

Malay Transcript:

Emily: Apakah jenis buah-buahan yang dapat dijual atau yang dapat dibeli di pasar basah¹?

Chan: Biasanya, buah-buahan yang kita dapat, dia buah-buahan tempatan dan juga buah-buahan import. Buah-buahan tempatan yang biasa kita boleh beli di pasar: pisang...

Kalau di pasar, kita boleh beli banyak jenis pisang. Kalau di pasar raya, pisang yang dia jual adalah pisang import yang kata “Del Monte;” itu pisang hijau. Tapi² kalau kita pergi pasar biasa, kita boleh beli pisang jenis “Del Monte” yang saya kata tadi; yang ini pisang yang diimport dari Filipina.

Selain daripada ini, kita boleh beli banyak lagi jenis pisang, seperti pisang mas – yang kecil-kecil yang manis itu, pisang tali, rastali ya – itu kegemaran keluarga saya, dan kita juga ada pisang kapuk dan pisang tanduk³ – ini pisang untuk masakan ya. Jadi, adalah⁴ banyak jenis pisang yang kita boleh beli. Satu jenis sahaja buah, ya.

Selain daripada pisang, kita boleh dapat buah tempatan, seperti buah betik ada juga, juga ada tembikai, ya; inilah buah tempatan. Dan biasanya di pasar juga, dia akan jual buah yang bermusim. Buah yang bermusim yang kita boleh dapat di pasar seperti buah rambutan⁵, durian⁶ jarang ada – sebab mungkin dia berbau sangat, dia tak⁷ bawa masuk ke pasar. Tapi biasanya, buah rambutan, buah manggis⁸, buah langsung⁹, dukong¹⁰ dan mangga¹¹, ya; ini semua ada buah tempatan.

¹ *Pasar basah* or ‘wet market’ refers to a type of market in Malaysia that sells unprocessed foods, for example fresh fruits and vegetables and raw meat. When the word ‘market’ is mentioned in the rest of the passage, it is understood as referring to a wet market and not a supermarket

² *tapi* – abbreviation for the word *tetapi*; Malay abbreviations are commonly used in everyday or informal speech, and also in text messages or online chats, but are considered incorrect or improper when used in official contexts, such as newspaper articles, when making public speeches or at school

³ *Mas*, *rastali*, *kapuk* and *tanduk* are Malay names for different species of bananas

⁴ *-lah* – *-lah* is a Malaysian suffix tacked on to the end of a word for verbal emphasis, but it doesn’t actually mean anything

⁵ *Rambutan* is a type of fruit from Southeast Asia, small and circular in size, with red leathery skin and soft spines resembling hair; *rambut* means ‘hair’ in Malay

⁶ *Durian* is a type of fruit from Southeast Asia, it is larger in size, is green in color with sharp thorns on its husk and has a very strong smell

⁷ *tak* – abbreviation for the word *tidak*

⁸ *Manggis* or mangosteen is a type of fruit from Southeast Asia, small and circular in size, much smaller than a *durian* but slightly larger than a *rambutan*, and has a purple outer skin and white flesh

⁹ *Langsat* is a type of fruit from Southeast Asia, circular and smaller than a mangosteen and has a thin brown outer layer of skin

¹⁰ *Dukong* is a type of fruit from Southeast Asia that is bigger but very similar in appearance to the *langsat*

¹¹ *Mangga* or mango is tropical fruit that is yellowish in color

Pasar juga, saya boleh dapat beli buah import juga, seperti epal, oren, anggur; buah kiwi pun ada sekarang... Dan kalau musim ceri pun saya boleh beli di pasar. Jadi sekarang, di pasar kita boleh beli apa jenis buah pun. Lagi – itu keistimewaan pasar – kalau saya beli buah pun di pasar, saya boleh pilih satu biji, satu biji. Katalah saya nak¹² beli lima biji buah epal. Saya boleh pilih setiap epal itu.

Kalau di pasar raya, tak boleh ya. Di pasar raya, buah-buah itu dia akan dibungkus, lima atau enam biji buah epal dia bungkus satu beg. Dan saya bayanglah, mungkin dalam beg itu, di antara lima atau enam buah epal ini, mungkin satu yang tak segar. Jadi, saya tak ada pilihan kalau saya beli buah di pasar raya.

