



# Nouns: Gender



He is a male

She is a female



Nicky and Ricky are on a gender hunt. They are looking for words that indicate the gender of animate and inanimate nouns.

★ In the following sentences, look for words that indicate male or female nouns.

★ Write **M** for masculine and **F** for feminine nouns. One has been done for you.

- ☒ **F** A lady at the store asked my name.
- ☐ **M** The salesman offered me a discount.
- ☐ **F** Suddenly, the witch vanished.
- ☐ **M** We spotted a leopard near our house.
- ☐ **F** The peahen strutted majestically.
- ☐ **F** The cobbler's wife sat beside him.



Some nouns do not indicate the male or female gender. They stand for either or both.

★ Read the sentences. Underline the nouns that denote common gender.

- Our guests arrived one after the other.
- I spoke to my friends yesterday.
- I was woken up by the bleating of the sheep.
- She held the puppy on her lap.
- Five astronauts trained for the voyage.
- We bought a big fish.



Inanimate things are neither male nor female, so they are neuter.

★ Encircle the nouns that are of neuter gender in each of the given sentences.

- A person was knocking at the door.
- The visitor bought bananas.
- Gold and silver are costly metals.
- The photo frame was hanging on the wall.
- Is your family at the hotel?
- The pilot landed the helicopter safely.

★ Spot the error in each sentence. Write the correct word over it.

- When the queen went for a picnic, everybody was at his service.
- When I lifted the glass jug, he broke.
- My father has lost its car key.
- If you bother a bull, she may get angry.
- The puppy went running to her mother.

Say it aloud

- Masculine, feminine, common, and neuter are the four types of gender nouns in English.
- A male member of a species is a masculine gender noun. E.g. uncle, king, hero, bull, ram, etc.
- A female member of a species is a feminine gender noun. E.g. aunt, queen, heroine, cow, etc.
- A common gender noun is used for both males and females. E.g. leader, student, pilot, etc.
- A neuter gender noun refers to a member of a species which is neither a male nor a female. E.g. tree, car, computer, eye, body, sky, etc.

Write the **feminine gender** of the masculine gender nouns. One has been done for you.

milkman - milkmaid  
stepfather - stepmother  
landlord - landlady

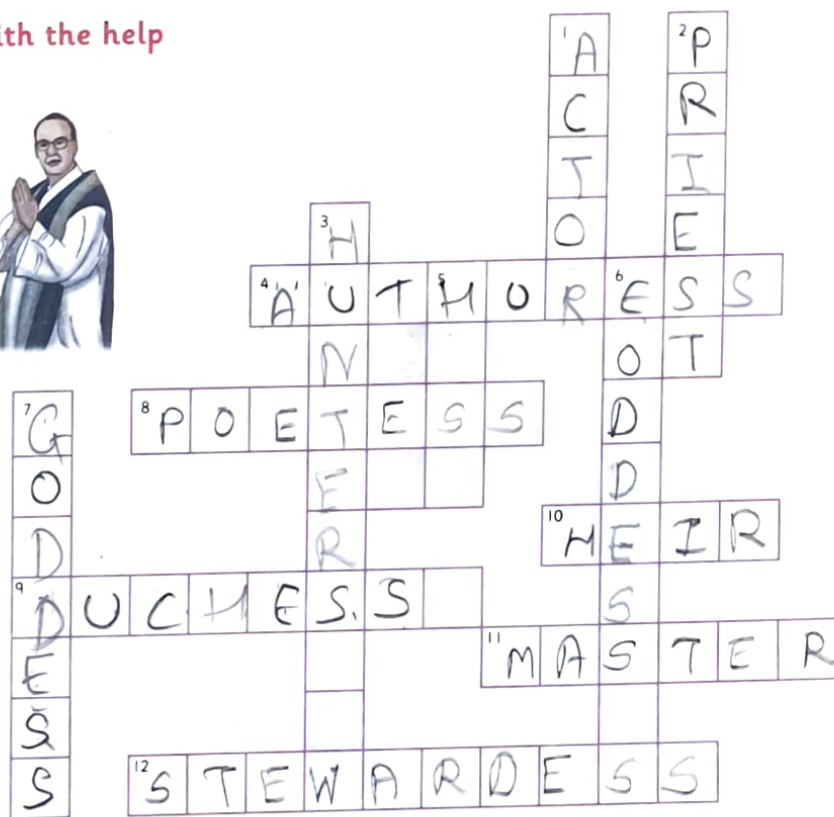
grandfather - Grandmother  
fisherman - Fishwoman  
washerman - Washwoman

Write the **masculine gender** of the feminine gender nouns. One has been done for you.

maid-servant - man-servant  
daughter-in-law - son-in-law  
mother-in-law - father-in-law

stepdaughter - stepson  
beggar-woman - beggar-man  
sister-in-law - brother-in-law

Complete the criss-cross puzzle with the help of the clues.



### Down

- masculine gender of actress
- masculine gender of priestess
- feminine gender of hunter
- masculine gender of hostess
- feminine gender of emperor
- feminine gender of god

### Across

- feminine gender of author
- feminine gender of poet
- wife or widow of a duke
- masculine gender of heiress
- masculine gender of mistress
- feminine gender of steward

Change the gender and rewrite the sentence. Make all necessary changes.

- The **waiter** was prompt with his service. The waitress was prompt with her service.
- The **mare** ran the fastest among all the horses. The stallion ran the fastest among all the horses.
- The **priestess** blessed the **bride**. The priest blessed the bridegroom.
- My **aunt** is waiting for her **niece**. My uncle is waiting for his nephew.
- The farmer has a **ram** and a **gander** on the farm. The farmer has a ewe and a goose on the farm.