

Indefinite pronoun

Class Objective- I will be able to use indefinite pronouns in sentences.

Concept A:What is an indefinite pronoun?

An indefinite pronoun is one of a small group of pronouns such as everything, nobody and something which are used to refer to people or things in a general way without saying exactly who or what they are.

In German, the indefinite pronouns jemand (meaning someone, somebody) and niemand (meaning no-one, nobody) are often used in speech without any endings. In written German, the endings are added.

Case	Indefinite Pronoun
Nominative	jemand/niemand
Accusative	jemanden/niemanden
Genitive	jemand(e)s/niemand(e)s
Dative	jemandem/niemandem

Ich habe es jemandem gegeben.	I gave it to someone.
Jemand hat es genommen.	Someone has stolen it.
Sie hat niemanden gesehen.	She didn't see anyone.
Ich bin unterwegs niemandem begegnet.	I didn't meet anyone on the way

If you want to express the sense of somebody or other, use irgendjemand which is declined like jemand.

Ich habe es irgendjemandem gegeben.	I gave it to somebody or other.
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The indefinite pronoun keiner has the same endings as the article kein, keine, kein except in the nominative masculine and nominative and accusative neuter forms, and can be used to refer to people or things. When referring to people it means nobody, not ... anybody or none and when referring to things, it means not ... any or none.

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