



## The Question of the Category of Noun Gender

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**Abstract:** This article deals with questions about the category of gender and the distribution of nouns by gender, as well as the means of expressing the meanings of gender in the Russian language.

**Keywords:** common gender, word form, inflection, abbreviation, indeclinable nouns, suffix, proper name, lexeme, inclination, phrase.

The category of noun gender is recognized in modern science as obligatory, and in most works - as the central grammatical category, but remains, however, not received an unambiguous, complete, consistent and consistent solution. In linguistics, there is no unified view on the forms of expression of the gender of nouns, on the facts of variation of the forms of the gender of nouns, on the facts of the coincidence and non-coincidence of the forms of the gender in different languages, the most important question of the content of the gender has not been resolved. We consider it relevant to investigate the following questions: about the forms of expression of the category of gender in Russian and in other languages that have this category; about the nature of generic variation of nouns; on the identification and qualification of generic meaning, since the lack of information on these issues hinders the development of knowledge that makes up the theory of noun gender. The category of gender determines the most important structural and semantic features of combinations of a noun with adjectives and verbs that agree with it. It is organically connected with the declension system of all nouns in the singular (except for the names of males in -a and words of the middle gender in the form of oblique cases). So, inflection - y is always an indicator of the masculine gender in the genitive case of the singular (sugar, kvass, compote, etc.). Gender - belonging to the whole lexeme, not a separate word form. In all possible singular forms, a noun belongs to the same gender. The noun hand in all its forms is feminine, body is neuter, nose is masculine.[1]

The gender category of nouns is classifying. This means that nouns do not change by gender, but are distributed, classified. In modern school grammar, gender refers to the constant features of a noun. [2]

The category of gender is defined as a category with an erased meaning, usually its grammatical content is seen in the ability of nouns to combine with the forms of agreed words defined for each generic variety, nevertheless, the category of gender occupies an important place in the morphological structure of a noun.

All nouns, with the exception of those that are used only in the plural (pluralia tantum), fall into three formal classes, known as grammatical genders: masculine, feminine, neuter. These classes are designated and expressed in the form of the nominative (im. p.), in a number of special case endings for each of them, and in the forms of suffixal derivation. All singular nouns are classified by gender (table, window, wall).



The gender category in the singular has both changeable and unchangeable words: a) ox, stream, maple - m.r.; cow, wall, winter R.; summer, window, animal - cf. R.; b) Hindi, maestro, penalty kick - m.r.; madam, avenue, MTS - w. R.; highway, rally, APN (Novosti Press Agency) - cf. In the plural, nouns do not have the category of gender. Therefore, words that are used only in the plural (sleigh, glasses, trousers) do not belong to any gender. [1]

Traditionally, it was believed that the lexemes scissors, gates, cream, having only plural forms. numbers in which masculine, feminine, and neuter words are not differentiated (cf.: officers, countries, cities, windows) are outside the category of gender. Now there is another point of view, expressed, in particular, by I.G. Miloslavsky (See: I.G. Miloslavsky Morphological categories of the modern Russian language. - M.: Prosveshchenie, 1981. P. 47): if we consider gender as a morphological category that has the status of obligatory, then such words should be attributed to a paired gender, since most of these nouns are paired: trousers, scissors, collars, etc. Words like cream, ink are rather conventionally paired (just like the conventional names “masculine, feminine and neuter” in relation to inanimate nouns).

The gender category has different content in inanimate and animate nouns. In inanimate nouns, it appears as a purely grammatical phenomenon. The gender meaning here is unmotivated. The words city, village, Leningrad are masculine because in Russian all inanimate nouns ending in a solid consonant (with the exception of hissing ones) or iot have in them. case zero ending, and in the genus. case ending -a(-я), refer to the masculine gender. The nouns capital, village, Moscow are feminine, because in them. pad. units numbers end in -a, in genus. case and (s), etc. The noun is a village of the middle gender, since in them. pad. units number has an ending -o, in the genus. case - a, etc. The category of gender in animate nouns is lexico-grammatical. Here it is also found in the formal properties of words, but the very belonging of a word to one or another gender is determined by its lexical semantics. Words with the meaning of a male person and the names of male animals are masculine, and the names of female persons and the names of female animals are feminine. Cf.: father - mother, cow - bull. The grammatical meaning of the gender in such cases is organically merged with the lexical meaning. Means of expressing gender meanings in Russian.

