

GRAMÁTICA!

The indefinite article

In Spanish, the words for 'a' change according to whether the noun is masculine or feminine.

masculine	un perro	a dog
feminine	una tortuga	a tortoise

1 Copy the sentences and put in the correct word for 'a'.

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Tengo <u> </u> gato. (m) | 4 ¿Tienes <u> </u> pez? (m) |
| 2 ¿Tienes <u> </u> cobaya? (f) | 5 Tengo <u> </u> hermanastro. (m) |
| 3 Tengo <u> </u> hermana. (f) | 6 Tiene <u> </u> serpiente. (f) |

The definite article

The Spanish word for 'the' also changes according to the gender of the noun and whether it is singular or plural.

	singular	plural
masculine	el conejo (the rabbit)	los conejos (the rabbits)
feminine	la cobaya (the guinea pig)	las cobayas (the guinea pigs)

2 Choose the correct article each time.

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|--|--|
| 1 El/La/Los/Las gato es negro.  | 4 El/La/Los/Las caballos son blancos.  |
| 2 El/La/Los/Las cobaya es tímida.  | 5 El/La/Los/Las perro es tonto.  |
| 3 El/La/Los/Las peces son rojos.  | 6 El/La/Los/Las serpiente es verde.  |

Regular verbs

Regular verbs follow a pattern.

hablar	to speak	vivir	to live
hablo	I speak	vivo	I live
hablas	you speak	vives	you live
habla	he/she speaks	vive	he/she lives

3 Decode these verbs, then translate them into English.

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|-----------|-----------|----------|
| 1 -#-# | 3 -#-+ | 5 -#-+? |
| 2 *-#%&=? | 4 *-#%&\$ | 6 *-#%&= |

Key	- a	\$ o	& i
	+ e	% b	? s
	# l	* h	- v

Irregular verbs

Some verbs are irregular. They don't follow a pattern. Here are two that you will meet a lot.

ser	to be	tener	to have
soy	I am	tengo	I have
eres	you are	tienes	you have
es	he/she is	tiene	he/she has

4 Unjumble the verb forms. Translate the sentences into English.

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|---------------------------------|--|
| 1 oSy simpático. | 4 gnoeT dos hermanas, pero no tengo animales. |
| 2 sEer tranquila. | 5 ¿Tiseen hermanos? |
| 3 sE sincero y generoso. | 6 eTise tres ratones y un perro. |

5 Translate these sentences into Spanish.

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|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 I am sincere. (m) | 3 You are generous. (f) | 5 Do you have pets? |
| 2 He is nice. | 4 I have a rabbit. | 6 She has a snake. |

Adjectives

Adjectives describe nouns. There are three main groups of adjectives:

- ending in -o or -a
- ending in -e
- ending in a consonant

Their endings change to agree with the noun, like this:

singular		plural	
masculine	feminine	masculine	feminine
sincero	sincera	sinceros	sinceras
verde	verde	verdes	verdes
azul	azul	azules	azules

6 Translate these sentences into Spanish.

Example: 1 Es seria y sincera.

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|---|--|---|--|
| 1  Es... (serious and sincere). | 2  Es... (clever and shy). | 3  Es... (calm and generous). | 4  Es... (nice and funny). |
|---|--|---|--|

Making verbs negative

To make a sentence or a question negative, put **no** before the verb.

No tengo veinte años. I am **not** 20 years old.
Mi hermano **no** vive en Madrid. My brother does **not** live in Madrid.

7 Make these sentences negative.

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|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Soy serio. | 3 Mi hermano es tonto. |
| 2 Vivo en Sevilla. | 4 Mi hermanastro es divertida. |