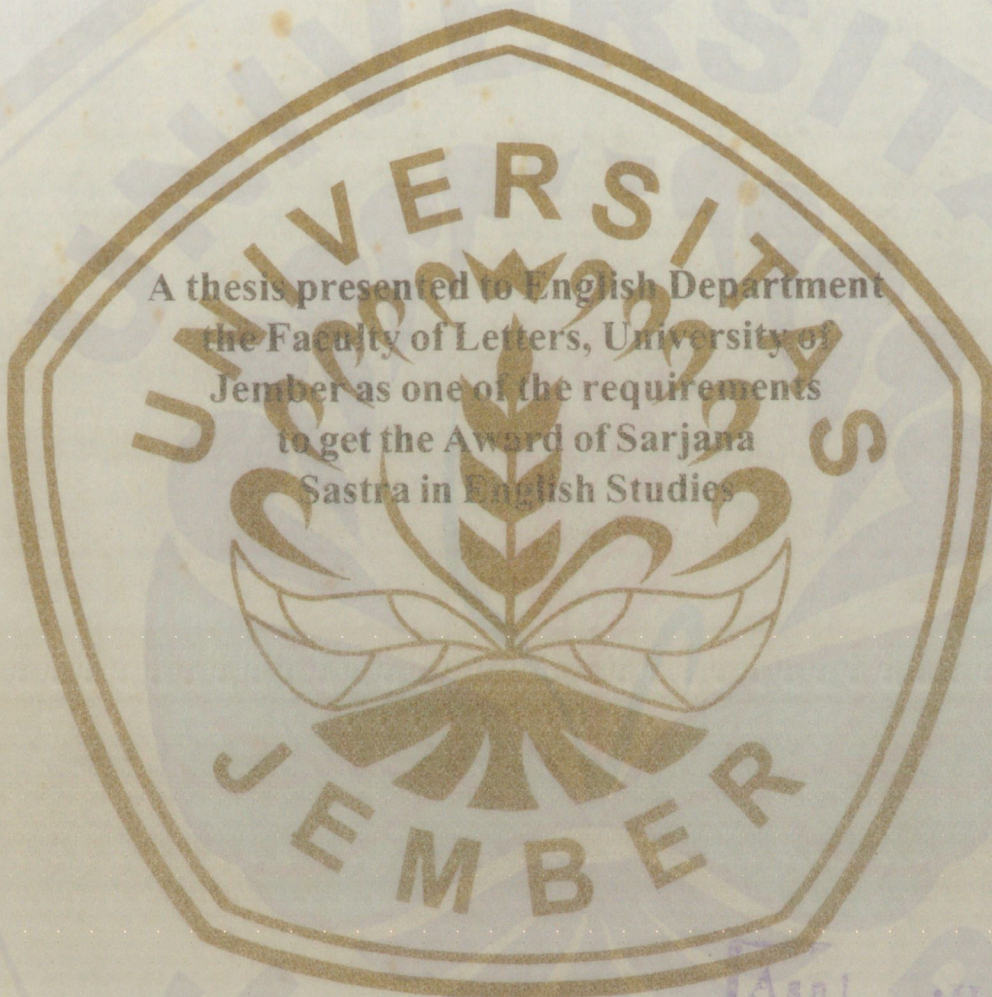
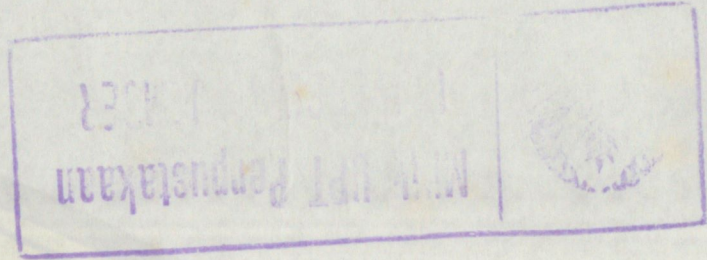


**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENGLISH
AND FRENCH GENDER**



A thesis presented to English Department
the Faculty of Letters, University of
Jember as one of the requirements
to get the Award of Sarjana
Sastra in English Studies

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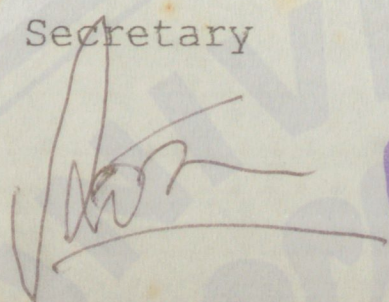
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2001**

