

Q17. THE GANGGA'S ALL HERE

Author: Michael Salter

In the late 19th century, Western linguists discovered a Malay code script called *gangga malayu*, which combined elements of Arabic and Javanese to produce a unique writing system. Below are some words in Gangga Malayu, along with their transliterations:

Ḥ Ḥ Ṣ	—	sěnam
ī ḡ ḡ	—	epok
Ṣ Ḥ ḡ	—	měnung
Ḥ Ḥ ḡ Ṣ Ḥ ḡ	—	tanah-merah
Ṣ Ḥ ḡ ḡ	—	měntigi
Ḥ Ḥ Ṣ ḡ	—	senamaki
ī	—	ia
ḡ ḡ	—	puak
Ḥ ḡ ḡ	—	sangka

1. Which pair or pairs of vowels are marked in the same way in Gangga Malayu?
2. Below are four more words in Gangga Malayu, this time words which are basically the same in Malay and English. Give the English word in each case. (Hint: one is borrowed from Arabic, one is the name of a country, and one is “borrowed” from its English equivalent.)

↓ 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎
 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎
 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎
 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎 𠄎

3. Write the following Malay words in Gangga Malayu:

(a) semut (*ant*), (b) pokok (*tree*), (c) kereta api (*train*).