

GENDER

Look at the pictures. Can you identify the gender of the nouns?



a king



a queen



a doctor

'King' is a male.

It belongs to the **masculine gender**.

'Queen' is a female.

It belongs to the **feminine gender**.

'Doctor' can be a male or female.

It belongs to the **common gender**.

Words expressing **males** are of the **masculine gender**.

Words expressing **females** are of the **feminine gender**.

Words expressing both **males** and **females** are of the **common gender**.

Examples:

(i) Masculine gender and feminine gender:

Masculine gender	Feminine gender
actor	actress
author	authoress
bachelor	spinster
boar	sow
boy	girl
brother	sister
brother-in-law	sister-in-law
bull	cow
dog	bitch
drake	duck
father	mother
father-in-law	mother-in-law
gentleman	lady
grandfather	grandmother
hero	heroine
husband	wife
king	queen
lion	lioness
man	woman
manager	manageress
master	mistress
nephew	niece
policeman	policewoman
prince	princess
rooster	hen
stepfather	stepmother

Masculine gender	Feminine gender
son	daughter
son-in-law	daughter-in-law
steward	stewardess
tiger	tigress
uncle	aunt
waiter	waitress
wizard	witch

(ii) Common gender :

baby
 bird
 children
 cleaner
 crocodile
 doctor
 driver
 elephant
 engineer
 hawker
 lawyer
 monkey
 parent
 pedestrian
 pupil
 scientist
 supervisor
 swimmer
 teacher
 zebra

EXERCISE 37

(A) The nouns in the following sentences are underlined. Write them in the correct columns.

1. That boy is a liar.
2. The teacher is my aunt.
3. The hero was cheered by the people.
4. The widow has to support four children.
5. The man who spoke to me just now is a doctor.
6. The lioness was bitten by a cobra.
7. The woman is scared of mice.
8. The manageress is talking to a salesman.
9. My cousin is helping the bride.
10. The sow gave birth to ten piglets.
11. The steward is serving the passengers.
12. My uncle is talking to the maid.
13. My grandfather was an outstanding athlete during his school days.
14. The robber tried to attack a policewoman.
15. The rude waitress was sacked by the supervisor.

Masculine gender	Feminine gender	Common gender
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____
8. _____	_____	_____
9. _____	_____	_____
10. _____	_____	_____
11. _____	_____	_____
12. _____	_____	_____
13. _____	_____	_____
14. _____	_____	_____
15. _____	_____	_____

(B) Rewrite the following sentences changing the words in bold from masculine to feminine.

1. That **man** is my **uncle**.

2. The **bridegroom** is Mr Grant's **nephew**.

3. My **father** is a **businessman**.

4. His **brother-in-law** wants to be an **actor**.

5. My **brother** became a **steward** last year.

6. Mr Owen's **son** is a famous artist.

7. The old **widower** became a beggar.

8. The **king** was angry with the **prince**.

9. The **tiger** has become a man-eater.

10. His **father-in-law** is the **manager** of the company.

11. The **wizard** was burnt to death.

12. The **bulls** are grazing in the field.

13. The **salesman** was rude to the customer.

14. That **man** is the principal's **husband**.

15. The **lion** was shot by a hunter.