

Cases and functions

| Case | Function | Question |
|---------------|--|--------------------------|
| Nominative | Subject of the sentence | кто? что? |
| Genitive | The 'of' case: Possession, Quantity & Negation | кого? чего?* |
| Dative | The 'to/for' case: Indirect object, Recipient | кому? чему? |
| Accusative | Direct object | кого? что? |
| Instrumental | The 'by/with' case: Means of doing something | кем? чем? |
| Prepositional | The 'at/about' case: Location | о ком? о чём? где? |

* - differentiated by context. Genitive is equivalent to the second case in English: the Possessive ('s)

Conjugation (verbs / *teгusõna*)

| Person | I conj <i>others</i> | II conj <i>и</i> |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Я ('I') | у/ю | у/ю |
| Ты ('You') | ешь | ишь |
| Он/она/оно ('Him/-Her/It') | ет | ит |
| Мы ('We') | ем | им |
| Вы ('You') | ете | ите |
| Они ('Them') | ут/ют | ат/ят |

"to ..." is the infinitive of a verb, and keeps the -ть, while "I am ..." requires conjugation

Conjugation exceptions

| I conj | II conj | держать ('to keep') |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| брить ('to shave') | видеть ('to see') | вертеть ('to twirl') |

Conjugation exceptions (cont)

| | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| стелить ('to lay') | обидеть ('to offend') | зависеть ('to depend') |
| | ненавидеть ('to hate') | терпеть ('to tolerate') |
| | смотреть ('to watch') | слышать ('to hear') |
| | дышать ('to breathe') | гнать ('to drive') |

Past

| Gender | Ending |
|---------|--------|
| Male | л |
| Female | ла |
| Neutral | ло |
| Plural | ли |

Gender is determined by the subject (/ was speaking, *She* was eating)

Pronouns

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----|---------------------|------|
| I | Я | Me | Меня |
| You | Ты | You (informal) | Тебя |
| He, It (m) | Он | Him, It (m,n) | Его |
| She, It (f) | Она | Her, It (f) | Её |
| It | Оно | | |
| We | Мы | Us | Нас |
| You (formal/plural) | Вы | You (formal/plural) | Вас |
| They | Они | Them | Их |

Вы is used as the formal singular "you", and the plural "you" (slang: "yous" or "you all") when talking to more than one person.

Nominative case (nimetav)

| Gender | Nouns | Adjectives | Possesives |
|---------|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Male | <i>const.</i> , й | ый ий ой | Мой Твой Наш Ваш |
| Female | а о г я | ая яя | Моя Твоя Наша Ваша |
| Neutral | о о г е | ое ее | Моё Твоё Наше Ваше |
| Plural | +ы; й а я > ы; ь > и; о > а; е > я; | ый ой > ые; ий > ие | Мои Твои Наши Ваши |

Именительный паде́ж

The nominative case is the default case of a word, as found in dictionaries and when no other case is specifically used. It is also used for the subject of a sentence: in "Bob eats lunch", Bob is the subject of the sentence, so would be in its default nominative form.

Genitive case (omastav)

| Gender | Nouns | Adjectives | Possesives |
|--------------|--|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Male/Neutral | <i>const.</i> , о > а; | ого его | Моего Твоего Нашего Вашего |
| Female | й, е, ь > я а > ы ь, я > и | ой ей | Моей Твоей Нашей Вашей |



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Genitive case (omastav) (cont)

| | | | |
|--------|------------|-------|---------------------------|
| Plural | ов, ев, ей | ых их | Моих Твоих Наших Ваших |
|--------|------------|-------|---------------------------|

Родительный падеж

- *Counting* - When counting objects ("I have six sheep"), the thing being enumerated is usually put in the genitive case.

- *Possession* - If something is owned by something else, the owner is in the genitive case.

- *Negation* - To say something is there, we generally use the nominative case. If it isn't there, we use **нет** followed by the genitive.

- *Prepositions* - Locations (in/on/near/etc); Also used for "I have"

Dative case

| Gender | Nouns | Adjectives | Possesses |
|--------------|-------------------|------------|-------------------------------|
| Male/Neutral | const., о > у | ому ему | Моему Твоему Нашему Вашему |
| Female | а > е я, ь > и | ой ей | Моей Твоей Нашей Вашей |
| Plural | const., о, а > ам | ым им | Моим Твоим Нашим Вашим |

Дательный падеж

The dative case is used to denote indirect objects, which are objects that indicate "to whom", or "to what" an action is done. So in the sentence, "I am writing a letter to you", "(a) letter" is the **direct** object of the verb, while "(to) you" is the **indirect** object.

Accusative case

| Gender | Nouns | Adjectives | Possesses |
|----------|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| M obj | As nom. | As nom. | As nom. |
| M alive | As gen. | As gen. | As gen. |
| Female | а > у я > ю | ая > ую яя > юю | Мою Твою Нашу Вашу |
| Neutral | As nom. | As nom. | As nom. |
| Pl obj | As nom. | As nom. | As nom. |
| Pl alive | As gen. | As gen. | As gen. |

Винительный падеж

The accusative case is used for the direct object of a verb. In "Bob eats lunch", "lunch" is the direct object.

NB! Masculine nouns denoting people or animals (i.e., animate nouns) take their genitive form, while neuter nouns and inanimate masculine nouns take their nominative form. Plural nouns of any gender take their nominative plural form if inanimate, or their genitive plural form if animate.

Instrumental case

| Gender | Nouns | Adjectives | Possesses |
|--------------|-------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Male/Neutral | ом ем | ым им | Моим Твоим Нашим Вашим |
| Female | ой ей ёй | ой ей | Моей Твоей Нашей Вашей |

Instrumental case (cont)

| | | | |
|--------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Plural | const., о, а > ами | ыми ими | Моими Твоими Нашими Вашими |
| | й, е, я > ями | | |

Творительный падеж

под ('under') **над** ('above/'on top of') **за** ('behind') **между** ('between'), and **перед** ('before/'in front of').

The instrumental case is used to denote the object by which something is done.

Prepositional case (kohakääne)

| Gender | Nouns | Adjectives | Possesses |
|----------------|-------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Male / Neutral | е | ом ем | Моём Твоём Нашем Вашем |
| Female | а, я > е ь > и | ой ей | Моей Твоей Нашей Вашей |
| Plural | const., о, а > ах | ых их | Моих Твоих Наших Ваших |

Предложный падеж

в (in), **на** (on), and **о/обо** (about; it's **обо** in the phrase "about me" or "about my").

Commonly used to denote a sentence's object's location or an activity. However, these prepositions can also call other cases, in which case their meaning changes. For instance, **в + prep** means 'in', as in, "I live in England". **в + acc**, however, means 'into' or 'to', as in, "I'm flying to New York".



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