

Lesson Oct 2, homework due Oct9: Some rules for male nouns (starting with “der”)

Last Sunday in class, we started looking at articles (gender) of German nouns. Knowing the gender of nouns is absolutely essential for getting German grammar right. Male nouns have the article “der” (the) in front of them, female nouns have “die” (the), and neuter nouns have a “das” (the). One of the big hassles in German is that one must learn the gender and the articles by heart, for the most part. However, there are some rules that one can apply to determine the gender, and therefore, the required article in front of a noun:

Male nouns that require “der” are:

- (1) **all** nouns that refer to males
- (2) *many* nouns that end in **-er, -en, -el, but not all**, but always for guys whose designation derives from what they do: fahren (drive), der Fahrer (driver)
- (3) **all** days of the week, months, seasons
- (4) **all** nouns ending in **-ich, -ig, -ismus, -ist, -ling (often pejorative), and -us (latin)**

Translate the words using BEOLINGUS (dict.tu-chemnitz.de) or Leo (dict.leo.org) and indicate which of the rules above applies by writing down its number.

Example: der Vater – the father (1)

der Sohn

der August

der Winter

der Juli

der Balken

der Fleischer

der Montag

der Bauer

der Dackel

der Maler

der Deckel

der Goldbarren

der Magen

der Richter

der König

der Zügel

der Terrorist

der Priester

der Terrorismus

der Karren

der Tourist

der Kranich

der Tourismus

der Primus

der Jüngling

der Handwerker

der Sonderling

der Sonnabend

der Rhythmus

der Florist

der Bus

der Maschinist

der Käfig

der Pianist

der Mittwoch

der Sänger

der Frühling

der Herbst

der Mai

der Günstling

der Onkel

der Schwager

der Opa

der Cousin