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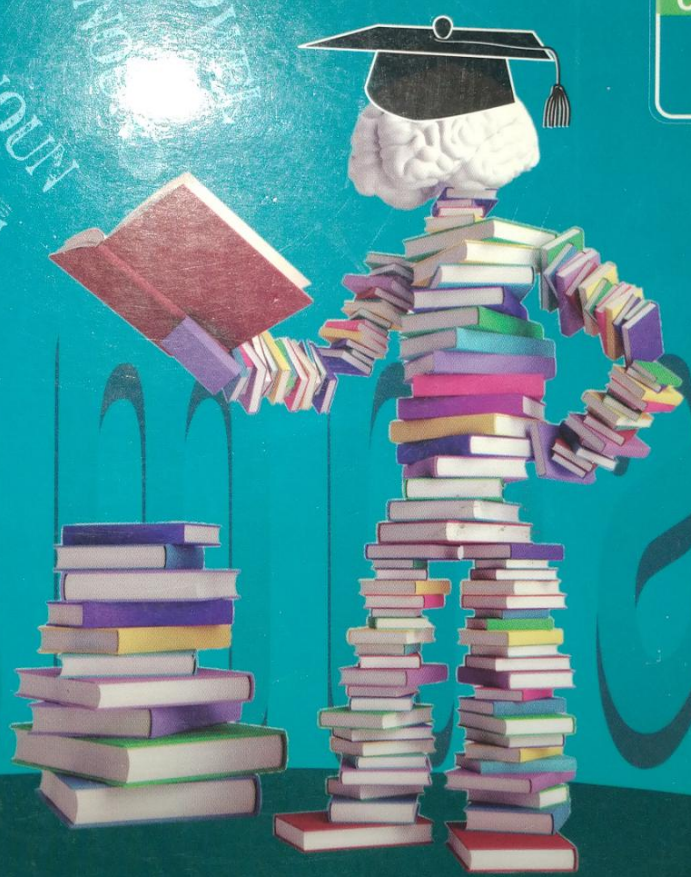
# Mastering

# G R A M M A R

A BOOK OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION

CLASS  
**6**

PRONOUN  
PREPOSITION  
CONSONANT  
ADJECTIVE  
ADVERB  
VERB



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# 1

## SENTENCES

When we communicate with each other, we express our thoughts and ideas through words which together make complete sense.

**A sentence is a group of words that makes complete sense. It contains a verb and a subject.**

- Examples :**
- (a) This is a new school.
  - (b) I like to play cricket.
  - (c) My aunt lives in Chennai.
  - (d) I have many friends.

### RULES OF SENTENCES

1. **Subject-verb agreement is a must, both in number and person.**  
**Examples :** (a) Sana is enjoying the picnic. (c) The students are enjoying the picnic.  
(b) I am enjoying the picnic. (d) They are enjoying the picnic.
2. **A plural verb is required when two or more singular nouns or pronouns are joined by a conjunction.**  
**Examples :** (a) Gauri and Deepak are in the same class. (b) Meena and I are good singers.
3. **A singular verb is used when two nouns, or adjectives, suggest one idea or refer to the same person or thing.**  
**Examples :** (a) Drawing and colouring is my hobby. (b) The red and green umbrella is not mine.
4. **A singular verb is required when two or more nouns are connected by either...or, neither...nor.**  
**Note :** When one noun is singular and one is plural, put the plural one next to the verb and use a plural verb.  
**Examples :** (a) Neither my mother nor my sister is at home.  
(b) Either you or your brothers have to clean the room.
5. **A singular verb must follow either, neither, each, everyone.**  
**Examples :** (a) Everyone has to sing. (b) Each one of the students is being trained.
6. **Even if they are joined by a conjunction, two nouns, qualified by 'each' or 'every' must have a singular verb.**  
**Example :** Each truck and each car is being searched.
7. **Some nouns which are singular in meaning but plural in form take a singular verb.**  
**Example :** This pair of slippers is new.
8. **Some nouns which are plural in meaning but singular in form take a plural verb.**  
**Example :** The children are playing in the garden.
9. **Singular verbs are required when the collection is thought of as a whole.**  
**Examples :** (a) The troupe is going to give a performance.  
(b) The audience was enthralled at their performance.
10. **A singular verb is required when the plural noun depicts some specific quantity or amount considered as a single whole unit.**  
**Example :** Three kilometres is a long distance.



