

Nouns (Los sustantivos)

A noun is the name of a person, place, thing, or idea.

All nouns in Spanish have gender and number.

Gender refers to masculine or feminine. man-hombre woman-mujer

Number refers to singular and plural. hombre, hombres mujer, mujeres

Nouns that end with -o are generally masculine.

Nouns that end with -a are generally feminine.

Usually nouns ending in *-ion* or *-d* are also feminine.

el muchacho, the boy

la muchacha, the girl

el burro, the donkey

la mesa, the table

is ~~nation~~ the nation

la verdad, the truth

If a noun ends with **-e** or any other consonant and common sense doesn't tell you the gender, you simply have to learn whether it is masculine or feminine.

el automóvil (m.) el animal (m.) el aguacate (m.) la flor (f.)

To make nouns plural

Just add -s if the word ends with a vowel

And -es if the word ends with a consonant

Exercise (Ejercicio) Make the following words plural.

hombre _____ mujer _____ interactivo _____

muchacha _____ burro _____ mesa _____

fraction _____ period _____ animal _____

Articles (Los artículos)

There are four words meaning *the* (called the definite article). There are also four words meaning *a/on* (called the indefinite article). It is always necessary to use the one that matches its noun in gender and number. *the* = *el* or *la*; *a/an* = *un* or *una*

The plural of **el** = **los**. the book, **el libro** the books, **los libros**

The plural of la = las the table, la mesa the tables, las mesas

The plural of un = unos. a book, **un libro** some books, **unos libros**

The plural of una = **unas**. a table, **una mesa** some tables, **unas mesas**

an eraser, una goma some erasers, unas gomas

Unos and unas mean some (more than one).

Exercise (Ejercicio) Study the ABC model names as given on p. 1 in the alphabet list and in Appendix A, p. 219. Write each word below with the correct article. Then on the next page, rewrite each word making it plural. Remember to use the correct plural article.

[illegible]