

## **The Mirror Never Lies**

*A production of SET Film Production and the World Wide Fund  
released in 2011*

This film study package for teachers is created by Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth ([www.balaibahasaperth.org](http://www.balaibahasaperth.org)) as a learning resource to support students of *bahasa Indonesia* in Western Australia. It has been created for use in classrooms in conjunction with the 2012 Balai Bahasa Indonesia Perth Indonesia Film Festival.

Learning activities can be broadly organized as occurring before or after watching a film. The activities in this package are offered as examples only and should be used as only a part of a cumulative learning program. Teachers are encouraged to develop and share with colleagues, further activities developed around this film.

Teachers should adapt and add to the resources to suit their own learners' needs and abilities and develop a program of learning that springs from the film. The broad theme of sustainability can be further explored both within the Indonesian language classroom and across the curriculum.



## The Mirror Never Lies (Released May 2011)

**Duration:**

100 min

**Genre:**

Drama

**Classification:**

General

**Writer**

Dirmawan Hatta, Kamila Andini

**Director:**

Kamila Andini

**Producers:**

Garin Nugroho, Nadine Chandrawinata

**Executive Producers:**

WWF Indonesia, Wakatobi Government

**Production Company:**

SET Film

**Starring:**

Atiqah Hasiholan, Reza Rahadian, Gita Lovalista, Eko, Zainal, Halwiyah, Darsono

**Awards:**

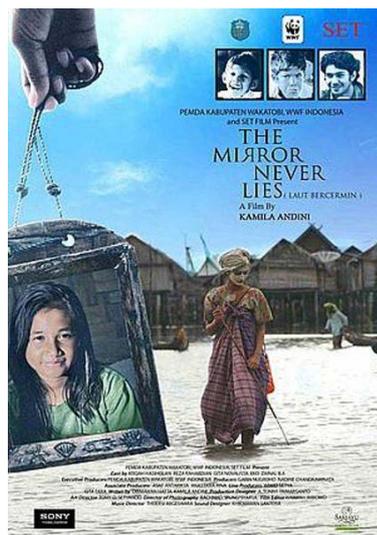
- **Winner** Best Original Screenplay, Best Music Score, Talented Artist and New Corner Director at the Indonesian Film Festival 2012 in Jakarta
- **Winner** Bright Young Talent Award at Mumbai Film Festival 2011 - Kamila Andhini (Director)

**Synopsis**

Kamila Andini (the daughter of Indonesia's leading filmmaker Garin Nugroho) got to know the seafaring Bajo tribe when she went diving in the Wakatobi archipelago. Her engrossing debut feature draws on her knowledge of the region (above and below the waves), her encounters with local people (some of whom ended up acting in the film) and Bajo folklore (the belief that a ritual mirror can show a missing person who will return from the sea).

Working with the great cinematographer Rachmad Syaiful, Andini does without melodrama and smartly concentrates on the day-to-day life of characters. Along the way she illuminates the region's ecology and effectively argues that the Bajo way of life should be a model for Indonesia as a whole. And her film is stunningly beautiful. (Tony Rayns, British writer, commentator, film festival programmer and screenwriter)

The marine biodiversity portrait of Wakatobi and the Bajo tribe's local wisdom are captured through a drama of a little girl named Pakis (12) who is longing for the return of her father who was lost at the sea. Growing up in a Bajo tribe, famous as the greatest sailors ever, they live and they die in the ocean. Pakis strongly believes that her father is still alive and will