APPROVAL SHEET

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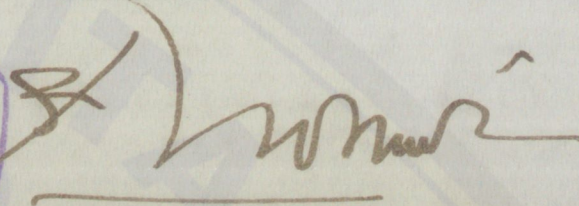
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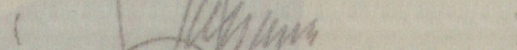
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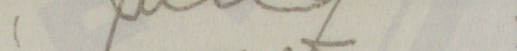
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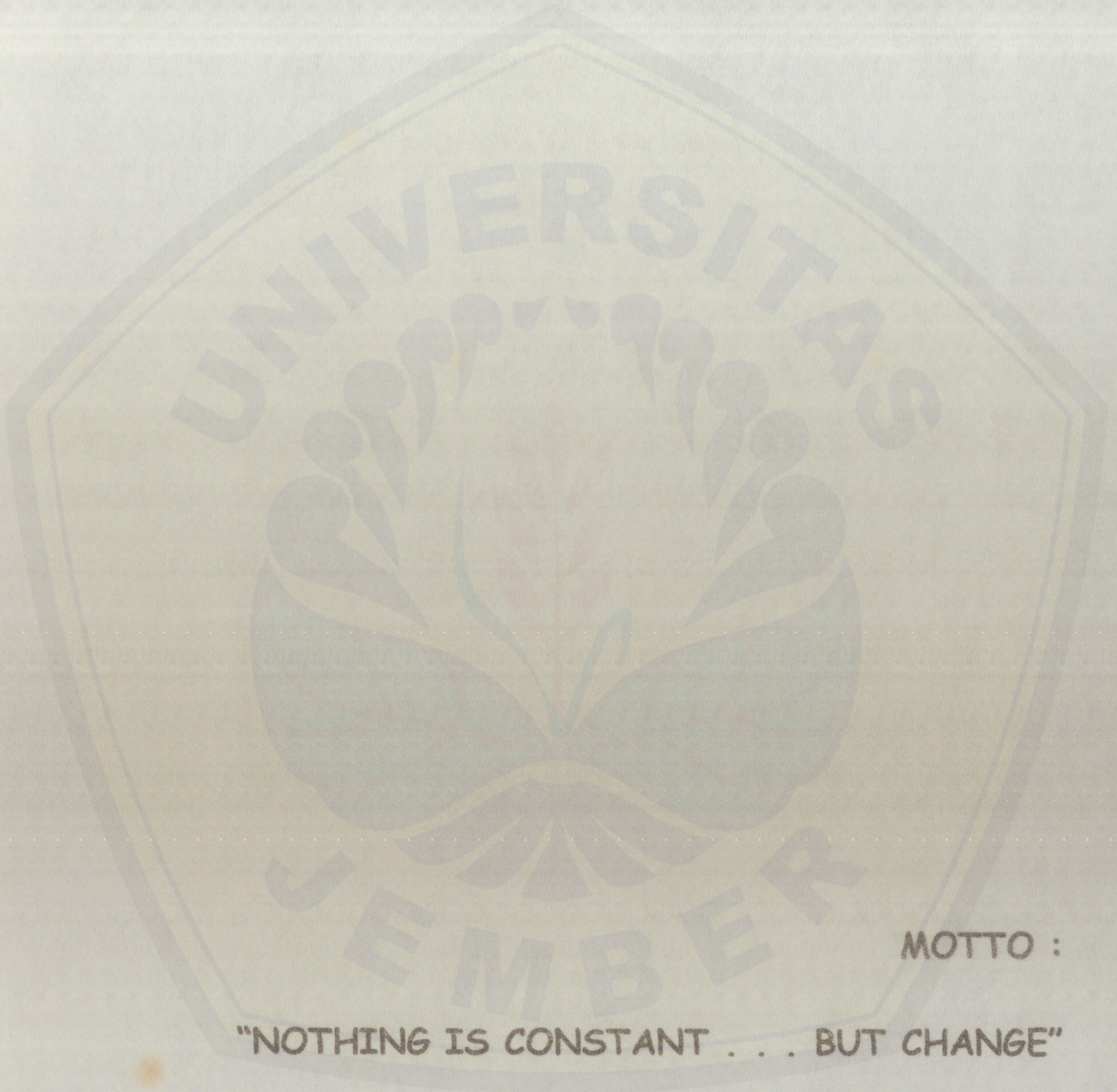
DEVOTED TO :

My beloved Mother who always trusts me in everything

and

My beloved Father The Late, whose hard works have inspired

me that NOTHING COMES EASILY.



MOTTO :

"NOTHING IS CONSTANT . . . BUT CHANGE"

(Joe Tempest)

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Fajar Nugroho

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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Gender is the classification of nouns and pronouns according to the sex (or the absence of sex) denoted (Harman, 1973:20). The word *gender* (from Latin *Genus*) means race of kind, and in Indo European language it is always an expression of sex distinction (Harman, 1973: 20). Actually, there are three kinds of *Gender*, masculine, feminine and neuter, though some members of Indo European family (e.g. French and Spanish) only have two of them, masculine and feminine. In French, *Gender* is not always an expression of sex distinction because nouns which have no sex are considered to have sex. So there is no neuter *Gender*, which usually denotes to a lack of sex.

English, which also belongs to Indo European family, classifies nouns and pronouns into three *Genders*. English *Gender* is determined by meaning. All nouns naming creature are masculine or feminine according to the sex of the individual, and all other nouns are neuter. It means that nouns that refer to male creatures such as *man* and *boy* are masculine, nouns that refer to female creatures such as *woman* and *girl* are feminine and nouns that refer to inanimate objects such as *chair* and *table* are generally neuter. Although English and French have different type of *Gender*, they also have similarity in the way they differ female from male. The following examples show the similarity between them.

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
In English	Actor	Actress

	Steward	Stewardess
In French	Instituteur	Institutrice
	Directeur	Directrice

From the examples above we can see that both English and French use different ending which is added to the stem or to the masculine form. Besides the similarity above, they have different detail in the agreement of nouns with another part of speech, articles and adjectives. We find that in French, the gender of the noun will influence the use of article and adjective in a sentence, but not in English. It will be shown in the following examples.

Masculine

Le garçon est grand

(The boy is big)

Feminine

La femme est grande

(The girl is big)

The examples show that in French, there are different use of article and adjective depending on the gender of the noun, but not in English. By understanding the differences and the similarities between English and French Gender, it will be interesting to make a comparison between them.

Keraf (1990) says that the comparison between two languages or more is supposed as old as the birth of the language itself. It is true because in acquiring another language people are always interested in knowing or in analyzing how far the differences and the similarities among the aspects of the languages are. There is a branch of linguistics that deals with the comparison between two languages or more. That is comparative linguistics. The

comparative linguistics is a branch of linguistics that tries to attain the basic understanding about the development of languages and language family among the languages over the world and tries to find the influences of the interrelationship among the languages ever met in the course of history (Keraf, 1990:2).