To express generic meanings, means of various levels are used: morphological, lexical, derivational, syntactic. Since the category of gender is a morphological category, the main means of expressing gender differences are, in fact, morphological means - endings. Each gender has its own system of endings. Compare: nose(), nose, nose, nose(), nose, (about) nose (m.); head, head, head, head, head, (o) head (female); ear, ear, ear, ear, ear, (about) ear (cf. p). However, there are exceptions. So, the ending -a in them. - pad. units numbers have words not only of the feminine gender, but also of some categories of masculine nouns (voivode, young man; braggart, rascal, etc.), words of the general gender (sloppy, sloppy, etc.); the ending o, typical for neuter words, also has masculine nouns (umishko, bread, golosishko, etc.). The gender category is lexically expressed in some names of people and animals: father - mother, brother - sister, bull - cow, etc. [1]

Indicators of the genus can be additional to inflectional indicators, so acting as the main ones. Together with inflection, the suffixes -tel-, -nik-, -chik- (-schik-), -un-, -ik-, etc. express the meaning of the masculine gender. nits-, -k (a), -) (a), -ost, sh (a) (teacher, student, runner meaning of the middle gender suffixes - nij-, -ti-, -stv- (building, taking, perseverance and Only a word-formation criterion makes it possible to determine the meaning of the gender of nouns such as house, hare, nightingale: formations with such suffixes preserve the gender of the generating word.[3]

Word-forming means are also used only in the names of people and animals: teacher - teacher, Komsomol member - Komsomol member, elephant - elephant, lion - lioness, etc. Syntactic means (forms of agreement) are most often used along with morphological means (endings): big house ,



big school, big room; my table, my hat, my pen; the maple grew, the birch grew, the tree grew. With invariable words, the endings of the words that agree with them act as the only indicators of the gender: a beautiful muffler, an expensive coat, the maestro got up, the kangaroo jumped, our Betsy, delicious coffee, sunny Tbilisi, etc. Only with the help of the agreement forms is the gender expressed in nouns like (small) house, (tall) young man, (such) braggart, slob (cf. : such a slob and such a slob).

Syntactic means are the most universal, they are used both independently (new coat) and together with morphological (interesting book) semantic (beautiful lady) criteria. [5]

Declinable nouns are distributed by gender, taking into account their morphological features. Only individual words and groups of words belong to one or another genus by meaning.

TO the masculine gender ARE;

a) according to morphological features: 1) all nouns with a stem on a solid consonant (except for w, w) and on -/, having a zero

ending in them. pad. units numbers: frost, table, pate, oak, cupboard, tea,

nightingale, museum, glue, etc.; 2) all nouns with stems on w, w

and a soft consonant ending in -a(-я) in genus. pad. units numbers

luggage, landscape, reeds, winnings, horse, stump, day > reader, etc. ;

b) by meaning: 1) words with the ending -a(-я) in them. pad. units|numbers,

denoting males: servant, young man, Dima, etc.; 2) words with magnifying suffixes -in (a), -ishch (e), formed on the basis of masculine nouns: domina, house (cf. house), tomishche (cf. volume), shoe (cf. boot), etc. ; [1]

в The gender meaning of nouns with subjective assessment suffixes -in-, -ish-, -ishk- is determined regardless of the ending by the motivating word (kupchina - by the word merchant - masculine, house - by the word house - masculine, old man - by the word old man - masculine). For nouns like ax handle, conflagration in the meaning of "large" gender is determined by the motivating word (ax, fire - masculine), and in the meaning of "axe handle" (ax handle), "place of fire" (fire) - by inflection -e (middle genus).

3) nouns with pejorative and diminutive suffixes -ishk(o), -ushk(o), -ishk(a), formed on the basis of masculine words: house (cf. house), bread (cf. bread), liar (cf. . liar), etc.; 4) the word apprentice', 5) the word path.

According to morphological features, the feminine gender includes: 1) nouns with the ending -a(-я) in them. pad. units numbers: road, brigade, sister, fable, etc. (with the exception of words denoting masculine persons: servant, young man, etc.; words with magnifying

suffix -in(a), inconsistent nouns into -mya and

words child) ', 2) nouns with a stem in a soft consonant (except for the word way) and in w, w, ending in -i in gender. pad. units numbers:

chill, branch, coarse calico, overcoat, rye, ink, etc.

The neuter gender includes: 1) nouns with the ending -o(-e) in them. pad. units numbers: glass, linen, field, etc. not here

includes: a) masculine nouns with suffixes -ishk(o),

ear(o), -sear(e); b) masculine noun apprentice;



2) inconsistent nouns in -mya: time, name, tribe, seed, udder, crown, burden, banner, stirrup, flame; 3) the word child. [1]

Thus, we consider the most important conclusion to be an indication of the unique ability of the genus to participate in the selection and limitation of properties and to represent the totality of selected properties as a thing, as an object that is qualitatively different from another thing, another object. That is why we call the generic meaning objective, that is why the genus is a classification category. The value of the biological sex is neither a mandatory nor the main property in the classification of nouns by gender.

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