Language Generator 11—Стать (To Become)

The verb "стать" means "to become" as in "to become a father", "to become a problem", or "to become large". Because the thing named after стать is a role or acquired condition, it must always be in the instrumental case. Refer to [Grammar 18—Instrumental Case](#) for more information about the instrumental case and roles.

Subject and Verb	Role singular/plural, in instrumental case
Я ста́ну I shall become	врачо́м/врача́ми a doctor/doctors
Мы ста́нем We will become	студе́нтом/студе́нтами a college student/college students
Ты ста́нешь Thou wilt become	а́втором/а́вторами an author/authors
Вы ста́нете You will become	во́ром/во́рами a thief/thieves
Он/Она́/Оно́ ста́нет He/She/It will become	отцо́м/отца́ми a father/fathers
Они́ ста́нут They will become	ма́терью/ма́терями a mother/mothers
Он ста́л He became	слуго́й/слуга́ми a servant/servants
Она́ ста́ла She became	учи́телем/учи́телями a teacher/teachers
Оно́ ста́ло It became	спо́рным вопро́сом a controversial question
Они́ ста́ли They became	пробле́мой для нас a problem for us
Э́то ста́ло That became	по́водом для преткнове́ния a cause for stumbling
	по́водом для ра́дости a cause for joy
	отве́том на наши́ моли́тва an answer to our prayers
	причи́ной его сме́рти the cause of his death

The subject of the sentence and the word or phrase in the instrumental case will often not match in gender and number. For example:

> Бездо́мные соба́ки ста́ли пробле́мой.   Homeless dogs (plural) became a problem (feminine singular).
> А́нна ста́ла студе́нтом.   Anna (feminine) became a student (masculine).

The word "студент" in the second example, though grammatically masculine, used used to refer to a college student of either sex. Such words generally also have forms which refer only to females. For example:

> А́нна жила́ с други́ми студе́нтками.   Anna lived with the other studentesses.

But using them with стать is likely to sound silly:

> А́нна ста́ла студе́нткой.   Anna became a studentess.

She did not become female, she became a student, so using a sex-specific word here sounds odd.