According to Keraf (1990:3), comparative linguistics is divided into subbranches. They are: a. Typological Comparative Linguistics, studies about the mayor characteristics of each form and structure between languages, b. Historical Comparative Linguistics, Studies the comparison of language from history 's point of view, c. Areal Comparative Linguistics, explains the relations among the languages in the past.

All of the three subbranches above will be taken in the discussion of this thesis. The background of the choosing of this title is that there are differences and similarities between English and French Gender.

1.2 The Problems to Discuss

Each language in the world has its own characteristics which differentiate one language from other languages when they are compared with each other. This also occurs in English and French. They, as the members of Indo-European family, have similarities and differences in applicating the gender, particularly the relationship between gender of the noun with article and adjectives when they are joined into a phrase.

Meanwhile, the problems that will be discussed in this thesis are :

1. What kind of similarities and differences do they have in gender, especially in distinguishing male from female persons ?
2. Does the gender of the noun influence the use of article and adjective when they are joined into a phrase ?

1.3 The Scope of the Study

The general area of this thesis is comparing some aspects of both languages, English and French. However, as the title implies, this thesis will talk in detail about the comparison of the Gender form of nouns and pronouns as a word and their relationship with another part of speech in a phrase in English and with those in French. In order to get the comprehensive understanding about English and French, this thesis explains briefly the historical background of the two languages and will also present the definition and the types of part of speech of which the distributions are influenced by the gender of the nouns, namely articles, adjectives, and pronouns that belong to both languages.

1.4 The Goal of the Study

The general goal of the study is to pay close attention to the linguistics study particularly in the comparative studies of two kinds of foreign languages. The discussion of the thesis is also expected to give the students or the readers who are interested in discussing the comparative study some information after reading this thesis. The specific goal of this thesis is to look for the differences and the similarities between English and

French Gender form, as Indo-European language family. It also applies the knowledge of both languages that I got during my study at the Faculty of Letters.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

Hopefully, the result of this research is usefull not only for the researcher , but also for the readers to understand and to get the broad knowledges about gender. The significance of the study can be stated as follow :

1. By reading this thesis, the readers get more inputs on gender in English and French in order to improve their ability in understanding gender from both languages.
2. The result of this thesis can be used as a reference for those who want to conduct a further research related to comparative study, especially about gender.

1.6 The Organization of the Thesis

This thesis is divided into five chapters, in which each chapter consists of some subchapters. The first chapter is the introduction which consists of the background of the study, the problem to discuss, the scope of the study, the goal of the study, the significance of the study, and organization of the thesis. The second chapter is the theoretical review which consist of historical background and the definitions and the types of part of speech of English and French language. The third chapter is the methodology research. The main discussion of the thesis is presented in the fourth chapter. And the last chapter will conclude what has been discussed in the previous chapters.



CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL REVIEW

2.1 Historical background of English and French

2.1.1 The History of English

English is a descendent of Indo European family of languages. It is classified as a Teutonic language. That is to say, it belongs to the group of languages to which German, Dutch, Flemish, Danish, Swedish, and Norwegian also belong. We can see that these languages have similarity in grammatical structure and many common words.

The settlement of three Germanic tribes, Angles, Saxon, and Jutes, in the middle of the fifth century is the beginning of the history of the English language. The grouping of tribes was not permanent, since a vigorous ruler sometimes succeeded for a short time in uniting two or more kingdoms, but seven kingdoms can be distinguished as having a fairly stable existence, and these are described as the Anglo Saxon Heptarchy (Brook, 1958,40).

Since English is considered as a living language, a language that is constantly changing, it is possible to divide the history of the English language into three periods, known respectively as Old English, Middle English, and Modern English. The Old English period extends from 450 to 1150 and it is sometimes described as the period of full inflection, since during most of this period the ending of the nouns, the adjectives, and the verbs are preserved more or less unimpaired. The Middle

English period extends from 1150 to 1500. During this period the inflection, which had begun to break down toward the end of the Old English period, became greatly reduced and it is described as the period of leveled inflection. The language since 1500 is Modern English and it is described as the period of lost inflection.

The English Language has undergone such change in the course of time that one cannot read Old English paper without special study because of the employment of certain characters that no longer form a part of English alphabet. In general the differences between Old and Modern English concern spelling and pronunciation, the vocabulary, and the grammar. The spelling and the pronunciation between Old and Modern English are not very fundamental, because the spelling represent no difference in the spoken language and the pronunciation obey certain laws as a result of which we soon learn to recognize the Old and the Modern English equivalent. Another difference is found in the vocabulary. A large part of Old English vocabulary, that is almost purely Teutonic, has disappeared from the language since the Norman Conquest brought French into England. The most fundamental feature that distinguishes Old English from the language of today is its grammar. On the one hand Old English is a synthetic language, one which indicates the relation of the words in a sentence largely by means of inflection. We can see that theoretically the adjective has different form for each of the three genders, such as *gode* for masculine, *god-a* for feminine, and *god* for neuter. On the

masculine, *god-a* for feminine, and *god* for neuter. On the other hand Modern English is an analytic language, one which makes extensive use of prepositions and auxiliary verbs and depends upon word order to show other relationships (Baugh, 1985:54).

There is no such convenient division between Middle English and Modern English as that which the Norman Conquest provides between them. There are some events that influence the difference between Middle English and Modern English. First, the invention of printing, which was introduced into England by Caxton, became important when the gradual spread of education increased the number of people who could read. Then another important event in the early Modern English is Renaissance that caused a lot of loan words from Latin to enter England. One of the characteristic features of Modern English period is the enlargement of the vocabulary. By Renaissance in England, many writers deliberately enrich the language by borrowing words from Latin, Greek, Spanish, and French (Baugh, 1985:258).