## IMPERATIVE SENTENCES

Sentences that express a command, request, advice, order or suggestion are called imperative sentences.

**Examples :** (a) Please tell me what happened. (request)  
(b) Do your homework properly. (order)

Imperative sentences may be used :

- to express a command
- to make a request
- to give some advice

**Example :** Never lose your patience.

**C** Answer the following questions. Follow instructions given in brackets. One has been done for you.

1. May I come in?  
Yes, you may come in.
2. How do I complete this drawing? (Give a suggestion)
3. Doctor, how many antibiotic tablets should I take daily? (Give an advice)
4. When should I begin my homework? (Give a command)
5. What should I do during my vacation? (Give a suggestion, use the word 'should')

## INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES

A sentence that asks a question is called an interrogative sentence.

**Example :** What are you doing?

When declarative sentences are converted into interrogative sentences certain changes take place.

**Example :** I can go. (declarative)  
~~Can I go?~~ (interrogative)

The word order is changed in an interrogative sentence.

The auxiliary verb changes its position and comes before the subject forming : **Can I go?** (interrogative)

**Example :** He eats a banana everyday. (declarative)

Does he eat a banana everyday? (interrogative)

An interrogative sentence can be a **wh** question and begins with words like **when, why, who** or **how**.

An interrogative sentence can also be a question which can be answered with **yes** or **no**.

## INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES

Yes or No-question:

Are you tired?  
Is your flight cancelled?  
Do you want tea?

Wh-question :

Who came to pick you up?  
When are you leaving today?  
How do you go to office ?

**D. Make questions for the answers given below.**

1. My birthday is in June.
2. I work in Patna.
3. Yes, I completed my work.
4. My brother is better now.
5. This is my new pencil box.
6. Yes, I do have a pen.

**EXCLAMATORY SENTENCES**

Sentences that express strong feelings or emotions are called *exclamatory sentences*. They end with an exclamation mark.

- Examples :** (a) What a beautiful dress it is!  
(b) How melodiously she sings!

**FEATURES**

- An assertive sentence makes a statement.
- It ends with a full stop (.).
- An assertive sentence can be positive or negative.
- An imperative sentence ends with a full stop (.).
- Sentences that express a command, request, advice, order or suggestion are called *imperative sentences*.
- An imperative sentence ends with a full stop (.).
- It tells us to do something through request, command, order, advice or suggestion.
- An exclamatory sentence ends with an exclamation mark (!).
- It usually begins with 'what' or 'how'.
- It expresses feelings.

**E. Rewrite the sentences given below as exclamatory sentences using 'how' or 'what'.**

1. Yuvraj is a great fielder.
2. Sunidhi sings very well.
3. You are a great dancer.
4. Shahrukh is a popular actor.
5. You are wearing a gorgeous saree.



**VALUE CORNER**

An exclamatory sentence expresses feelings. Your classmate and you participate in a dance competition. Your friend dances better than you. Will you appreciate him/her? Why/Why not?

**PARTS OF A SENTENCE**

A sentence has two parts—*subject* and *predicate*.

**Examples :** (a) My mother loves tea.  
subject predicate

(c) The baby is sleeping.  
subject predicate

(b) The people in the room were enjoying the music.  
subject predicate

(d) All the children are ready for the trip.  
subject predicate

**Subject**

A *subject* is that part of a sentence that names the person or thing about whom something is said.



The subjects in the sentences mentioned earlier (previous page) are as follows.

