Masculin vs feminine

1. A large number of sports are masculine:

le hockey, le basketball, le baseball, le football, le soccer, le ski, etc.

but la natation (swimming), la boxe (boxing), la lutte/ le catch (wrestling)

1. Most words borrowed from other languages are masculine:

un best-seller, un baklava, un coca, un hamburger

but la vodka, la pizza

1. Languages are masculine, and not capitalized:

Other rules:

Masculine:

Nouns ending in –t, -r, -c, -n, -s, -asme, -isme, -eau, -ment, -age, -acle are usually masculine

But l’eau is feminine

Feminine:

Nouns ending in –e, -sion, -tion, -aison, -ance, -ence, -té, -ude, -ie, -ale, -ole, -ure, -euse are usually feminine.