Although Latin was by far the main source of loan words in the early modern period, a number of words were borrowed from other languages too. This can be seen in the military term, life science and also the general vocabulary of English words. They were borrowed from French such as bayonet and feint (military words), anatomy and muscle (life - Science) and entrance and invite (general vocabulary). Besides Italian, Greek,

Spanish and Portuguese were also the languages from which English borrowed the vocabularies (Baugh, 1985).

2.1.2 The History of French

French came from the Indo European family of languages and it was one of the branches of Italic or Latin. It is spoken by some 75 million people of the world (Lindquist, 1962; 205). This language is one of the important languages of international diplomacy that is used in some conferences.

The history of French was begun when the Roman came to Gaul, the ancient of France, six years before the birth of Christ. It is one of the most important of the Roman languages, those languages that grew out of the tongue of the Ancient Roman (Didier, 1975).

As Rome colonized Spain and Gaul, the district of west of the black sea, Northern Africa, the island of Mediterranean and even Britain, Latin spread into all these regions until its limit became practically co-terminous with those of the Roman Empire. And in the greater part of this area, it has remained the language, though in altered form, to the present day (Baugh, 1985:26). The Roman Languages which are descended from Latin, and whose independence in the eight century after Christ are as follow:

1. Portuguese
2. Spanish (Castilian)
3. Catalan (in eastern Spain)
4. Provençal (in the southern third of France)
5. French

6. Rhaetoromanic (in the Grisons, Tyrol, and Friuli)
7. Italian
8. Dalmatian (extinct, crowded out by Italian)
9. Rumanian

(Pederson, 1965:93)

The various languages that represent the survival of Latin in the different part of the Roman Empire are known as the Romance or Romanic Languages. Some of them have since spread into other territory, particularly in the New World. The most extensive of the Romance languages are French, Spanish, Purtogese, and Italian. French is primary the language of Northern France although it is the language of literature and education through out the country. There were a number of dialects in the Middle ages, some of them are Norman, Picard, Burgundian and that of the Ile-de-France. But with the establishment of the Capetians as kings of France and the rise of Paris as the national capital city. The dialect of Paris or Ile-de-France gradually won recognition as the official and literary language. Since the thirteenth century the Paris dialect has been standard French (Baugh, 1985:26).

2.2 The Definition and the Types of Part of Speech of English and French

This subchapter will discuss the definition and the types of part of speech both in English and French to get better understanding about them. However, this subchapter do not discuss all types of part of speech, but only those that are influenced by gender.

2.2.1 The Definition and the Types of Parts of Speech of English

English parts of speech that be discussed in this subchapter are nouns, pronouns, articles, and adjectives.

2.2.1.1 The Nouns

A noun is a name of anything (Harman, 1931:20). It may be the name of a person (*Joseph, boy, teacher*), an object (*box, toy*), an action (*movement, performance*), and a great many other sorts of things. Then according to Harman (1931) when nouns are classified as to form, they are generally grouped into simple or compound noun.

A. Simple nouns

The simple nouns include all primary nouns in the language; that is, those which have not been formed by combining two separate words, for example: *boy, boat, house, man, wife* (Harman, 1931:21).

B. compound nouns

Compound nouns are those which have been formed by combining two or more words having individual meaning of their own when standing alone (Harman, 1931:21). The compound nouns may be formed by combining an adjective and a noun, for example: *black bird, beautiful girl, tall building, brave man*.

2.2.1.2 Pronouns

A pronoun (from Latin pro, meaning for, and nomen, meaning name) is a word used instead of a noun or a noun-equivalent (Harman, 1931:50). It means that a pronoun can take the position and the function of a noun.

A. Personal pronouns, which refer to :

1. The speaker, called the first person-- **I** for singular, which is always spelled with a capital letter, and **we** for plural.
2. The person spoken to, called the second person-- **You** for both singular and plural.
3. The person or thing being spoken of, called the third person -- for singular they are **he** (for males) **she** (for female) and **it** (for things or for live beings whose sex is unknown) and for plural **they** (for all live beings and for all things)

B. Possessive pronouns which are formed from possessive adjective plus noun has an independent function as a noun phrase.

P A : my.. your.. our.. his.. her.. its.. their..

P P : mine yours ours his her its theirs

C. Reflexive pronoun which is a combination of **-self** with one of the personal pronouns or with the impersonal pronoun **one** (Frank, 1972:22). The most common use of the reflexive pronoun is as an object that "refer back" to the subject; in other words, it has same identity as the subject. Thus, in sentence **The child hurt himself**, **child** and **himself** are identical (Frank, 1972:22)

2.2.1.3 Articles

There are two kinds of articles in English, they are definite article **the** and indefinite article **a**. **The** may be

pronunciation and spelling. The chief structural function of articles is as determiners that precede nouns.

2.2.1.4 Adjectives

An adjective is a word used with a noun or other substantive as a modifier to describe or to define it (Harman, 1931:73). When adjectives are classified as to meaning, they are descriptive or definitive adjectives.

A. Descriptive adjectives

Harman (1931) stated a descriptive adjective names a quality, feature, or characteristic of the thing modified.

For example:

Red apples

Honest man

Brave leader

Tall building

B. Definitive adjectives

Harman (1931) states a definitive adjective limits the application or scope of a substantive by specifying quantity or number.

For example:

That man

This book

Those men

These books

2.2.2 The Definition and the Type of the Parts of Speech of French

French parts of speech that are influenced by gender are nouns, pronouns, articles, and adjectives.

