

PiXL Spine – Spanish – Grammar

Nouns and Gender

1. A general rule is that masculine nouns tend to end in ‘-o’ in Spanish, and feminine nouns tend to end in ‘-a’. Now, put these nouns in the correct column:

Masculine	Feminine

la coleta	el muro	la caja	el hotel	el vaso	la bola	el árbol
el bolso	la máquina	el fuego	la cama	el pelo	la naranja	

2. For words that end in ‘-e’, we have to learn their grammatical gender. Using a bilingual dictionary, look up these words, write down their meaning and whether they are masculine or feminine, then, add them to the table in exercise 1.

Palabra	Definición	Masculino o femenino?
Nieve		
Luz		
Puente		
Fuente		
Gente		
Mente		
Cine		
Baile		
Paquete		

3. (i) Some words end in something other than ‘-o’, ‘-a’ or ‘-e’. Look at the words below and see whether you can spot the patterns with other endings.

Nacionalidad		Tema	
Ciudad		Problema	
Felicidad		Drama	
Salud		Enigma	
Virtud		Idioma	
Televisión		Nariz	
Canción		Luz	
Religión		Paz	
Irritación		Actriz	

4. Unfortunately, there are some common words which are exceptions to these rules. What gender do you think these words are? Check in a bilingual dictionary.

Palabra	¿M/F?	¿El/La?
Mano		
Foto		
Moto		
Radio		
Planeta		
Día		
Panda		
Disfraz		
Arroz		

Make an acronym or rhyme to help you to remember these exceptions!

5. (i) Transform these nouns from singular to plural:

1. La masa - _____
2. El zapato - _____
3. La jaula - _____
4. El dedo - _____
5. La cabeza - _____

	m	f
(s)	el	la
(pl)	los	las

(ii) Now transform these nouns from plural to singular:

6. Los niños - _____
7. Los cuencos - _____
8. Las estrellas - _____
9. Los palos - _____
10. Las casas - _____

6. (i) Invent a sentence using only feminine nouns.

(ii) Now invent a sentence using only masculine nouns.

7. Prepositions tell us where things are in relation to something else.
Below are some key prepositions in Spanish. Match up their meanings.

1. A	a) Without
2. Bajo	b) In/on
3. Contra	c) Against
4. Desde	d) Under
5. En	e) Towards
6. Hacia	f) About/above
7. Para	g) To/at
8. Sobre	h) From/since
9. Sin	i) With
10. Con	j) For/by
11. De	k) For/in order to
12. Detrás	l) Of/from
13. Entre	m) Behind
14. Hasta	n) Between
15. Por	o) Until

In which other contexts have you seen some of these words?

8. 'Por' and 'para' are translated as 'for', however they are used for specific purposes.
Below are some of the common purposes:

POR	PARA
Around/through – travelling	Destination
In exchange for – money	In order to
To express gratitude or apology	To show the use or purpose of something
Because of	To express a specific amount of time/deadline
By – i.e. written by	To indicate a recipient (i.e. a gift)

Now, think about which one would be needed below:

- Este regalo es _____ mi madre.
- Tengo una cita médica _____ el martes.
- Este libro está escrito _____ Cervantes.
- Compré el coche _____ 100€.
- Tengo que estudiar _____ mis exámenes.
- Tengo algo _____ ti.
- Trabajo _____ una organización benéfica.
- Te lo mandé _____ correo electrónico.
- Suelo escuchar música _____ la mañana.
- Gracias _____ ayudarme.

9. (i) What is an infinitive? _____
 There are three types of infinitives in Spanish – AR, ER and IR.
 (ii) Classify these infinitives:

AR	ER	IR
VIVIR BEBER JUGAR	HACER QUERER	GUSTAR VER
ENCANTAR CONDUCIR	DECIR ANDAR	COGER GRITAR IR

10. Tense tells us when an action takes place. To change an infinitive to tell us **who** is doing the action we have to **conjugate**. To do this, we take off the AR/ER/IR ending, and then add a different ending.
 All regular present tense verbs end in ‘-o’ for ‘I’ (first person).
 All regular preterite tense verbs end with a vowel with an accent for ‘I’ (first person).
 All regular simple future verbs take the infinitive + é for ‘I’ (first person).

Use three colours to identify to which tense these first person (I) verbs belong:

iré	bebo	hablo	comí	veo	acabo	jugaré
fabricaré	salto	ando	salté	viví	señalé	leí

11. Classify these words (noun, verb, preposition or adjective):

Amable	
Tener	
Bonito	
Hacia	
Carta	
Casco	
Hasta	

What else could you say about these words?

12. In Spanish, adjectives go after the noun.

In English we say 'a blue car', but in Spanish they say 'un coche azul' ('a car blue')

Correct the mistakes in these sentences:

- a) En mi casa hay muchos viejos muebles.
- b) Tengo tres verdes bolígrafos.
- c) Tengo un energético perro.
- d) Mi amigo es simpático pero tiene una antipática novia.
- e) Suelo llevar negros pantalones y una blanca camiseta.

13. In Spanish, adjectives have to agree with the gender of the noun.

For example, 'una camiseta rosa', 'un amigo listo', 'el suelo duro'.

Correct the mistakes in these sentences:

- a) Mi amiga es muy gracioso y un poco perezoso.
- b) Mi padre es muy alta y muy seria a veces.
- c) Mi casa es bastante antiguo pero mi dormitorio es moderna.
- d) Tengo el pelo corta y lisa.
- e) Hoy llevo una camiseta rojo con un logo blanca.



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