

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 – the son (1)

der August – the month of August (3)

der Winter – the winter (3)

der Juli – the month of July (3)

der Balken – the beam (2)

der Fleischer – the butcher (2)

der Montag – Monday (3)

der Bauer – the farmer (2)

der Dackel – the dachshund (2)

der Maler – the painter (2)

der Deckel – the lid, cover, cap (2)

der Goldbarren – the gold bar (2)

der Magen – the stomach (2)	der Richter – the judge (2)
der König – the king (4)	der Zügel – the rein (on a horse) (2)
der Terrorist – the terrorist (4)	der Priester – the priest (2)
der Terrorismus – the terrorism (4)	der Karren – the cart, carriage (2)
der Tourist – the tourist (4)	der Kranich – the crane (4)
der Tourismus – the tourism (4)	der Primus – top pupil (4)
der Jüngling – the teenager, youth (4)	der Handwerker – craftsman (2)
der Sonderling – the crank, eccentric (4)	der Sonnabend – Saturday (3)
der Rhythmus – the rhythm (4)	der Florist – the florist (4)
der Bus – the bus (4)	der Maschinist – the machine operator (4)
der Käfig – the cage (4)	der Pianist – the pianist (4)
der Mittwoch – Wednesday (3)	der Sänger – the singer (2)
der Frühling – the spring (3)	der Herbst – the fall (3)
der Mai – the month of May (3)	der Günstling – the favorite, minion (4)
der Onkel – the uncle (1)	der Schwager – brother-in-law (1)
der Opa – the grandfather (1)	der Cousin – the cousin (1)