



Definite and Indefinite Articles

Objective:

I can identify the gender of a noun by either it's ending or the appropriate article.



Los Sustantivos - nouns

- Name of a person, place or thing is a noun
- In Spanish, every noun has a gender, either masculine or feminine
- All nouns are put into these categories even if there is no class logic to why

In Spanish all nouns belong to 2 gender categories:

Masculine
(masculino)

or

Feminine
(feminina)



The header features a horizontal strip of abstract art. On the left, there's a textured orange and yellow background. In the center, a rectangular panel shows a landscape with green foliage and a brown animal, possibly a deer. On the right, another panel depicts blue, rocky or cloud-like formations.

Los Artículos (The Articles)

- **There are two types of articles**
 - Definite and Indefinite Articles



Definite Articles

- English definite article is “the”
- It is called definite article because it is used to refer to a specific person, place, or thing
- i.e., the girl next door, the school, etc



Spanish Definite Articles

- There are four

	Singular	Plural
Masculine	el	los
Feminine	la	las

For singular/masculine nouns, use “el”

For singular/feminine nouns, use “la”

For plural/ masculine nouns, use “los”

For plural/feminine nouns, use “las”



Indefinite Articles

- English definite article “a” “an”
- Refers to any person, place, or thing, not a specific one.
- i.e., a girl, a school.



Spanish Indefinite Articles

- There are four

	Singular	Plural
Masculine	un	unos
Feminine	una	unas

For singular/masculine nouns, use “un”

For singular/feminine nouns, use “una”

For plural/ masculine nouns, use “unos”

For plural/feminine nouns, use “unas”



Recap

- All the definite and indefinite articles

	Definite	Indefinite
Singular/Masculine:	el	un
Singular/Feminine:	la	una
Plural/Masculine:	los	unos
Plural/Feminine:	las	unas



Gender in Nouns

- Often but not always the final vowel of a noun tells which article to use



Nouns Ending in “o”

- These are usually masculine and take the definite article “el” and the indefinite article “un”
- i.e.,
 - el chico, un chico
 - el sombrero, un sombrero
 - el vestido, un vestido



Nouns Ending in “a”

- These are usually feminine and take the definite article “la” and the indefinite article “una”
- i.e.:
 - la chica, una chica
 - la camisa, una camisa
 - la casa, una casa

Nouns Ending in “e” or a Consonant

- These can be either masculine or feminine and must be learned individually
- i.e.:
 - el hombre
 - la clase
 - la madre
 - el restaurante



Number in Nouns

- Nouns are marked for gender (masculine/feminine) and number (singular/plural)
- Nouns must agree in gender and number
- I spoke about both singular and plural definite and indefinite articles

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- To change nouns to plural, do the following:
 - Add “s” if the noun ends in a vowel
 - Add “es” if the noun ends in a consonant



Singular

el chico

la alumna

el/la estudiante

un amigo

una camisa

Plural

los chicos

las alumnas

los/las estudiantes

unos amigos

unas camisas

Al practicar

la galleta →

Una galleta

el refresco →

Un refresco

el estudiante →

Un estudiante

la estudiante →

Una estudiante

la pizza →

Una pizza