Jadi itu sebablah saya lebih suka beli buah di pasar. Sebab saya boleh pilih; dan satu lagi juga, kalau beli di pasar, saya boleh tawar-menawar. Saya boleh tanya, “Buah betik ini berapa satu kilo?” Kalau dia kata “Dua setengah¹³,” saya mungkin boleh tawar-menawar ya, “Saya nak beli banyak ya. Boleh tak murah sikit?” Kalau di pasar raya, harganya semua tetap; tak boleh tawar-menawar. Itulah sebabnya saya lebih gemar, lebih suka pergi ke pasar untuk membeli-belah.

English Translation:

Emily: What are the types of fruits that are sold or can be bought at a wet market¹⁴?

Chan: We usually have [a selection of] local fruits and also imported fruits. We can buy the typical [varieties of] local fruits at the market: bananas...

We can buy many types of bananas at the market. The [only type of] bananas sold at the supermarket are the imported “Del Monte” bananas; those are green bananas. But if we go to a regular [wet] market, we can [also] buy the “Del Monte” bananas that I mentioned just now [among others]; these are bananas that are imported from the Phillipines.

Apart from that, we can also buy many other types of bananas [at a wet market], such as *mas* bananas – they are really small and sweet, *tali* bananas, *rastali* ones – those are my family’s favorite, and we also have *kapuk* bananas and *tanduk* bananas¹⁵ – these are bananas [that are good to be used for] for cooking. So, there are many types of bananas that we can buy [at a wet market]. [And this is only for] one type of fruit.

Apart from bananas, we can get [other] local fruits, for example papayas are available, [and] there is also watermelon; these are all local fruits. Also, usually in the market they

¹² *nak* – abbreviation for the word *hendak*

¹³ *Setengah* literally means ‘half,’ but when referring to currency, it means half a ringgit or 50 sens; Ringgit and sen is the Malaysian currency, Ringgit is short for Ringgit Malaysia or RM; RM 1 is equivalent to about 30 (American) cents, sen is the Malay spelling for ‘cent’

¹⁴ *Pasar basah* or ‘wet market’ refers to a type of market in Malaysia that sells unprocessed foods, for example fresh fruits and vegetables and raw meat. When the word ‘market’ is mentioned in the rest of the passage, it is understood as referring to a wet market and not a supermarket

¹⁵ *Mas*, *rastali*, *kapuk* and *tanduk* are Malay names for different species of bananas

sell seasonal fruits. The seasonal fruits that we can get from markets include *rambutans*¹⁶, [but] they rarely have *durians*¹⁷ – maybe because they smell so strongly, they’re not brought into the market. But usually [they have] *rambutans*, mangosteen¹⁸, *langsats*¹⁹, *dukong*²⁰ and mangos²¹; these are all available and are local fruits.

At the market, I can buy imported fruits too, such as apples, oranges, grapes; there are kiwi fruits now as well... And if it is the season for cherries, I can buy those at the market too. Now, we can buy all sorts of fruit from the market. Also – and this is what’s special about the market – if I buy fruits from the market, I can select the fruits individually. Let’s say I want to buy five apples. I get to choose each and every one of the apples [that I want to buy].

[I] couldn’t do this if I was at the supermarket. At the supermarket, the fruits will be packaged, five or six apples packaged in a bag. And I imagine, maybe in the bag, among those five or six apples, one might not be fresh. So, I don’t have a choice when I buy fruits at the supermarket.

So that is why I prefer to buy fruits at the market. Because I can choose [each fruit]; and another thing is, if I shop at the market, I can bargain. I can ask, “How much is one kilo[gram] of this papaya?” If he²² says “Two-fifty²³,” maybe I could bargain, “I want to buy a lot [of papaya]. Can [you] make it cheaper?” At the supermarket, all the prices are fixed; [you] cannot bargain. That is why I prefer to shop at the market.

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²⁰ *Dukong* is a type of fruit from Southeast Asia that is bigger but very similar in appearance to the *langsats*

²¹ *Mangga* or mango is tropical fruit that is yellowish in color

²² *Dia* is a second-person pronoun, and is gender neutral. Here, ‘he’ is used just for translation purposes and refers to the seller

²³ *Setengah* literally means ‘half,’ but when referring to currency, it means half a ringgit or 50 sens; Ringgit and sen is the Malaysian currency, Ringgit is short for Ringgit Malaysia or RM; RM 1 is equivalent to about 30 (American) cents, sen is the Malay spelling for ‘cent’