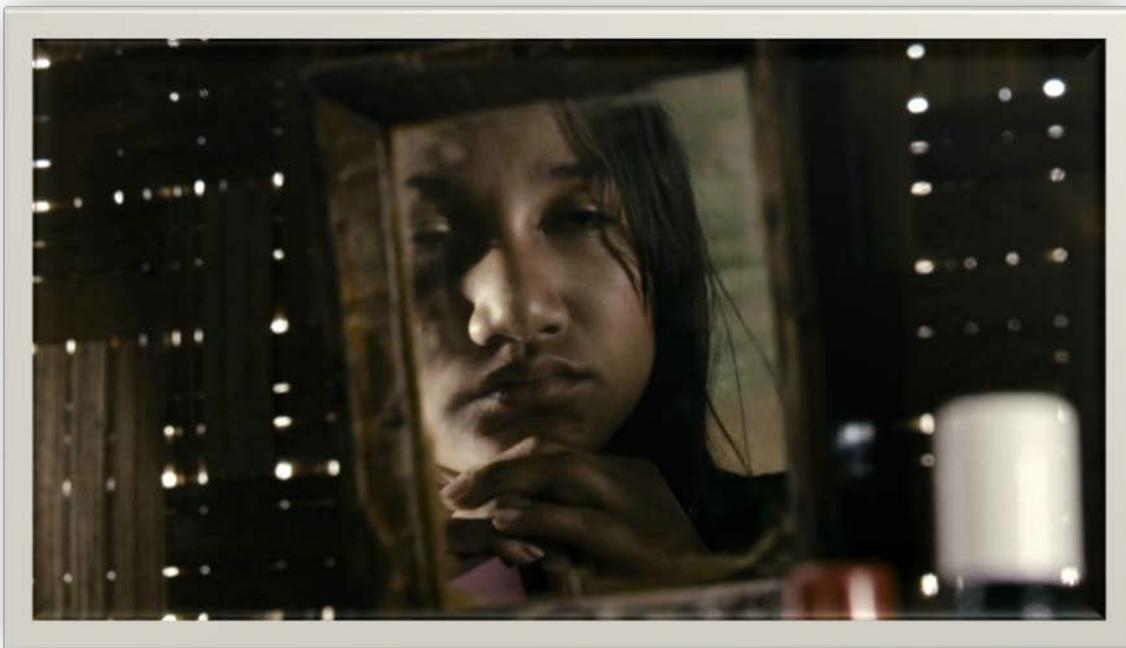


come back someday. With a Bajo ritual using a mirror, she keeps on waiting to see her father's reflection - which remains unseen.

The movie focuses on conflicts at the heart of family life, when Pakis' mother, Tayung (32), often shatters her hopes to meet the lost father again. Tayung keeps trying to hide the reality from her. Denial appears when she realizes her husband will never come back and starts to cover her whole face with powder. Together with her best friend Lumo (12), Pakis keeps searching for answers from the Wakatobi sea.

As the emotions get stronger, a dolphin research scientist, Tudo (28), comes into their lives. The four characters have their own interpretation about marine life and how they connect to each other. It is the sea that helps them to find the true self reflection. Under the sky, all stories start, and toward the sea, all lives and love lead to...

Official film website: <http://gift4earth.wwf.or.id/themirrorneverlies/en/?menu=homeview>



## Get the cogs working.

When a language doesn't have just the right word for something, someone needs to invent a new word or borrow an existing word from another language. English borrowed the Indonesian word *amok* to describe someone running around in a violent frenzy as in *The gatecrashers ran amuck and wrecked her birthday party*. Even if the spelling changes, and it often does, it's clear that the two words are related.

Words that originate in another language are called cognates. *Amuck* is a cognate of *amok* just as *televisi* in Bahasa Indonesia is a cognate of *television* in English. Cognates are really useful when you are reading because it's like you have automatically increased your vocabulary and can understand more easily.

There are lots of cognates in the following passage. Try to see and hear them by reading the passage out loud to yourself or a partner and highlight the cognates.

*The Mirror Never Lies* adalah film drama Indonesia yang dirilis pada 2011 dengan disutradarai oleh Kamila Andini yang dibintangi oleh Gita Novalista, Reza Rahadian dan Atiqah Hasiholan. *The Mirror Never Lies* dirilis untuk reaksi kritikan yang bagus. Kritikus banyak yang memuji aspek produksi film, tata setting, serta akting dramatis dari aktris utama Gita Novalista.

*The Mirror Never Lies* mendapatkan tujuh nominasi dalam Festival Film Indonesia 2011, termasuk Film Terbaik, Sutradara Terbaik untuk Camilla Andini, dan Aktris Terbaik untuk Gita Novalista. Film ini juga mendapatkan tiga belas nominasi dalam Festival Film Bandung 2012, memenangkan empat, termasuk penghargaan tertinggi Film Terpuji dan Sutradara Terpuji untuk Camilla Andini.

Source: [http://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Mirror\\_Never\\_Lies](http://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Mirror_Never_Lies)

For teachers: cognates

## Capital suggestion

Capital letters (*huruf besar*) also give you free clues when you are trying to understand a passage. Think about when *huruf besar* are used in English; it's the same in bahasa Indonesia.

Using two different colours, highlight the names of people and the names of events, places or titles.

For teachers: people places/events/titles

## Key words

By now you probably have a good idea of what this article is about. To make sure, decide on three words (Only3!) that you will look up in the dictionary. If any of your chosen words is long, it is probably a compound word, so you will have to work out what the base word is, for example, the base word of *mendapatkan* is *dapat* which has to do with getting or obtaining something.

