns which may be called equational, verbal, and existential. Each of these is discussed individually in the following sections.

2.1.1 Equational Sentences

(i) Composition

Equational sentences consist of a subject and a predicate (refer to the sample utterances which follow). The subject in an equational sentence is that part of the sentence which is described or identified. The predicate in an equational sentence is sometimes referred to as a complement since it is seen as presenting additional information about the subject, thereby *completing* its meaning. These sentences are equivalent to English sentences with the linking verb or copula "to be", that is: "am", "is" or "are" in the present tense, and "was" or "were" in the past.

Equational Sentences

<u>Subject</u> _____	<u>Predicate</u> _____ <i>Complement</i>
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The subject of an equational sentence is most commonly a noun phrase (see Section 2.2 for a detailed discussion of phrases).

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| 1. <u>NOUN PHRASE</u> | <u>NOUN PHRASE</u> |
| Saya | orang Australia ^M . |
| Saya | orang Australi ^I . |
| I | person Australia |
| I | am an Australian. |