

Beginner

Cases of Nouns

A noun or pronoun is sometimes the subject and sometimes the object of a verb. In order to find out or express these and other relations, we use what we call Case. The case shows the relation to some other words in the sentence.

Cases of Nouns

Nominative Case

A noun or pronoun that is the subject of the verb is in the nominative case.

Example. *The angels sing in heaven.*
Lee shut the dog.

A noun used as a predicate nominative or subjective complement is in the nominative case. A noun that follows a copulative or linking verb is in the nominative case if it refers to the person or thing as its subject.

Example. *The doctor is a specialist.*
The cardinal became a pope.

A noun used as a noun in apposition is in the nominative case. This noun explains a subject or a predicate.

Example. *Iwasawa, our president went to Tokyo.*
Let us go to Tokyo, a city.
My favorite dish was cooked by Mrs. Esaki, my aunt.

Address. A noun used in direct address is in the nominative case.

Example. *Mom, please come with me.*
Your father, children want you to help him.
Please lock all the windows, Ikeda.

Exclamation. A noun used independently to express a strong emotion is in the nominative case.

Example. *Action! The officials lack action*
Poor baby! You are hungry.