## Gita Novalista: Senang Bisa Bermain Dengan Bintang Terkenal



Jika anda menonton film **The Mirror Never Lies** yang mulai tayang hari ini (5/5/11) ada tiga orang anak kecil Suku Bajo yang menjadi bintang dalam film itu. Salah satunya adalah Gita Novalista, gadis yang masih duduk di kelas 2 SMP itu terpilih sebagai pemain utama bersama Atiqah Hasiholan, Reza Rahadian dan kedua temannya, Eko dan Inal.

Gita awalnya tidak pernah bermimpi bisa bermain film dengan bintang besar dan menjadi sorotan media ketika hadir di Jakarta untuk promo film **The Mirror Never Lies**. “Gerogi, sedikit gemetar,” ujar Gita singkat menanggapi perasaannya.

Namun bungsu dari lima bersaudara ini akhirnya mengakui dirinya sangat senang bisa bermain film dan datang ke Jakarta. “Aku senang bisa main bareng bintang-bintang yang

sudah terkenal, nggak nyangka aja bisa kayak sekarang,” akunya kental dengan logat Bajonya.

Awal terpilihnya Gita bermula saat ia sedang bermain qasidah di desanya. Gadis yang hobi bermain bulutangkis ini juga mengaku sempat sembunyi karena takut. “Saat latihan qasidah aku dipanggil dan awalnya aku setuju-setuju aja, karena belum tahu bakal casting film. Lalu teman-teman mempengaruhi aku agar tidak ikutan, jadi aku sempat sembunyi, tapi akhirnya aku mau ikutan casting setelah dibujuk,” kenang Gita.

Setelah satu minggu di Jakarta, Gita sempat berkomentar tentang kota yang menurutnya banyak rumah beton itu. “Jakarta menyenangkan, asyik dan ramai, bedanya dengan Wakatobi, Jakarta tidak ada lautnya dan tidak ada karang yang indah. Jakarta macet terus, jadi lebih suka di Wakatobi,” ungkapnya sambil tertawa.

Dalam **The Mirror Never Lies** Gita berperan sebagai Pakis, seorang gadis muda asal Bajo yang kehilangan ayahnya dan harus berurusan dengan masalah dia belum bisa mengerti. Dalam pencarian ayahnya, Pakis selalu melihat cermin dan menanyakannya kepada dukun di desanya. Tapi Gita mengaku belum pernah datang ke dukun untuk menanyakan sesuatu. “Aku tidak terlalu percaya dengan dukun, tapi di sana memang banyak masyarakat yang pergi ke dukun kalau kehilangan sesuatu, dan aku belum pernah ke dukun,” katanya. Gita berharap masyarakat bisa menikmati dan terhibur setelah menonton **The Mirror Never Lies**. “Aku berdoa kepada Tuhan supaya film ini bisa sukses dan masyarakat di seluruh Indonesia terhibur oleh film kita,” jelas Gita.

Adapted from

<http://www.21cinplex.com/slowmotion/gita-novalista-senang-bisa-main-bareng-bintang-terkenal,2220.htm>

## TASKS

This selection of tasks has been created using the Before, During and After Reading Framework (see *First Steps* or *Stepping Out* resources. Use the BDA Reading Framework on the next page to develop tasks of your own.

### BEFORE

- Watch the trailer on the Balai Bahasa Indonesia (Perth) website <http://www.balaibahasaperth.org/page.aspx?pageID=41> or You Tube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAiki5BQRug>
- Complete viewing activities related to the trailer.
- What is the name of the film in which Gita Novalista has a starring role?
- The headline for this article translates as *Gita Novalista: Delighted to perform with famous stars*. What sort of web site do you think the article came from?
- Predict at least one question that you think Gita will be asked. Write it in Indonesian or English to check later if you predicted correctly.
- How many paragraphs are there in the article?

### DURING

- How many times does her first name appear in the article?
- Highlight the direct quotes.
- Circle the text that tells you when the film premiered.
- Gita was not at home when she was interviewed. Which city was she in? Why was she there? What is her opinion about the city?
- Apart from the fact that she starred in this film, what else do we know about Gita?  
HINTS: Where she lives. What year level she is in at school. Ethnic group. Favourite sport.
- Was your prediction of an interview question correct? What was her answer?
- Gita talks about two places: the city where she is being interviewed and where she lives. Which place does she prefer? Why?

### AFTER

- **WRITING** You have been asked (because of your skills in speaking bahasa Indonesia) to interview Gita Novalista by telephone or email on behalf of Australian audiences. What do you think Australian students who have watched *The Mirror Never Lies* would want to know about Gita and the making of the film? Write at least X interview questions.
- **LISTENING AND RESPONDING AND SPEAKING**  
In pairs or groups of three, prepare and record a video or audio interview. One person will be the interviewer and ask questions written by themselves or others in the class. The other person or persons will respond to the question playing the role of Gita or Eko.
- **SPEAKING** Choose three new words from this article that you like and think will be useful. Practise using these words in sentences, describing something about your own life.