2.2.2.1 Nouns

Nouns in French are said to have gender (masculine or feminine) and number (singular or plural) that can be seen by the use of the definite article, **le** for masculine, **la** for feminine, and **les** for both gender in the plural form. Didier (1975) divides noun into several types, they are:

A. Concrete nouns

A concrete noun is a word for a physical object that can be perceived by the sense. For example *Mon chien est intelligent* (My cat is clever). *Chien* or cat here represents an animal that we can perceive.

B. Abstract nouns

An abstract noun is a word that represents a concept of class, for example *Le chien est une intelligent animal* (The cat is a clever animal). *Chien* or cat here does not represent a certain cat but all cat.

C. Common nouns

A common noun is a noun that in their distribution is always preceded by a determiner, for example:

le chien	{cat}
la maison	{house}

2.2.2.2 Pronouns

A. Personal pronouns

There are two kinds of French personal pronouns, they are:

1. *Atones pronouns* (Pronoms atones)

An atones pronoun is a pronoun that has a direct relation with the verb. The function could be a direct or indirect object. The position of direct and indirect object precedes the verb (Didier, 1975:98).

Il me dit (He talks to you)

Je te vois (I see you)

Il lui dit (He talks to him)

In affirmative sentence, an atones pronoun is followed by verb and usually connected by a line.

Donnez-le (Give it)

Parle-leur (Talk to them)

Envoyes-la-lui (Send it to her)

2. *Toniques pronouns* (Pronoms toniques)

Toniques pronouns are also called by "prepositional pronoun form of the personal pronoun". It means that they are used with a preposition (Didier, 1975:98).

Toniques pronouns occur:

a. After *C'est* and *Ce sont*.

C'est is used with all toniques pronouns except *eux* and *elles* which require *Ce sont*.

C'est moi. C'est moi qui parle.

(It is I. It is I who am speaking)

C'est nous. C'est nous elles qui l'avons fait.

(It is we. It is we who did it)

b. Stand alone for emphasis

Qui st la? -moi

(Who is there? -I am)

c. As a part of a compound subject

Vous et moi, nous le ferons.

(You and I, we will do it)

The following list will show the form of atones and toniques pronoun.

	ATONES		TONIQUES	
	D.O	I.O		
Je	Me	Me	Moi	I
Tu	Te	Te	Toi	You
Il	Le	Lui	Lui	He
Elle	La	Lui	Lui	She
Nous	Nous	Nous	Nous	We
Vous	Vous	Vous	Vous	You
Ils	Les	Leur	Eux	They (mas)
Elles	Les	Leur	Elles	They (fem)

B. Possessive pronouns

The possessive pronouns are formed from possessive adjective plus noun and change their form according to the gender and the number of the noun. These are possessive pronoun in French which are always preceded by an article.

S I N G U L A R		P L U R A L		
Masculine	Feminine	Masculine	Feminine	
Le mien	La mienne	Les miens	Les miennes	Mine
Le tien	La tienne	Les tiens	Les tiennes	Yours
Le sien	La sienne	Les siens	Les siennes	Hers / His
Le notre	La notre	Les notre		Ours
Le votre	La votre	Les votre		Yours
Le leur	La leur	Les leur		Theirs

2.2.2.3 Articles

According to Didier, "L'article indique aussi le genre et le nombre du nom qu'il détermine (1975:120)". It means that an article indicates gender and number of noun that they determine. There are three types of article in French:

a. Definite articles (le, la and les)

Le is used in front of masculine noun and la is used in front in feminine noun, but le and la used in singular form and they can be shortened l' if they are in front of a noun which is initiated by the mute 'h' or a vowel. For example: l'enfant, l'homme. Les is used for both gender in the plural form, for example: les enfants and les hommes.

b. Indefinite articles (un, une, des)

Un is used for masculine noun and une is used for feminine noun. Both un and une can be eliminated if they are preceded by to be (etre), for example:

- Mon ami est (un) chretien

(My friend is Christian)

but when the sentence uses ce (it) this article must be used, for example:

-C'est une table

(It is a table)

-C'est un cahier

(It is a book)

Des is used for both gender in the plural form, for example:

Un chapeu - des chapeux

Un homme - des hommes

c. Partitive articles (du, de la, des)

du is used for masculine noun and de la is for feminine noun, both in the singular form. Des is used for both gender in the plural form. These kinds of articles are used after a noun and adverb that shows quantity. For example:

- Une tasse du the (a glass of tea)

- la plupart des enfants (a number of children).

2.2.2.4 Adjectives

Didier (1975) divides adjectives into two types, they are: Non qualitative and qualitative adjectives.

A. Non qualitative Adjectives

A non qualitative adjective is also called a determiner that has a function to limit a noun or pronoun. There are two types of non qualitative adjectives or determiners in French of which the distribution depends on the gender of the noun, they are:

1. Demonstrative adjectives which are always followed by a noun. For examples:

Ce Garçon : This boy
 Cet Homme : This man
 Cette Fille : This girl
 Ces Garçons : These boys

Demonstrative adjectives in French are:

-ce, cet for masculine noun in singular form
 -cette for feminine noun in singular form
 -ces for both gender in plural form.

2. Possessive adjectives which refer to the thing possessed. Here is the declension of possessive adjectives:

S I N G U L A R		P L U R A L	
Masculine	Feminine		
Mon	Ma	Mes	My
Ton	Ta	Tes	Your
Son	Sa	Ses	His/Her
Votre		Nos	Our
Notre		Vos	Your
Leur		Leurs	Their

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A method is very important to analyze the data in conducting a research. There are three important things about research methodology, i.e. type of data, data collection, and type of analysis. Each of them has its function to analyze the data taken from the research.

