

## Apuntes 2.1: Gender and Adjective Agreement

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1. Nouns, which are people, places, and things, and pronouns, which are defined as words that refer to nouns, are divided into genders in Spanish. Nouns for men and boys are masculine. Nouns for women and girls are feminine.

Masculine examples: amigo, él, Juan

Feminine Examples: amiga, ella, María

2. Adjectives are words used to describe nouns. They have different forms that match, or agree with, the gender of the noun being described. Masculine adjectives *usually* end in - o while feminine adjectives *usually* end in - a.

Raúl es romántico.

María es romántica.

Adjectives that end in - e are gender neutral, meaning they have the same masculine and feminine forms.

Rafael es inteligente.

Gloria es inteligente.

Adjectives ending in consonants do NOT add an - a UNLESS they end in - or or are adjectives of nationality.

Lorenzo es intelectual y trabajador.  
Sergio es español.

Carmen es intelectual y trabajadora.  
Sara es española.

3. Adjectives also agree in number and gender with the nouns they describe. An adjective that describes one person or thing is singular and an adjective that describes more than one person or thing is plural. If the singular form ends in a vowel, add - s to make it plural. If the singular form ends in a consonant, add - es.

Joaquín es alto.

Joaquín y Paco son altos.

Rosa es intelectual.

Rosa y Marta son intelectuales.

To describe a mixed group of males and females, always use the masculine plural form of the adjective.

Carlos y Ana son románticos.

Lola y Pilar son atléticas.

