

## Grammar Review

**\*\*Carefully read the following material listed below. Even if you have had level 1 Spanish before, it is important to review the material and know it as well. \*\***

### Nombres - Spanish Nouns

A **noun** is a word that represents a **thing**, concrete (e.g., a chair, a dog) or **abstract** (an idea, happiness). In Spanish, all **nouns** have a **gender** - they are either masculine or feminine. It is very important to learn a noun's **gender** along with the noun itself because [definite articles](#), [indefinite articles](#), [adjectives](#), and [pronouns](#) have to *agree* with nouns; that is, they change depending on the **gender** of the noun they modify or replace. The **gender** of some nouns makes sense (*hombre* [man] is masculine, *mujer* [woman] is feminine) but others don't (*persona* [person] is always feminine, even if the person is a man!)

The best way to learn the **gender** of nouns is to make your vocabulary lists with the definite or indefinite article.

### Nombres plurales - Spanish Plural Nouns

Making [nouns](#) plural in Spanish is slightly more complicated than in English, but it's not too bad.

If the noun ends in a vowel, add S.	casa	casas
	hombre	hombres
	foto	fotos
If the noun ends in any consonant except Z, add ES.	mujer	mujeres
	rey	reyes
	mes	meses
If the noun ends in a Z, changed the Z to a C and add ES. ( <a href="#">Why is this?</a> )	vez	veces
	lápiz	lápices
	nariz	narices

<u>This ending...</u>	<u>is usually</u>
-o	masculine
-a	feminine
-ión	feminine
-dad	feminine

### Adjetivos - Spanish Adjectives

An **adjective** is a word that describes a [noun](#). Adjectives can describe shape, [color](#), size, and many other things about a noun.

Spanish **adjectives** are very different from English adjectives, for two reasons:

1. Whereas in English, **adjectives** are always found in front of the noun, Spanish adjectives usually follow the noun that they modify.

2. Spanish **adjectives** change to *agree* in gender and number with the nouns that they modify. This means that there can be up to four forms of each adjective: masculine singular, feminine singular, masculine plural, and feminine plural. But not to worry, we'll go over everything right here. If you've already studied the [noun lesson](#), some of these rules will look familiar to you.

**I.** Most Spanish adjectives end in **o**. To make them feminine, change the **o** to an **a**. To make them plural, add **-s**.

	singular	plural	singular	plural
masc	<b>blanco</b>	<b>blancos</b>	<b>malo</b>	<b>malos</b>
fem	<b>blanca</b>	<b>blancas</b>	<b>mala</b>	<b>malas</b>

**II.** When the adjective ends in **a** or **e**, there is no difference between the masculine and feminine forms, and the plural is created by adding **-s**.

	singular	plural	singular	plural
masc	<b>triste</b>	<b>tristes</b>	<b>realista</b>	<b>realistas</b>
fem	<b>triste</b>	<b>tristes</b>	<b>realista</b>	<b>realistas</b>

**III.** When the adjective ends in any consonant except **n**, **r**, or **z**, there is no difference between the masculine and feminine forms, and the plural is created by adding **-es**.

	singular	plural
masc	<b>fácil</b>	<b>fáciles</b>
fem	<b>fácil</b>	<b>fáciles</b>

**IV.** When the adjective ends in **z**, there is no difference between the masculine and feminine forms, and the plural is created by changing the **z** to a **c** and adding **-es**. ([Why is this?](#))

	singular	plural
masc	<b>feliz</b>	<b>felices</b>
fem	<b>feliz</b>	<b>felices</b>
fem	<b>habladora</b>	<b>habladoras</b>

### **Artículo definido - Spanish Definite Article**

The Spanish **definite** article is sometimes confusing for beginning students, because it has to agree in gender and number with the noun it modifies, and it doesn't always correspond to an article in other languages. For me, it helps to remember that if you have a noun in Spanish, there is virtually always an article (either definite or [indefinite](#)) in front of it, unless you use a possessive (my, your, etc.) or a demonstrative (this, that) adjective. It is also vital that when you learn new vocabulary, you make sure to learn the [gender](#) of each noun, because the articles

(as well as adjectives, pronouns, and just about everything else) change according to the gender of the [noun](#).

The Spanish **definite** article corresponds with **the** in English. There are four Spanish **definite** articles.

	Singular	Plural
Masculine	<b>el</b> el hombre	<b>los</b> los hombres
Feminine	<b>la</b> la mujer	<b>las</b> las mujeres

The **definite** article indicates a **specific** noun.

¿Dónde está el libro? - Where is the book?

Las chicas quieren comer - The girls want to eat.

The **definite** article is also used in Spanish to indicate the **general** sense of a noun. The article is not used in this sense in English.