3.1 Type of Data

The type of data that will be used in this thesis is qualitative data. Qualitative data are the data which are not in the form of number (Sudaryanto, 1989:9). In the same way Fatimah (1993) states that qualitative data are the data which are not in the form of number but in the form of words, sentences, or texts.

In line with the subject matter of the thesis the data are in the form of words and phrases in both English and French.

3.2 Data Collection

The data of this thesis are obtained by doing a library research. It means that the data and information in this thesis are collected from books or other references and collections from library or other sources.

In analysing the thesis, it is necessary to collect the data. The data of this thesis are put from the grammar books of both languages (English and French). The examples of English words and phrases are put from Modern English and Descriptive English Grammar, while the examples of

French words and phrases are put from Bahasa Perancis, Notre Langue Francaise, and Menguasai Bahasa Perancis.

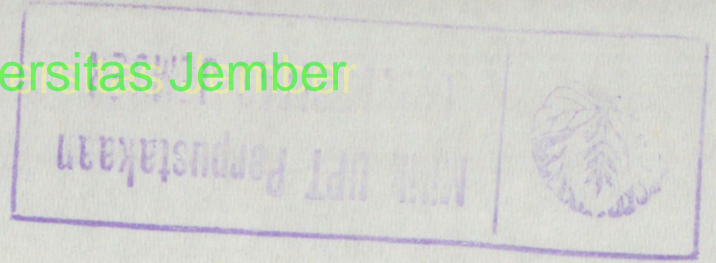
The data of this thesis are 150 words and 100 phrases. However, not all the examples are analysed. The examples which are analysed are 140 words and 46 phrases (75 words and 22 phrases are from English and 65 words and 24 phrases are from French). They are chosen randomly.

3.3 Type of Analysis

This thesis used a descriptive method which is a procedure to describe matters of observation, expressing the quality, kind or condition noted in the data to attain a logical, effective, and result in orderly arrangement. Descriptive method is a method of survey that includes various techniques of description among others: observation, analysis, and classification, survey technique, interview, inquiry, or observation with test, case study, comparative study, study of time and motion quantitative analysis, co-operative or operational study (Surachmad 1983:139).

The first step in analysing the data of this thesis is collecting the masculine and feminine form of the noun in English and French and studying all the occurrences which appear after they are combined with articles and adjectives in a phrase.

At last, the gender of the noun and pronouns and their relationship with articles and adjectives of the two languages are compared. The result of using comparison of the two languages is presented to find the similarities and the differences between English and French gender.



CHAPTER IV THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF ENGLISH AND FRENCH GENDER

The analysis of the differences and similarities between English and French gender in this writing is based upon the research of the inflectional marking of the noun and their relationship with article and adjective in a phrase. We know that the matters are the characteristics of each languages. However, the writer of this thesis tries to make a comparative study between the aspects of structural features. Several examples of English and French words and phrases will be presented in supporting the ideas and the way of using and applying the rule of the language.

The writer of the thesis recognizes that the form of the gender not only influences the form of the nouns and pronouns but also influences the use of articles and adjectives when they are joined together in a phrase.

4.1 Gender of nouns

One of the characteristics of Indo-European languages is gender, which classifies nouns to express sex distinctions. The following discussion will deal with two forms of gender, natural and grammatical gender, and the ways of showing gender.

4.1.1 The form of gender

A. Natural gender

Natural gender corresponds to the natural sex. It means that nouns designating males generally masculine and females feminine, those indicating a lack of sex are neuter. English can be categorized into this type of gender. It can be seen from the nouns which name living creatures are masculine or feminine, and the nouns which indicate a lack of sex are neuter. It means that nouns that refer to male creatures such as *boy, man, cock* are masculine, nouns that refer to female creatures such as *girl, woman, hen* are feminine, and nouns that refer to inanimate object such as *chair, table, pen* are neuter.

Like English, French also uses natural gender in classifying nouns. Nouns such as *pere* (father), *Homme* (man), which refer to male person are masculine, and nouns such as *mere* (mother), *femme* (girl) which refer to female person are feminine. However, there is no neuter gender in French because besides the natural gender, French also uses the other form of gender that will be discussed in the next discussion, grammatical gender.

B. Grammatical gender

Different from natural gender, grammatical gender does not classify nouns according to the natural sex. It means that inanimate objects are considered to have sex. They are grouped into masculine or feminine and their distributions are arbitrary. In English, when we speak of

a *ship* as a feminine noun , *sun* and *moon* as masculine or feminine is a matter of rhetoric not grammar because it is a personification (Bough, 1935:11).

We know that there are only two genders in French, masculine and feminine. So inanimate objects such as *cahier* (book), *sac* (bag), *stylo* (pen), *table* (table), *chaise* (chair), and *porte* (door) are considered to be masculine or feminine arbitrarily, some help in knowing these genders are afforded by the using of the definite article, **le** for masculine (*le cahier, le sac, le stylo*) and **la** for feminine (*la table, la chaise, la porte*).

4.1.2 The ways of showing gender

There are several ways to distinguish masculine nouns from feminine nouns. They are as shown below:

A. By different words

Both English and French use different words to distinguish male person from female person.

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
In English	Father	Mother
	Boy	Girl
	Uncle	Aunt
	Husband	Wife
	King	Queen
	Brother	Sister
In French	Pere	Mere
	Homme	Femme
	Oncle	Tante

Frere	Soeur
Neveu	Niece
Garcon	Fille

B. By different endings

Some suffixes are used to make a distinction for gender which are usually added to the masculine noun. In English, many feminine nouns are differentiated from corresponding masculine forms by using the suffix **-ess**.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Actor	Actress
Author	Authoress
Baron	Baroness
Count	Countess
Host	Hostess
Poet	Poetess
Prince	Princess
Waiter	Waitress

(Harman, 1931:27)

Certain nouns, mostly proper, borrowed from Greek, Latin, French, Spanish, etc. retain their original gender with or without Anglicized spelling.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Agustus	Agustine
Carl	Caroline
Joseph	Josephine
Harry	Harriet

(Harman, 1931:27)

Other less frequently used English suffixes denoting a female person are **-ine** (*Hero-Heroine*), **-ix** (*Aviator-Aviatrix, Testator-Testatrix*), and **-ette** (*Suffragist-Suffragette, Launderer-Launderette*) (Frank, 1972:17).