- Examples :** (a) My mother (c) The baby  
 (b) The people in the room (d) All the children

**Predicate**

**A predicate is a word or a group of words that tells us something about the subject.**

The predicates in the sentences mentioned earlier (previous page) are as follows.

- Examples:** (a) loves tea (c) is sleeping  
 (b) were enjoying the music (d) are ready for the trip

**FEATURES**

- The subject is usually placed before the predicate but sometimes the order is changed. The subject remains the same in spite of change in its position.  
**Examples :** (a) The letter came after a few days. (b) After a few days came the letter.  
subject predicate predicate subject
- In imperative sentences, the subject is always you. It is not mentioned but implied.  
**Examples :** (a) Go there. (It means 'You go there.')
- (b) Have the medicine regularly. (It means 'You have the medicine regularly.')
- Again, in questions and exclamatory sentences, we find out 'what' or 'who' the sentence is about and identify the subject.  
**Examples :** (a) Have you been to the market? The subject is 'you'.  
 (b) The subject is 'you'.
- Every predicate has at least one verb.
- The verb changes according to the number of subjects.  
**Examples :** (a) The dog is barking. (Singular verb)  
 (b) The dogs are barking. (Plural verb)
- The predicate may contain an object, a complement or an adverb.

S.No.	Subject	Predicate			
		Verb	Complement	Object	Adverb
1.	My mother	sings			well
2.	He	caught		the ball	
3.	They	are	singers		

**F. Identify the subject and the predicate. Circle the subject and underline the predicate. The first one has been done for you.**

1. John is going to the market.
2. He managed to reach home on time.
3. The king offered his advice to the farmer.
4. Rose was a princess who slept for a hundred years.
5. The lion wanted to eat the rabbit.
6. At one corner of the hall stood Ramnu.



## PHRASES AND CLAUSES

### Phrases

**A phrase is a group of words that makes sense but not complete sense since it does not have a subject and a verb.**

**Examples :** across the road  
in the garden  
at the village

in the market  
pros and cons  
in spite of

of great importance  
in front of  
on the chair

A phrase usually forms a part of a sentence but does not convey complete sense. The above examples do not have a **subject** or a **verb**.

### Clauses

**A clause is a group of words with a subject and a verb and is usually a part of a sentence. It may or may not make complete sense.**

**Example :** The boy is going to the market.  
clause

'The boy is going' - is a clause since it has a subject 'the boy' and a predicate 'is going'.

### FEATURES

- A **phrase** does not convey complete sense.
- It does not have a subject and a verb.
- A **clause** has a subject and a verb.
- It may or may not make complete sense.
- It is usually a part of a sentence.

### G Tick (✓) the correct option.

1. She left the house **at noon**. (phrase /clause)
2. Mary **embroidered a handkerchief** for her mother. (phrase /clause)
3. The army fought **with great courage**. (phrase /clause)
4. In spite of ill-health she **attended the party**. (phrase /clause)
5. **The child was excited** to see the peacock dancing. (phrase /clause)
6. **A bouquet of roses** was presented to the chief guest. (phrase /clause)

**H Match the groups of words given in column A with those in column B. You will also find it interesting to combine one group of words in column A with different groups of words in column B to form meaningful sentences.**

#### Column A

1. She found
2. Apart from chocolates
3. Neha had seen
4. When Neha is hungry
5. The old man
6. The young boy, carrying a bat,

#### Column B

- she likes to eat cookies.  
a black puppy in the deserted street.  
she loves to eat doughnuts.  
a small bag in the park.  
ran across the playground.  
walked down the street.



# 2

## NOUNS

A **noun** is a **naming word** that is used to name **living beings, places, things, ideas and feelings**.

**Examples :** (a) **John** is a clever **boy**.

(b) His **honesty** impresses everybody.

In the given sentences, 'John', 'boy', 'honesty' are nouns.

