

What is Genitive Case?

Worksheet

The genitive case is the possessive case in German. It answers the question 'Whose?' and shows that one noun belongs to or is associated with another.

Questions

1. Which word is genitive in 'Das Auto des Lehrers'?
A) Das
B) Auto
C) des Lehrers
D) Auto des
2. What question does genitive answer?
A) Wer?
B) Wen?
C) Wem?
D) Wessen?
3. The genitive case is used to show...
A) location
B) direction
C) possession
D) destination
4. What is the genitive article for 'die' nouns?
A) die
B) der
C) den
D) dem
5. Das Buch des Mannes ist interessant. (The book of the man is interesting.) — What case is 'Mannes'?
6. Die Farbe des Autos ist rot. (The color of the car is red.) — Identify genitive.
7. Das Haus meiner Freundin ist groß. (The house of my friend (female) is large.) — Which is genitive?
8. Define: What is the genitive case?
9. Define: What question does genitive answer?
10. Define: Give an example of genitive.

Answer Key

1. C) des Lehrers — 'des Lehrers' is possessive (whose car) — genitive case.
2. D) Wessen? — Wessen? (Whose?) asks for possession — the genitive case.
3. C) possession — Genitive marks possession or a relationship between nouns.
4. B) der — Feminine genitive is 'der': die Frau → der Frau (dative also 'der').
5. des Mannes = possessive The book belongs to the man Answer: Genitive case
6. des Autos = possessive The color belongs to the car Answer: Genitive case
7. meiner Freundin = possessive The house belongs to the friend Answer: Genitive case
8. The possessive case — shows that one noun belongs to another.
9. Wessen? (Whose?)
10. Das Buch des Mannes. (The man's book.) — 'des Mannes' is genitive.

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