

VOCABULARY

kävellä	to walk
erittäin	extremely
kaunis	pretty, beautiful
liian	too (as in 'too much')
koko	size
juuri	just
sopiva	suitable
vuokra	rent
edullinen	inexpensive
tavaratalo	department store
ostaa	to buy
suomen kieli	Finnish language
kieli	language
oppikirja	textbook
tarvita	to need
kartta	map
kirja	book
hinta	price
aika	rather
kallis	expensive
haluta	to want
ilmainen	free
turistikartta	tourist map
sisko	sister
taidemuseo	art museum
vieressä	next to
hyvä	good
kenen	whose
koira	dog
nimi	name
kaveri	buddy

milloin	when
alkaa	to begin
(oppi)tunti	lesson, class
jälkeen	after
vielä	yet, still
tietää	to know
ehkä	perhaps
tai	or
kanssa	with
no	well
sitten	then
hauska	pleasant
iltapäivä	afternoon

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

kaupungilla
 Hyvää huomenta.
 Nukuitreko hyvin?
 Ei voi mitään.
 Mitä kuuluu?
 kello neljä
 Mitä teette?
 Menemme elokuviin.
 Menemme syömään.
 Hauskaa iltapäivää.
 Huomiseen.
 Moi-moi.

in the city
 Good morning.
 Did you sleep well?
 Can't help it.
 What's up?, What's happening?
 at four o'clock
 What are you doing?
 We'll go to the movies.
 We are going to eat.
 Have a nice afternoon.
 See you tomorrow.
 Bye-bye.

GRAMMAR

1. The Genitive Case

The genitive singular is the second of the principal parts of nouns and is marked by the suffix *-n*. Grammatically, this is a very significant form, because, by removing the suffix, you can find the word stem. This stem is used when attaching many of the case suffixes. Therefore, it is very important to memorize this form, along with the basic form, every time you learn a new noun or adjective.

The genitive is the case of possession. Its primary meaning is the expression of ownership i.e., that something belongs to or is part of something or someone. In genitive constructions, the possessor always (with the exception of poetic language) precedes the thing possessed and carries the suffix *-n*. Since there must be grammatical agreement, any pronouns and adjectives within the noun phrase also will require the genitive suffix.

Marjan asunto	Marja's apartment
Vanhan talon ovi	The door of the old house
Tämän nuoren naisen nimi	This young woman's name
Kenen koira tämä on?	Whose dog is this?

The noun stem that remains after removal of the *-n* suffix is not necessarily different from the basic nominative form. However, since the suffix closes an open syllable, the genitive stem is affected by consonant gradation (see pages 7 to 8).

(Pekka)	Pekan asunto	Pekka's apartment
(Helsinki)	Helsingin keskusta	the downtown (center) of Helsinki

(kartta)	kartan hinta	the price of the map
(asunto)	asunnon vuokra	the rent of the apartment

When the *-n* suffix is added to foreign words or names that end in a consonant, a linking *-i-* is inserted:

Johnin kirja	John's book
New Yorkin kaupunki	the city of New York

The question is, of course, how to figure out the genitive stem by looking at a noun. It is not always immediately obvious. However, with time and practice, you will learn to recognize the major stem types and to take good educated guesses even in the case of nouns that you have never seen before. In the vocabulary lists, the number following every noun indicates to which major type that particular noun belongs. By looking up new nouns in Appendix 1, you quickly will develop the skill of recognizing how a noun fits into one of the inflectional groups.

1.1 Nouns Ending in *-i*

Nouns ending in *-i* are tricky. In some, the stem itself ends in *-i*; in others it changes to *-e*. The different possibilities are listed in Appendix 1. The best thing is to refer to the appendix when you are learning a new noun. Foreign words and words longer than two syllables do not undergo a stem change, but two-syllable nouns ending in *-i* can go either way.

Nominative	Genitive	Meaning
pankki	pankin	bank
banaani	banaanin	banana
meloni	melonin	melon

But:	nimi	nimen	name
	kieli	kielen	language
	Suomi	Suomen	Finland

In each case, the genitive form provides the stem.

1.2 Postpositions with the Genitive Case

Postpositions are used to indicate spatial, temporal, or other conceptual relationships in the sentence and represent an alternative grammatical solution to suffixes. Several postpositions require the preceding noun to be in the genitive case. Look at these examples from the dialogue.

museon vieressä	next to the museum
oppitunnin jälkeen	after class
Leenan kanssa	with Leena

Other commonly used genitive postpositions are:

lähellä	Helsingin lähellä	in the vicinity of Helsinki
edessä	aseman edessä	in front of the station
takana	talon takana	behind the house
alla	pöydän alla	under the table
takia	koiran takia	because of the dog

1.3 Genitive Form of Pronouns

Pronouns must be in the same grammatical case as the noun and the adjective that they precede or replace. Several pronouns have irregular forms and unpredictable stem changes, but the rule is essentially the same as for nouns. You just need

to attach the appropriate suffix to the stem. In the following chapters, you will get acquainted with the most commonly used pronouns. Here are the nominative and genitive forms of some of them.

<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Genitive</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
tämä	tämän	this
tuo	tuon	that
se	sen	it
mikä	minkä	what
kuka	kenen	who

Notice that in the case of *mikä*, the genitive marker *-n* appears in the middle of the word, whereas *kuka* changes almost beyond recognition.

The stems of personal pronouns, to which most case endings are added, are as follows:

minu- / sinu- / häne- / mei- / tei- / hei-

The formation of genitive constructions using these pronouns (e.g., *my dog* or *our house*) will be discussed in lesson 8.

1.4 Special Use of the Genitive Case

The genitive *-n* ending also is used to denote the direct object when it is a countable noun:

Ostan kirjan. I am buying a book.
Näen Pekan. I see Pekka.

2. Negation

Saying 'no' in Finnish is a bit more involved than saying 'yes.' The negative particle *ei* is, in essence, a verb that must be conjugated to agree with the subject. This means that it will take on different forms depending on who or what is negated. It is combined with the stem of the main verb, which provides the meaning. The following examples illustrate the conjugation and usage of the negative verb *ei*.

(Minä) en	puhu englantia.	I don't speak English.
(Sinä) et	opiskele.	You are not studying.
Hän ei	asu Helsingissä.	S/he does not live in Helsinki.
(Me) emme	syö.	We are not eating.
(Te) ette	tule.	You (all) are not coming.
He eivät	ole täällä.	They are not here.

A short negative answer to a question consists of the appropriate form of the negation verb. The stem of the main verb may also be added to it.

Puhutko englantia?	En. / En puhu.
(Do you speak English?)	(No. I don't speak [English].)
Asuttko Espoossa?	Emme. / Emme asu.
(Do you [all] live in Espoo?)	(No. We don't live [in Espoo].)
Onko kirja uusi?	Ei. / Ei ole.
(Is the book new?)	(No. It is not.)

3. The Verb *tarvita* (to need)

Verbs ending in *-ita/-iä* form a relatively small subset of Group III. Their stem (the part remaining after detaching the