Words like 'man', 'lady', 'Shruti', 'Lucknow', 'post office', 'wood', 'air force', 'sorrow' are also nouns.

### FEATURES

- A noun is the name of a person, place, animal or thing.
- It also names an idea or feeling.

### A. Identify the naming words :

1. Henry is a prince of Great Britain.
2. John swims better than Smith.
3. Mary Kom is a boxer.
4. Physics is my favourite subject.
5. Shanu planted a seed.

### KINDS OF NOUNS



COMMON NOUNS

PROPER NOUNS

COLLECTIVE NOUNS

MATERIAL NOUNS

ABSTRACT NOUNS

### COMMON NOUNS

- (i) Nouns that name persons, places or objects of the same kind are **common nouns**.
- (ii) A common noun is a word that does not refer to any particular person, place or thing. It gives a common name to a person, place, animal or thing of the same class or kind.

**Examples :** Words like book, pen, pencil, boy, river, mountain, town, village are common nouns.

### PROPER NOUNS

Nouns that name particular places, persons or objects are called **proper nouns**.

**Proper nouns are words which name specific people, things, places or organisations.**

Sometimes we give names to pets also (Kitty, Tommy).

**Examples :** Sachin Tendulkar, Mumbai, India, The Times of India, Park Street, Goa

### FEATURES

- Common nouns are not capitalised.
- Proper nouns begin with capital letters.



**B. Circle the proper nouns and underline the common nouns :**

1. Rajiv and Priyanka are brother and sister.
2. The capital of Nepal is Kathmandu.
3. 'Othello' was written by William Shakespeare.
4. Teachers and students worked together for the exhibition.
5. The poem 'Ode to Autumn' was written by John Keats.
6. 'Happy Feet' is an entertaining movie.
7. Mother washes Ritu's clothes in the washing machine.



**COLLECTIVE NOUNS**

Nouns that name a group or a class of similar things or persons taken together and spoken of as one whole are called *collective nouns*.

**Examples :** army, herd, fleet, bunch, pack

**FEATURES**

- Collective nouns are treated as single units.
- They are naming words used for many animals, things, persons and places taken together as units, e.g., flock of sheep, a suite of rooms.
- They can be used as common nouns.

Some more examples of collective nouns are—a fleet of ships, a bunch of keys, a pack of dogs and an army of soldiers.

**Here are more examples of collective nouns :**

1. a pack of cards/dogs/wolves
2. a suite of rooms
3. a team of players
4. a school of fish
5. a swarm of bees
6. a crew of sailors
7. a bunch or bouquet of flowers
8. a mob of people
9. a flock of birds/sheep
10. a bunch of bananas/grapes/flowers
11. a herd of cattle/deer
12. a litter of puppies
13. a cabinet of ministers
14. a clump of trees
15. a cluster of huts
16. a squadron of aeroplanes
17. a shoal of fish
18. a library of books

**C. Match the words in column A with appropriate words in column B.**

- A**
1. a fleet of
  2. an orchard
  3. a crowd
  4. an army
  5. a library
  6. a suite

- B**
- |             |          |                |           |          |             |
|-------------|----------|----------------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| of soldiers | of books | of fruit trees | of people | of rooms | luxury cars |
|-------------|----------|----------------|-----------|----------|-------------|

**MATERIAL NOUNS**

Nouns that name materials or substances that we see and touch or are ingredients for making things are called *material nouns*.

**Examples :** gold, steel, coal, copper, iron, wood, clay, cement

**FEATURES**

- Material nouns are used in the singular form.
- Examples :**
  - (a) The window is made of **glass**. (material noun)
  - (b) Bring a **glass** of water. (common noun)
- No article is used before them.

A material noun becomes a common noun when there is an article before it or if the noun is in the plural form.

### ABSTRACT NOUNS

**Nouns that name ideas or concepts, quality, feeling, some state or a thing which cannot be touched or seen are called abstract nouns.**

**Examples :** sweetness, honesty, bravery, heat, love, anger, height  
 One can see an angry person or think of honesty but can neither touch nor see anger or honesty.