In French, we recognize some suffixes that form feminine nouns i,e **-e, -ere, -euse, -trice, -esse, and -se**. These suffixes have different distribution either they are added or changing the end of the masculine noun.

Example:

Suffix	Masculine	Feminine	Meaning
-e	Ami	Amie	Friend
	Cousin	Cousine	Cousin
	Clint	Cliente	Client
-ere	Boucher	Bouchere	
-euse	Danceur	Danceuse	Dancer
	Joueur	Joueuse	Gambler
	Voleur	Voleuse	Robber
-trice	Expeditieur	Expeditrice	Expeditor
	Instituteur	intitutrice	Teacher
-esse	Docteur	Doctoresse	Doctor
	Duc	Duchesse	Duke-Duches
	Hot	Hotesse	Host-Hostes
-se	Epoux	Epouse	Husband-Wife

(Didier, 1935:81)

C. By compounding

The last way to distinguish gender is by compounding an element of known gender with another element (Harman, 1931:27). However, we find only English that uses this way of showing gender.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Billygoat	Nannygoat
Englishman	Englishwoman
Gentleman	Gentlewoman
Milkman	Milkwoman
Manservant	Maidservant
Peacock	Peahen
Boyfriend	Girlfriend

(Harman, 1931:27)

4.2 Gender of pronouns

The following discussion especially will discuss the personal pronoun only, for it is parallel with the subject matter of the thesis. The personal pronoun in both languages change their forms for **person** (first, second, third), for **case** (subjective, objective, possessive), and **gender** (masculine, feminine, neuter) (Frank, 1972:29). In English, sex distinction occurs for the third singular person only. To give the obvious description, the following are the declensions of English personal pronouns.

	Subject	Object	Possessive pronoun
Singular	I	Me	Mine
	You	You	Yours
	He	Him	His
	She	Her	Hers
	It	It	Its
Plural	We	Us	Ours
	You	You	Yours
	They	Them	Theirs

(Frank, 1972:29)

From the declension above we know that sex distinction occurs only in the third singular person, *he* for masculine, *she* for feminine, and *it* for neuter and changes their forms for each case just like the first and the second person.

In French, as in English, personal pronouns have different forms for case. The following are the declension of French personal pronouns.

Subj.	Obj	Possessive pronoun			
		Singular		Plural	
		M	F	M	F
Je	Me	Le mien	La mien	Les miens	Les miennes
Tu	Te	Le tien	La tien	Les tiens	Les tiennes
Il/Elle	Le/La	Le sien	La sien	les siens	Les siennes
Nous	Nous	Le notre	La notre	les notre	
Vous	vous	Le votre	La votre	Les votre	
Ils/Elles	Les	Le leur	La leur	Les leurs	

(Didier, 1931:107)

From the declension above we know that in French sex distinctions do not only occur in the third singular person, *il* (he) and *elle* (she), but also in the third plural person, *ils* (for masculine) and *elles* for (feminine). The possessive pronouns, which are formed from the possessive adjective + noun, in their application change their forms according to the gender and the number of the noun.

4.3 The relationship between gender of the noun and articles

The English articles in their application do not recognize the gender of the noun. Some examples here will make it clear:

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Definite article	The boy	The girl
	The king	The queen
Indefinite article	A boy	A girl
	A king	A queen

The French articles have function as the indicator of gender and number of the noun.

A. Definite article

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Singular	Le pere	La mere
	(The father)	(The mother)
	L'homme	La Femme
	(The man)	(The woman)

Plural	Les peres	Les meres
	Les hommes	Les Femmes

B. Indefinite article

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Singular	Un garçon (A boy)	Une fille (A girl)
	Un homme (A man)	Une femme (A woman)
Plural	Des garçons	Des filles
	Des hommes	Des femmes

From the description above there is an agreement between the gender and number of the nouns and the article. Definite article can be used to show noun in general meaning. In English, the definite articles are usually eliminated when they are used with the noun in general meaning, but not in French.

Example:

- <u>La</u> patience est une vertu	-(...)Patience is a virtue
-J'aime <u>les</u> horicot verts	-I like (...) green bean
- <u>L'</u> homme est mortal	-(...) Man is mortal

4.4 The relationship between gender of the noun and adjective in a phrase

In order to get the correlation with the subject matter of the thesis, this sub discussion will talk in

detail about the relationship between gender of the noun with adjectives, especially with those functions in a phrase.

4.4.1 The descriptive adjective

A descriptive adjective, which has equal meaning with Didier's term qualitative adjective (1975), names quality, feature or characteristic of the thing modified (Harman, 1931:74). In English, the gender of the noun does not influence the use of adjective when they are joined into a phrase. The following example will make it clear.

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Honest man	Honest woman
Tall boy	Tall girl
Brave author	Brave authoress
Fat boy	Fat girl

The form of adjective does not change even they modify masculine or feminine noun.

In French, the application of descriptive adjectives in a noun phrase depends on the gender and the number of the noun that they modify. Different from descriptive adjective in English, which is always placed before the noun they modify, most French descriptive adjectives follow the noun.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Un epoux heureux	Une epouse heureuse

example:

(a happy husband)	(a happy wife)
Un eleve actif	Une eleve active
(an active student)	(an active student)
Un professeur interessant	Une professeur interessante
(a nice teacher)	(a nice teacher)

However, there are some adjectives that precede the noun that they modify. Here is their list.

