

English Grammar

Lesson- 7

The Noun: Gender

Answer the following questions:

1. What is Gender?

Ans. Gender tells us whether a noun represent a male, female or neither of the two.

2. How many kinds of gender are there? What are they?

Ans. There are four kinds of genders. They are:

- 1) Masculine Gender.
- 2) Feminine Gender.
- 3) Common Gender.
- 4) Neuter Gender.

3. What is a Masculine Gender?

Ans. A noun that refers to a male is called the masculine gender.

Example: man, boy, cock.

4. What is a Feminine Gender?

Ans. A noun that refers to a female is called the feminine gender.

Example: woman, girl, hen.

5. What is a Common Gender?

Ans. A noun that refers to either a male or female is called the common gender.

Example: parent, teacher, student.

6. What is a Neuter Gender?

Ans. A noun that refers to non-living things is called the neuter gender.

Example: book, water, train.

Exercises:-

I. Choose the correct options:

1. A noun that refers to a male is said to be of the **masculine gender**.
2. Common gender denotes **both a male and a female**.

II. Write the opposite gender of the following nouns.

1. King - **Queen**.
2. Peacock - **Peahen**.
3. Duke - **Duchess**.
4. Mare - **Horse**.
5. Fox - **Vixen**.
6. Actor - **Actress**.
7. Priest - **Priestess**.
8. Bride - **Bridegroom**.
9. Milkman - **Milkmaid**.
10. Widow - **Widower**.

III. Rewrite the following sentences, replacing each underlined noun with a noun of the opposite gender.

1. The princess is extremely beautiful.
The prince is extremely beautiful.
2. The dog is chasing the hen.
The bitch is chasing the cock.
3. She has starred with many leading actors.
She has starred with many leading actress.
4. The headmaster look after the school.
The headmistress looks after the school.
5. At the zoo, we saw a tiger, a lioness and a vixen.

At the zoo, we saw a tigress, a lion and a fox.

6. An emperor passed this way with his army.

An empress passed this way with his army.

7. She went to stay with her aunt for a few days.

She went to stay with her uncle for few days.

8. The inspector paid a visit to our school.

The inspectress paid a visit to our school.

9. The hunter aimed at a drake and shot it.

The huntress aimed at a duck and shot it.

10. He is a great poet and author.

He is a great poetess and authoress.