### VALUE CORNER

When we add 'y' to the word 'brave', it becomes an abstract noun 'bravery'.  
 What is bravery in your opinion — to beat someone or to save someone?

### FEATURE

- Abstract nouns are names of things that cannot be touched or seen.

**D. Fill in the blanks with words given in the box and tick (✓) the correct kinds of nouns.**

fun	anxiety	team	gold
pack	honesty	library	gang

1. We had lots of ..... at the birthday party. (common, proper, abstract)
2. The cricket ..... received a warm welcome. (common, collective, proper)
3. The deer was followed by a ..... of wolves. (collective, proper, common)
4. The ..... of the woodcutter impressed the fairy. (common, abstract, collective)
5. The ..... of his result did not let Ram sleep that night. (common, collective, abstract)
6. Police managed to arrest a ..... of robbers. (abstract, collective, common)
7. All that I want is a ..... of books. (collective, abstract, common)
8. The king used to have food in plates of .....

### FORMATION OF ABSTRACT NOUNS

**Abstract nouns can be formed by adding syllables like-ry, -ness, -ship and so on at the end of the original words.**

<b>Examples :</b>	brave	+	ry	=	bravery	heal	+	th	=	health
	lonely	+	ness	=	loneliness	great	+	ness	=	greatness
	friend	+	ship	=	friendship	equal	+	ity	=	equality

### From Common Nouns

**Examples :** student — study, enemy — enmity, servant — service, festival — festivity

### From Adjectives

**Examples :** kind — kindness, able — ability, confident — confidence, generous — generosity

### From Verbs

**Examples :** grow — growth, punish — punishment, learn — learning, invent — invention

**E. Fill in the blanks with abstract nouns made from the words given in brackets.**

1. We were attracted by the ..... of the mountains. (beautiful)
2. Ram extended a hand of ..... (friend) towards his new classmate.
3. Jane received ..... (punish) for not finishing her homework.
4. Modern ..... (invent) have made life easy.





5. Our ..... (happy) knew no bounds when India won the match.
6. All ..... (bitter) was lost between the two neighbours.
7. His ..... (absent) at the school party made his friends sad.
8. Geeta's ..... (shy) held her back from participating in the debate.

### COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

Nouns are also classified as countable and uncountable nouns.

Nouns which can be counted are called **countable nouns**. Common nouns are usually countable.

- Nouns which can be counted are called **countable nouns**. Common nouns are usually countable.

**Examples :**

books, boys, bottles, houses, museums, parks, sacks, piles

- Nouns which cannot be counted are called **uncountable nouns**. Material nouns are uncountable nouns.

**Examples :**

sugar, salt, liquid, gold, iron

### FEATURES

Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
'A', 'an' and 'one' are used with singular nouns. <b>Examples :</b> a pen, an apple, a peacock, an axe, a clock, an eagle	'A', 'an' or 'one' are not used with uncountable nouns. <b>Examples :</b> much water, a little sugar
Qualified by 'many', 'a few' and numbers <b>Examples :</b> two pencils, a few students, many pens	Qualified by 'much' and 'a little' <b>Examples :</b> much water, a little sugar

### F Tick (✓) the correct words to complete the sentences.

1. (A few, A little, Much) people attended the function.
2. She brought (many, a little, much) books and distributed them among the children.
3. After (a few, many, a little, much) hard work India has won the cricket match.
4. (A few, many, A little, much) sugar should be added to the cake.
5. Just (a few, many, a little, much) effort is needed to get good grades in class.
6. Too (a few, many, a little, much) cooks spoil the broth.
7. The charity event was organised by (many, a little, much) eminent personalities.
8. The play was appreciated by (many, a little, much) people.

• **Common nouns** name persons, places or objects of the same kind, like: pen, pencil.

