M.Ed. In TESL Program
Language Group Specific Informational Reports

Produced by Graduate Students in the M.Ed. In TESL Program
In the Feinstein School of Education and Human Development

Language Group: Mandar
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Mandar is one of many languages spoken in Indonesia.

(www.hello-indonesia.com)
Facts

🌟 It is spoken by over 200,000 people.
🌟 Alternate names for Mandar include:
   Mandharsche
   Manjar
   Andian

🌟 Main dialects
   Balanipa
   Majene
   Malunda
   Pamboang
   Sendana

🌟 Balanipa is the high dialect.

(www.ethnologue.com)
Where Mandar is Spoken

Mandar is spoken in ...

- West Sulawesi
- Majine and Polewali-Mamasa districts
- Mamuju district
- Pangkep district islands
- Ujung Lero

(www.ethnologue.com)
Linguistic Lineage

Austronesia

↓

Malayo Polynesian

↓

South Sulawesi

↓

Northern

↓

Mandar

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page)
Language Distinctions in Mandar

- Tendency to use repetition in all or part of a word.
- Lack of consonant clusters. (i.e. “str”)
- Small set of vowels.
- Most common syllable structure is CVC

- Nineteen “native” consonants.
- No use of grammatical gender.
- Age distinction in language (younger or older).

(Swan, 2001) (www.absoluteastronomy.com)
Common Errors in Phonology

- tt (as in butter) is a “distinct phoneme” and may be used inappropriately
- /p,t,k/ may sound like /b,d,g/ (i.e. pin-bin)
- /v/ is not a common consonant and new English speakers will replace it with /f/ or /p/
- /f/ is replaced by /p/ in any position (i.e. preper-prefer)
- /b,d,g/ are often dropped at the end of a word
- Dipthongs may be thought as pure vowels and pronounced as long or short.

(Swan, 2001)
Common Errors in Grammar

- The use of “it” or “there” as the subject is problematic.
- Verb tenses are not used in L1.
- Some difficulty with pairs of English words that have a single Indonesian equivalent (i.e. live/stay).
- Repetition of noun phrases are common.
- Some have difficulty with “self” translation.
- There is pronoun copying (i.e. My father, he like to work here).
- Articles are dropped in sentences.

(Swan, 2001)
Written Language

[Diagram of consonants and vowels]

(www.omniglot.com)
The Mandar use the Buginese script. It is a syllabic alphabet. The phonetic signs are syllabograms. They stand for syllables rather than individual sounds. It is written left to right. Each letter of the script carries a consonant and the inherent vowel of /a/. The only exception is the letter that represents only /a/, which is used only at the beginning of a word/

(www.omniglot.com)
Cultural Etiquette

- Use only the right hand to shake hands.
- There is very little touching between a man and woman in public.
- Dress conservatively in public.
- Do not touch someone on his/her head. The head is the most sacred body part.
- Never say anything negative in front of others. These things need to be said in private to save “face”.
- Direct eye contact is rude.

(www.culturecrossing.net)
Etiquette continued

- Public displays of affection are not acceptable.
- Do not point. It is considered rude.
- Stand an arms length away (friends can be closer).
- Refrain from standing with hands on hips (suspicious or threatening).
- It is offensive to show the soles of the shoes while seated.
- Smiling is common regardless of whether it is in agreement or not.

(www.culturecrossing.net)
Resources

Books


Internet Sites & Images


Resources

Internet Sites


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