<b>Before reading</b>	for example
<b>Background information</b> to link existing knowledge to new information	
to review, extend, enrich and clarify vocabulary and concepts	
<b>Awareness of purpose</b> to motivate	
to establish an overall context before the reading	
to establish a purpose for the reading	
to activate background knowledge	

<b>During reading</b>	for example,
<b>Active reading</b> to think through ideas contained in the text	
to process information, extracting and organising relevant information for a specific task	

<b>After reading</b>	for example, students
<b>Using new information</b> to critically evaluate ideas	
to demonstrate understanding of text content	



## Ayah Pakis dicari

In the film *The Mirror Never Lies* we learn quite a lot about about Pakis, her mother Tayung and her friend Eko but what about her father?

Ayah Pakis is important because he is at the centre of the story. We know that he went fishing and is overdue to return. We know that Pakis is sad and anxious because he is missing.

What else do we know? What do the people in the film tell us about him?

### 1. BAGAIMANA SIFATNYA?

- suka bercerita
- suka main basket
- bekerja sebagai nelayan
- sudah meninggal dunia
- tidak sayang kepada anaknya
- baik hati
- sayang kepada anaknya
- selalu rajin belajar
- jujur
- suka lomba-lomba
- sering tertawa
- pandai sekali

Highlight or circle the characteristics that describe *ayah Pakis*.

Choose three and use them in sentences describing him.

Example 1: Ayah Pakis \_\_\_\_\_. Dia \_\_\_\_\_. Dia \_\_\_\_\_.

Example 2: Ayah Pakis \_\_\_\_\_ dan \_\_\_\_\_. Dia juga \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2. EXPRESSING OPINION

When we can't be sure of something, we often start by saying, *I think* or *I believe* or *In my opinion*. To express your opinion dalam bahasa Indonesia, use any of these sentence beginnings:

- Saya pikir bahwa . . .
- Saya kira . . .
- Menurut pendapat saya . . .
- Menurut saya . . .
- Kalau saya . . .
- Saya percaya . . .

Practise adding these sentence beginnings to the sentences you created above.

Teachers, these exercises have varying levels of scaffolding and support. They can be done by individuals or in pairs, in writing, orally or on an interactive whiteboard. Choose the exercises that best suit your students' needs.

### 3. EXPRESSING A REASON FOR YOUR OPINION

Teachers, these exercises have varying levels of scaffolding and support. They can be done by individuals or in pairs, in writing, orally or on an interactive whiteboard. Choose the exercises that best suit your students' needs.

#### Exercise 1

Your opinion is much stronger when you can add an explanation or a reason, for example, **Menurut pendapat saya, Pakis sedih karena ayahnya hilang.**

The sentence has an opinion (*pendapat*) at the start and a reason (*alasan*) at the end.

For each of the following opinions, *alasan apa yang lebih cocok?*

- a. Menurut pendapat saya, Pakis marah kepada ibu karena
  - ibu tidak mau membeli cermin baru. or
  - ibu bilang bahwa ayah sudah meninggal.
- b. Saya kira ayah Pakis belum pulang karena
  - dia belum mendapat cukup ikan. or
  - perahunya rusak dan dia tenggelam.

#### Exercise 2

Match these opinions and reasons based on the film *The Mirror Never Lies*.

<b>Saya pikir ayah Pakis</b>	<b>karena</b>
▪ suka bercerita	▪ dia memberinya sebuah cermin
▪ sayang kepada anaknya	▪ sepotong dari perahunya ditemukan di laut
▪ baik hati	▪ Pakis sering menceritakan cerita-cerita ayahnya
▪ belum pulang	▪ perahunya rusak dan dia tenggelam
▪ sudah meninggal dunia	▪ dia selalu melepaskan ikan yang kecil

Choose three and write the full sentence opinion and reason then practise these sentences orally.

#### Exercise 3

Prepare your opinion and a reason for it in response to these questions. Be sure you have worked out first, exactly what the question is asking.

- a. Mengapa Pakis rupanya marah kepada ibunya?
- b. Menurut Anda, mengapa Eko terus membantu Pakis?
- c. Mengapa Pakis mencuri ikan kecil?
- d. Pada akhir film, mengapa cermin Pakis dibuangnya ke laut?
- e. Pada akhir film itu apakah Tudu mau tinggal Wakatobi. atau kembali ke Jakarta? Bagaimana pendapat Anda?

#### Exercise 4

Create some questions about the film, *The Mirror Never Lies* for others to answer by giving their opinion.

