

In the second sentence we are told that Hari was the person to whom Rama gave a ball. The noun Hari is called the Indirect Object of the verb gave. The noun ball, the ordinary Object, is called the Direct Object. It will be noticed that the position of the Indirect Object is immediately after the verb and before the Direct Object.

Note:

Rama gave Hari a ball = Rama gave a ball to Hari.
Will you do me a favour? = Will you do a favour to me?
I bought Rama a ball = I bought a ball for Rama.
Fetch the boy a book = Fetch a book for the boy.
She made Ruth a new dress = She made a new dress for Ruth.
Get me a taxi = Get a taxi for me.

We see that the Indirect Object of a verb denotes the person to whom something is given, or for whom something is done.

53. Examine the sentence:-

This is Ram's umbrella.

Ram's umbrella = the umbrella belonging to Rama.

The form of the noun Rama is changed to Rama's to show ownership of possession. The Noun Rama's is therefore said to be in the possessive (or Genitive) Case

Page 17

The Possessive answers the question, 'Whose?'

Whose umbrella? - Rama's.

54. The Possessive Case does not always denote possession. It is used to denote authorship, origin, kind, etc. as,

Shakespeare's plays = the plays written by Shakespeare.

A mother's love = the love felt by a mother.

The President's speech = the speech delivered by the President.

Mr. Aggarwal's house = the house where Mr. Aggarwal lives.

Ashok's school = the school where Ashok goes.

A children's playground = a playground for children.

A week's holiday = a holiday which lasts a week.

Formation of the Possessive Case

55. (1) When the noun is Singular, the Possessive Case is formed by adding 's to the noun; as,

The boy's book; the king's crown.

Note:- The letter s is omitted in a few words where too many hissing sounds would come together; as,

For conscience' sake; for goodness' sake;

For justice' sake; for Jesus' sake; Moses' laws.