	<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Young	jeune	jeune
sweet	joli	jolie
bad	mauvais	mauvaise
small	petit	petite
good	bon	bonne
big, tall	grand	grande
long	long	longue
gentle	gentil	gentille
beautiful	bel/beau	belle
new	nouvel	nouvelle
old	vieux/vieil	vieille

(Gobel, 1992:131)

The feminine adjectives can be formed from the masculine form by the following ways:

1. Some feminine adjectives can be formed by the addition of suffix -e.

example: Gris → Grise

example: Gris → Grise
 Petit → Petite
 Grand → Grande

2. If the masculine form of the adjectives have the final -e it is not necessary to add the suffix -e.

example: Jeune → Jeune
 Sale → Sale

3. The feminine form of adjectives with final -x is -se

Example Heureux → Heureuse
 Furieux → Furieuse

4. The final -f of the masculine adjective become -ve in feminine form.

Example: Actif → Active
 Attentif → Attentive

5. Adjective with the final -ien in masculine form becomes -ienne in feminine form.

Example: Italien → Italienne
 Chretien → Chretienne

Such form of adjectives can not be found in English because English adjectives remain the same even they modify masculine or feminine nouns.

4.4.2 Definitive adjective

A definitive adjective, which has equal meaning with Didier's term non-qualitative adjective (1975), is an adjective that limits the application or scope of a substantive by specifying quantity or number (Harman,

1931:74). The definitive adjective maybe divided as follows:

- A. **Demonstrative adjective** which limits the substantive. They modify by pointing out someone or something. English demonstrative adjective does not recognize the gender of the noun.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
This boy	This girl
These boys	These girls
That man	That lady
Those men	Those ladies

Meanwhile French demonstrative adjectives depend on the gender of the noun.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Cet homme	Cette femme
Cet etudiant	Cette etudiante
Ce garcon	Cette fille

These demonstrative adjectives remain the same for plural nouns.

Example:

<u>Masculine</u>	<u>Feminine</u>
Ces hommes	Ces femmes
Ces etudiants	Ces etudiantes

B. Possessive adjective

Possessive adjectives in English refer to the possessor and not to the thing possessed. Everything that a man or a boy possesses is his thing; everything that a girl possesses is her thing.

Example:

-Tom's mother is his mother

-Mary's father is her father

Everything that an animal or a thing possesses is its thing .

Example:

-A tree drops its leaves in autumn.

-A happy dog wags its tail.

In English, the possessive adjective remain the same whether the thing possessed is in singular or plural.

Example:

<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
My hat	My hats
My pen	My pens

Here are the declension of the English possessive adjectives.

	<u>Possessive adjective</u>
I	my
you	your
he	his
she	her
it	its

we	our
you	your
they	their

In contrast with English, French possessive adjectives do not refer to the possessor but to the thing possessed. However, the sex distinction in this adjective only occurs in singular person.

Singular		Plural	
Masculine	Feminine		
Mon	Ma	Mes	My
Ton	Ta	Tes	Your
Son	Sa	Ses	His/Her/Its
Notre		Nos	Our
Votre		Vos	Your
Leur		Leurs	Their

For plural person they have the same form *notre* (our), *votre* (your), and *leur* (their) for both masculine or feminine noun. It means that the gender of the noun does not influence the use of possessive adjective for plural person. The following example will make it clear.

Mon pere	(my father)
Ma mere	(my mother)

Ton oncle (your uncle)

Ta tante (your aunt)

Notre instituteur (our teacher-male)

Notre institutrice (our teacher-female)

Votre pere (your father)

Votre mere (your mother)

In addition, masculine possessive adjectives (mon, ton, son) are also used with the nouns initiated by the mute 'h' or vowel eventhough they are feminine nouns.

Example:

Mon amie (my girl friend)

Ton ecole (your school)

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

From the linguistics analysis of English and French gender that has been done in this thesis and the comparison between them in the previous chapter, it can be concluded that both languages have some differences and similarities in the application of gender. The differences are focused on the kinds of gender used, English uses natural gender while French uses grammatical gender. The use of grammatical gender makes French does not have neuter gender. So the inanimate objects are considered to have gender, masculine or feminine, and the ways of showing their gender are afforded by the use of article, *le* for masculine and *la* for feminine.

Another difference is in the personal pronouns especially for the third person. The third person singular in English has different form for neuter while French does not have neuter form. There are only masculine and feminine. The third person plural in English is only one form (**they**) but in French it is distinguished between masculine (**Ils**) and feminine (**Elles**). So the English third person plural does not denote gender but denote plural number.

The writer also finds that the relation between noun and article and adjective in English and French are different. In English, the gender of the noun does not influence articles and adjectives when they are joined

together into a phrase. So it will be easy to say "an honest boy" or "an honest girl" because boy and girl do not need different form of article and adjective. Meanwhile in French, the gender of the noun influences the use of articles and adjectives when they are joined into a phrase. So the French learner must give a hard attention to say "Un grand garçon (a big boy)" or "Une grande fille (a big girl)" because feminine nouns require different form of article and adjective from masculine nouns.

The last difference that the writer finds after comparing the two languages is in the possessive case. Possessive case in English refers to the possessor but in French it refers to the thing possessed. So the gender in the possessive case in English represents the possessor of the thing but in French represents the thing possessed.

On the other hand, the similarities are in the distinguishing of the male persons and the female persons. Both languages use different words and different endings to distinguish female persons to male persons.

Finally, the differences and the similarities that the writer finds after comparing the two languages are the important things to understand gender as one of the basic principles in understanding a language for the language learners.

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