• **Proper nouns** name any specific people, things, places or organisations, like : Bengaluru (a city), The Statesman (a newspaper).

• **Collective nouns** name a group or a class of similar things or persons taken together and spoken of as one whole, like: crowd, group, flock.

• **Abstract nouns** name ideas or concepts, quality, feeling, some state or a thing which cannot be touched or seen, like: hatred, kingdom. (Syllables like - ry, -ness, -ship are added at the end of original words to form abstract nouns).

• **Countable nouns** are nouns that can be counted, like: an apple, an axe, qualified by 'many', 'a few' and numbers. **Uncountable nouns** are nouns that cannot be counted, like: salt, water, qualified by 'much' and 'a little'. Material nouns are uncountable nouns. (gold, cotton).

# 3

## NOUNS – GENDER

### GENDER

**Gender is the quality of a noun or a pronoun that classifies it into masculine, feminine, common or neuter gender.**

**Example :** My brother Dushyant and Mrs Adlakha's daughter Kanupriya are friends.  
They went to the same school.

**Note :** In the above sentences :

- The word *brother* tells us that the person being spoken of is a man.
- The word *daughter* tells us that the person being spoken of is a woman.
- *Friends* tells us that the persons being spoken of can either be female or male.
- *School* tells us that the noun is an inanimate thing and is neither a female nor a male.

Thus, just by looking at these words we know whether—

- the person is a female or a male
- it is a class name that can refer to both male and female persons
- it is a non-living thing or a living thing

### NOUNS HAVE FOUR GENDERS

**A noun that denotes a male person or animal is said to be of the masculine gender.**

**Examples :** man, boy, uncle, son, brother, king, lion, cock

**A noun that denotes a female person or animal is said to be of the feminine gender.**

**Examples :** woman, girl, queen, aunt, hen

**A noun that denotes a thing without life, that is neither male nor female, is said to be in the neuter gender.**

**Examples :** car, chair, table, bat, ball, desk

**A noun that denotes either a male or a female is said to be of the common gender.**

**Example :** student, child, friend, pupil, parent, teacher

### FORMATION OF FEMININE NOUNS

Feminine gender can be formed in different ways :

(i) **by adding – ess to the masculine form :**

Masculine + ess = Feminine



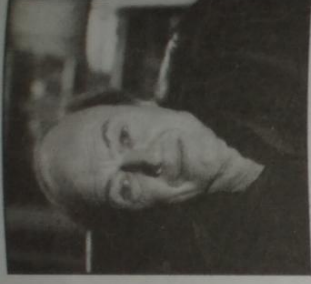
Examples :

Masculine	Feminine
lion	lioness
priest	priestess
author	authoress
shepherd	shepherdess
heir	heiress
host	hostess

Note : Sometimes the spellings of the words are changed before adding the **ess**.

Masculine	Feminine
hunter	huntress
emperor	empress
duke	duchess
waiter	waitress

Roald Dahl



JK Rowling



Masculine	Feminine
governor	governess
tiger	tigress
actor	actress
poet	poetess
god	goddess

**A.** Change the following from *masculine gender to feminine gender*.

- tiger
- duke
- waiter
- god
- lion

(ii) by using a completely different word :

Masculine	Feminine
father	mother
horse	mare
stag	hind
brother	sister
cock	hen
nephew	niece
fox	vixen
lord	lady
monk	nun
man	woman
gentleman	lady

**B.** Give the *feminine gender of these nouns*.

- governor
- prince
- cock
- gander
- lord
- tiger
- actor
- duke
- monk

(iii) by adding another word to the *feminine noun to make a compound word* :

Examples :

grand + father = grandfather — masculine  
 grand + mother = grandmother — feminine

Masculine	Feminine
uncle	aunt
husband	wife
dog	bitch
bull	cow
groom	bride
sir	madam
king	queen
gander	goose
colt	filly
earl	countess
ram	ewe

(iv)

D.

