

04404 How to Memorize Gender of Nouns: A Reference Material

1. Hindi nouns are either masculine or feminine.
2. Nouns that end in the sound आ are almost always masculine.
3. Nouns that end in the sound ई are almost always feminine.
4. One can safely assume that words borrowed from English will behave like feminine nouns.
- 4. Consciously memorize all feminine nouns that do not end in ई and are not English loan words.**
- 5. Consciously memorize all exceptions to rules 2 and 3 (i.e. all masculine nouns ending in ई (like दही 'yogurt' and 'पानी'water) and all feminine nouns ending in आ (like भाषा 'language' and माता 'mother')).**
5. Assume that all other nouns are masculine.

Following these simple rules will significantly reduce the amount of memorization you need to do.