

Subject Pronouns and **ser**

Ser means *to be*. Use **ser** to identify a person or say where he or she is from. How do you use this verb with **subject pronouns**?

Here's how:

| Singular | | | Plural | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| yo | soy | <i>I am</i> | nosotros(as) | somos | <i>we are</i> |
| tú | eres | <i>you are</i> | vosotros(as) | sois | <i>you are</i> |
| usted | es | <i>you are</i> | ustedes | son | <i>you are</i> |
| él, ella | es | <i>he, she is</i> | ellos(as) | son | <i>they are</i> |

Yo soy de Buenos Aires.
I am from Buenos Aires.

Ellas son de Venezuela.
They are from Venezuela.

Singular

Use **tú** with

- a friend
- a family member
- someone younger

Use **usted** with

- a person you don't know
- someone older
- someone for whom you want to show respect

Plural

- Use **vosotros(as)** with friends, family, and younger people only in Spain.
- Use **ustedes** with people you don't know, older people, and people for whom you want to show respect in Spain; use it in Latin America with any group of people.
- Use **nosotras, vosotras,** and **ellas** when all the people you are talking about are female.

Gustar with an Infinitive

Use **gustar** to talk about what people like to do.

Here's how: Use phrases like **me gusta + infinitive**.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Me gusta dibujar. | <i>I like to draw.</i> |
| Te gusta dibujar. | <i>You (familiar singular) like to draw.</i> |
| Le gusta dibujar. | <i>You (formal singular) like to draw. He/She likes to draw.</i> |
| Nos gusta dibujar. | <i>We like to draw.</i> |
| Os gusta dibujar. | <i>You (familiar plural) like to draw.</i> |
| Les gusta dibujar. | <i>You (plural) like to draw. They like to draw.</i> |

When you want to really emphasize or identify the person that you are talking about, add **a + noun/pronoun**.

A Sonia le gusta leer. **A ella le gusta leer.**
Sonia likes to read. *She likes to read.*

These are the **pronouns** that follow **a**.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| A mí me gusta dibujar. | A nosotros(as) nos gusta dibujar. |
| A ti te gusta dibujar. | A vosotros(as) os gusta dibujar. |
| A usted le gusta dibujar. | A ustedes les gusta dibujar. |
| A él, ella le gusta dibujar. | A ellos(as) les gusta dibujar. |

Definite and Indefinite Articles

In Spanish, articles match nouns in gender and number.

Here's how: All Spanish nouns, even if they refer to objects, are either

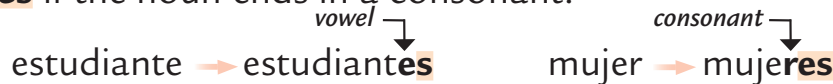
masculine or **feminine**.

- Nouns ending in **-o** are usually **masculine**.
- Nouns ending in **-a** are usually **feminine**.

| | | Definite Article | Noun | Indefinite Article | Noun |
|------------------|----------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Masculine | Singular | el <i>the</i> | chico <i>boy</i> | un <i>a</i> | chico <i>boy</i> |
| | Plural | los <i>the</i> | chicos <i>boys</i> | unos <i>some</i> | chicos <i>boys</i> |
| Feminine | Singular | la <i>the</i> | chica <i>girl</i> | una <i>a</i> | chica <i>girl</i> |
| | Plural | las <i>the</i> | chicas <i>girls</i> | unas <i>some</i> | chicas <i>girls</i> |



To form the **plural** of a noun, add **-s** if the noun ends in a vowel. Add **-es** if the noun ends in a consonant.



Noun-Adjective Agreement

In Spanish, adjectives match the gender and number of the nouns they describe.

Here's how:

| | Singular | Plural |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Masculine | el chico alto <i>the tall boy</i> | los chicos altos <i>the tall boys</i> |
| Feminine | la chica alta <i>the tall girl</i> | las chicas altas <i>the tall girls</i> |

- Adjectives that end in **-e** match both genders.
- Many adjectives that end in a **consonant** match both genders.
- Some adjectives that end in a **consonant** add **-a** to form the feminine singular. These exceptions have to be memorized.
- To make an adjective plural, add **-s** if it ends in a **vowel**; add **-es** if it ends in a **consonant**.

el maestro inteligente
la maestra inteligente
el amigo joven
la amiga joven
el chico trabajador
la chica trabajadora

las chicas trabajadoras
los chicos trabajadores