

## 5 GENDER

1. The masculine gender refers to boys, men and male animals.

**Examples:**

actor	father	emperor	peacock
brother	gander	prince	waiter

2. The feminine gender refers to girls, women and female animals.

**Examples:**

aunt	heiress	princess	tigress
cow	landlady	queen	woman

3. The neuter gender refers to inanimate things which can be male or female.

**Examples:**

book	mountain	pencil	star
chair	paper	school	table

4. The common gender refers to animals or people which can be male or female.

**Examples:**

barber	doctor	leader	relative
child	friend	member	student



## 6 ARTICLES

1. **A** and **an** are used for singular countable nouns.

2. We use **a** for words beginning with a consonant sound (**b, c, d, f, g...**) or a vowel that sounds like a consonant.

**Examples:**

a captain	a ship	a university	a user
a hornbill	a torch	a uniform	a unicorn

3. We use **an** for words starting with a vowel (**a, e, i, o, u**) or a silent **h** sound.

**Examples:**

an apron	an iron	an umbrella	an heir
an egg	an oyster	an hour	an honour

4. The definite article **the** is used for singular and plural nouns.

5. We use **the** to:

- refer to a particular person or thing

**Examples:**

- (a) That was **the** car which was involved in an accident.
- (b) Where is **the** brown bag?

- refer to someone or something a second time

**Examples:**

- (a) Geetha swept the floor. **The** floor is dusty.
- (b) Yesterday, she bought a bag. **The** bag is made of crocodile skin.

- refer to something which is the only one of its kind

**Examples:**

- (a) **The** moon rotates round **the** earth.
- (b) **The** stars are twinkling in **the** night sky.

- refer to names of rivers, seas, oceans, mountain ranges, deserts, certain countries

**Examples:**

- (a) The ship sank in **the** Atlantic Ocean.
- (b) **The** Amazon river is in South America.

6. No articles are needed before:

- names of states, towns and most countries (unless used as adjectives)

**Examples:**

- (a) She lives in Johor Bahru.
- (b) The singer is holding a concert in France.

- names of meals (unless referring to a particular meal)

**Examples:**

- (a) I had some cereal for breakfast this morning.
- (b) What will you have for tea?

- names of games (unless used as adjectives) and illnesses

**Examples:**

- (a) Do you like to play online games?
- (c) My father is recovering from chicken pox.
- (b) The girls are playing netball.
- (d) She had measles when she was ten.



## 7 ADJECTIVES

1. Adjectives are words that describe nouns. They are usually placed before nouns.

**Examples:**

tall man	dirty carpet	huge whale	round table
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2. Adjectives can also be placed after verbs.

**Examples:**

- (a) The witch is **ugly**.
- (c) The weather is **cold** today.
- (b) The pillow is **hard**.
- (d) The boy looks **pale**.

3. Adjectives tell us about the colour, shape, size or condition of nouns.

Colour	a <b>red</b> rose a <b>brown</b> stool a <b>grey</b> scarf	Size	a <b>tall</b> building a <b>huge</b> rock a <b>small</b> jar
Shape	a <b>round</b> clock a <b>square</b> box an <b>oval</b> mirror	Condition	a <b>dirty</b> window a <b>smooth</b> surface a <b>broken</b> vase

## 8 ADJECTIVES OF COMPARISON

- There are three degrees of comparison of adjectives: the positive, the comparative and the superlative form.
- We use the positive form to compare two people or objects that have the same quality. It takes the form of **as + adjective + as**.

**Examples:**

(a) This garden is **as big as** that garden. (b) Encik Hamid is **as tall as** Mr Leong.

- We use the comparative form to compare two things of different qualities. It is formed by using **adjective + -er + than** or **more + adjective + than**.
- We form the comparative degree by:

- adding **-er** to one-syllable adjectives

**Examples:**

bright – brighter      clean – cleaner      small – smaller      warm – warmer  
cheap – cheaper      near – nearer      quick – quickest      wise – wiser

- adding **more** to adjectives of more than three syllables

**Examples:**

more admirable      more energetic      more delicious      more reasonable  
more embarrassed      more exciting      more generous      more talkative

- We use the superlative form to compare three or more things that have different qualities. It is formed by using **the + adjective + -est** or **the + most + adjective**.

- We form the superlative degree by:

- adding **-est** to one-syllable adjectives

**Examples:**

broad – broadest      large – largest      strange – strangest      wet – wettest  
kind – kindest      poor – poorest      smart – smartest      wise – wisest

- adding **most** to adjectives of more than three syllables

**Examples:**

most attractive      most beautiful      most colourful      most difficult  
most fortunate      most irritating      most luxurious      most memorable

- Some comparative and superlative adjectives are irregular. They have different forms.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
bad	worse	worst
far (place, time)	further	furthest
far (place)	farther	farthest
good	better	best
little (amount)	less	least
many/much	more	most
old (people)	elder	eldest
old (people, things)	older	oldest

## 9 PRONOUNS

- Pronouns are used to replace the names of people, animals or things. They can be used as subject or object pronouns.

Singular/Plural form	Subject pronoun	Object pronoun
First person singular	I	me
Second person singular	You	you
Third person singular	He She It	him her it
First person plural Second person plural Third person plural	We You They	us you them

- We use **I, you, he, she, it, we** and **they** as the subject pronouns.

**Examples:**

(a) **She** hangs the picture on the wall. (c) **They** are watching a tennis match.  
(b) **He** is a music producer. (d) **We** were tired after the one-hour trek.