(v)

- sir
- colt
- earl
- master
- stag
- fox

Masculine	Feminine
washerman	washerwoman
stepson	stepdaughter
he-goat	she-goat
landlord	landlady
milkman	milkmaid
man-servant	maid-servant
peacock	peahen
stepfather	stepmother
granduncle	grandaunt
he-bear	she-bear



**C.** Change the gender of the nouns in bold to their opposite gender and rewrite these sentences.

- The prime minister received the **queen** at the airport.
- That **woman** is my **uncle's** aunt.
- The landlord asked the **washerman** to wash the clothes.
- “My **hostess** was a kind **shepherdess**,” said the **duchess**.
- The **actor** is a good dancer and singer too.
- My nephew has bought a **mare**.
- The princess had never seen a white **peahen**.
- The **heroine** went to London to meet the **queen**.
- Ria owns a **colt** and a **cow**.
- My **mother** is the only **woman** in the neighbourhood who can write Urdu.

**(iv)** Here are some more words that have an entirely different form for their feminine genders.

Masculine	Feminine
hero	heroine
widower	widow
lad	lass
king	queen
bridegroom	bride

**VALUE CORNER**

Some children copy the actions of their favourite hero and heroine. Is it good to copy dangerous acts done by the hero and heroine? Why/Why not?

**D.** Rewrite the following sentences using the right word.

- Her (grandfather, grandmother) took out his shawl from the cupboard.
- (Father, Mother) lost his bag in the train.
- The (man, woman) felt the loss of her dear husband.
- The (girl, boy) saved her brother from falling down.
- His (daughter-in-law, son-in-law) was wearing a beautiful sari.

**(v)** Common and Neuter Gender

**Common gender refers to either a male or a female.**

Words denoting common gender are —



anchor  
announcer  
parent  
tutor  
ward

baby  
child  
person  
worker  
reporter

footballer  
companion  
student  
cousin  
sportsperson

friend  
composer  
orphan  
volunteer  
pupil

We often refer to a pet animal and a domestic animal like a cat or a dog as 'he' or 'she'.

- Words like actress, poetess, authoress are not used these days. We use words like actor, poet, author, common gender.

**Neuter gender refers to non-living things that are neither male nor female.**

**Examples :** brake, chair, desk, egg, quilt, taxi, school, umbrella, kite, hen, ink

## FEATURES

Collective nouns such as army, flock, crew denote collections of living beings.

**Note :** A class is a collection of students and students are living beings. Army is a collection of soldiers and soldiers are living beings, too. But collective nouns are classified as neuter gender.

**Examples :** class, army, battalion, choir, orchestra

**E.** Tick  the words which indicate neuter gender and circle those in common gender.

1. poetess    3. heroine    5. earl    7. baby    9. hospital    11. footballer
2. goose    4. orphan    6. friend    8. reporter    10. pillow    12. pencil

**F.** Read the following sentences and state whether the words printed in bold are of feminine, masculine, neuter or common gender.

1. The **battalion** was given orders to attack the enemy.
2. The **taxi** was at the gate on time.
3. The **widower** felt lonely in the big house.
4. The little boy looked after the **gander** well.
5. The hunter saw a **filly** and was thrilled.
6. The **priestess** offered special prayers for the flood victims.
7. The **tutor** was very strict.
8. My **companion** was a knowledgeable person.

## REMEMBER

A noun that denotes a male person or an animal is said to be the **masculine gender**, for example, lion, cock, king. Similarly, a noun that denotes a female person or an animal is said to be in the feminine gender, for example, lady, hen, queen.

**Common gender** denotes either a male or a female, for example, news reporter, footballer, composer. **Neuter gender** denotes non-living things that are neither male nor female, for example: eraser, copy. A notable feature of this gender is that, at times, collective nouns are classified as neuter gender, for example: a class is a collection of students and students are living beings, army is a collection of soldiers and soldiers are living beings too.