



3 Nouns: Gender



THINK

Look at the pictures.



Critical Thinking



Life Skills
and Values



Which of these nouns tell us about females and which tell us about males?

LEARN

You will have noticed that the nouns mentioned above refer to the gender of the people. Gender tells us whether a noun is male or female.

Male nouns are also called masculine nouns. For example, boy, peacock, men.

Female nouns are also called feminine nouns. For example, girl, peahen, women.

Let us look at some more examples.

male	female
nephew	niece
husband	wife
grandson	granddaughter
bridegroom	bride
headmaster	headmistress
prince	princess
king	queen
hero	heroine
host	hostess

male	female
bull/ox	cow
(horse) stallion	mare
tiger	tigress
lion	lioness
(deer) buck	doe
peacock	peahen
gander	goose
drake	duck
(chicken) rooster	hen

PRACTISE

A. Write the opposites of the given gender words. Use the words in the box to complete the table.



princess hero granddaughter actor husband
empress bride sir woman nephew

female nouns	male nouns
madam	sir
woman	man
wife	husband
empress	emperor
niece	nephew
actress	actor

Princess	prince
heroine	hero
grand daughter	grandson
bride	groom

B. Fill in the blanks using words from the box.



brother mare queen niece gander

1. My nephew and niece are away on a vacation.
2. Both the goose and the gander were taken to the vet.
3. The king and the queen welcomed the prime minister.
4. Both the brother and the sister worked hard to make their parents proud.
5. The horse and the mare were galloping in the field.



C. Write M for masculine gender and F for feminine gender for the underlined nouns.

1. She went to the circus with her mother.
2. The waitress served us burgers and chips.
3. We saw a ferocious tiger at the zoo.
4. The prince was evil and uneducated.
5. A brown horse was grazing in the field.
6. We saw a beautiful peacock in the park.
7. The bull was standing under the shade of a tree.
8. The hostess welcomed all the passengers.



F
F
M
M
M
M
M
F

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P
D.

LEARN

Read the sentences.



- Ritu is a student of Class 3.
- Tunisha is Keshav's cousin.
- Keshav is her best friend.
- Kevin is Tunisha's classmate.

Did you notice that the words student, friend, cousin and classmate do not tell us the gender of the noun? Nouns that can be both female and male are called common gender nouns.

PRACTISE

D. Circle the common gender nouns in the given sentences.

1. She is a famous writer.
2. Our teacher took us to the museum.
3. The baby was playing with the teddy bear.
4. The thief was finally caught.
5. The king captured his enemy.
6. Robi was a student of Mr Sengupta's art classes.
7. The chef prepared delicious dishes for the function.
8. Each child should be accompanied by at least one parent.