Me gusta el café - I like coffee.

¡Así es la vida! - That's life!

The masculine singular **definite** article changes when preceded by the [preposition](#) **a** or **de**: the preposition and article contract into a single word.

<b>a + el</b>	<b>al</b>
<b>de + el</b>	<b>del</b>

## Verbos - Spanish Verbs

A **verb** is the action word in a sentence. It is the word that says what happens, discusses an action, or describes a state of being.

All Spanish **verbs** have to be **conjugated** - they have different forms depending on what the subject is. In English, we only have a separate conjugation for the **third person singular** of a verb: **I sing** becomes **he sings**. The verb **to be** has three conjugations: **I am, you are, he is**.

In Spanish, verbs have 6 conjugations, one for each [subject pronoun](#) (I, you, he, etc.)

**Verbs** come in many varieties: different tenses (present, future), voices, and moods. There are different conjugations for each variety. But don't get discouraged! There are patterns to the conjugations of most verbs.

### 5 categories of verbs:

-AR verbs, -ER verbs, and -IR verbs are **regular** verbs. Regular verbs that end in these letters are all conjugated the same way in all of the tenses. Once you learn how to conjugate one regular verb in each category, you can conjugate the majority of Spanish verbs.

A fourth category is known as stem-changing verbs, or verbs with spelling changes. These verbs take the same endings as regular verbs, but their root changes depending on the subject.

The final category is **irregular** verbs. These are verbs whose conjugations are unique to them, so you must memorize their conjugations separately. One of the most common irregular Spanish verbs is Ir (to go).

### Tener - To Have - Spanish Verb

**Tener** - to have - is one of the most common irregular Spanish verbs.

yo	<b>tengo</b>	nosotros	<b>tenemos</b>
tú	<b> tienes</b>	vosotros	<b> tenéis</b>
él, ella, Ud.	<b> tiene</b>	ellos, ellas, Uds.	<b> tienen</b>

In the simple present tense, it is used just like the English verb to have.

Tengo dos hermanos.	I have two brothers.
¿Tienes un diccionario?	Do you have a dictionary?
No tenemos dinero.	We don't have any money.

### La Tilde - Acute Accent - Spanish Pronunciation

Accents may look strange to anyone whose native language doesn't have any, but they are extremely important in Spanish. Leaving off the accent on a word is a spelling mistake, and may cause confusion.

The Spanish acute accent or *tilde* (á, é, í, ó, ú) serves two purposes:

1. It indicates that the normal rules of word stress are being overridden. The following table lists the normal rules and has examples of words that follow them as well as words that need accents because they break the rules.

a. Words that end in a consonant other than N and S have stress on the last syllable.

[calor](#)      [árbol](#)  
[estoy](#)      [lápiz](#)  
[salud](#)  
[abril](#)

b. Words that end in a vowel, S, or N have stress on the penultimate syllable.

[agosto](#)      [sábado](#)  
[nosotros](#)      [jesús](#)  
[señora](#)      [perdón](#)

c. Most two-vowel combinations diphthong\* unless one of them has an accent

[cuarto](#)      [mediodía](#)  
[diciembre](#)      [miércoles](#)  
[junio](#)      [frío](#)

\*Are pronounced as a single syllable

2. Acute accents are also used to distinguish between otherwise identical words, such as *sí* (yes) vs *si* (if) -

3. Acute accents are added to verbs with attached object pronouns

## The Verb Form "hay"

### Notes:

1. The written lesson is below.

The verb form "hay" has two meanings:

there is  
there are

Examples:

**Hay muchos libros en la biblioteca.**

There are many books in the library.

**Hay un libro encima de la mesa.**

There is a book on the table.

Más ejemplos:

**Hay dos baños en mi casa.**

There are two baths in my house.

**Hay cuatro océanos en el mundo.**

There are 4 oceans in the world.

**Hay un libro y una pluma en la mesa.**

There is one book and one pen on the table.

or:

There is a book and a pen on the table.

When used in questions, "hay" has two different meanings:

Is there?

Are there?

Ejemplos:

**¿Hay un hotel en el centro?**

Is there a hotel downtown?

**¿Hay algunos libros por aquí?**

Are there any books around here?

Más ejemplos: (more examples)

**¿Hay muchos estudiantes en la clase?**

Are there lots of students in the class?

**¿Hay cuatro sillas en el cuarto?**

Are there 4 chairs in the room?

**¿Hay una chica o dos?**

Is there one girl or two?

The verb form "hay" can also be used to answer questions.

**¿Hay un hotel en el centro?**

Is there a hotel downtown?

**Sí. Sí hay.**

Yes. Yes there is.

**¿Hay algunos libros por aquí?**

Are there any books around here?

**No. No hay.**

No. No there aren't.