

HW Oct 16, Cognates, some rules for female nouns (starting with “die”)

1. What are cognates?

2. Explain why there are German-English cognates and why we care about them.

3. Below are 6 rules that can help you identify German female nouns. Go to an online dictionary (see Deutsche Schule Website/Resources for some dictionaries) and translate the nouns below into English. Then, determine the number of the rule that tells you that makes the (German) noun female, that is, why it gets the article “die” in front of it.

Female nouns that require “die” are:

(1) **all** nouns that refer to females

(2) **all** numbers

(3) **many** nouns ending in **-e**, but not all

(4) **many** nouns ending in **-a** (often with latin roots), but not all

(5) **all** nouns ending in **-in** for female professions or occupations

(6) **all** nouns ending in **-ei, -heit, -keit, -ie, -ik, -nz, -schaft, -ion, -tät, -ung, -ur**

Example: die Mutter (1) – the mother

die Oma () -

die Tante () -

die Hunderttausend () -

die Milliarde () -

die Kanne () -

die Supernova () -

die Kellnerin () -

die Dunkelheit () -

die Heiterkeit () -

die Traurigkeit () -

die Diva () -

die Frequenz () -

die Landschaft () -

die Nation () -

die Universität () -

die Verabredung () -

die Natur () -

die Prozedur () -

die Meisterschaft () -

die Ballerina () -

die Kante () -

die Schweinerei () -

die Präsidentin () -

die Helligkeit () -

die Fotografie () -

die Kritik () -

die Konferenz () -

die Wissenschaft () -

die Position () -

die Gravitation () -

die Kreuzung () -

die Note () -

BUT(male!): der Bote -

die Tochter () -

4. Turn the following guys who do something into gals who do something (Hint: look at rule #5). Translate the guys and gals into English.

Example:

der Maler – the male painter, the painter (m)

die Malerin – the female painter, the painter (f)

der Fahrer -

der Meister -

der Tourist -

der Kanzler -

der Polizist -

der Käufer -

der Bäcker -

der Läufer -