

# Sustantivos

Nouns - gender and number

# Nouns

- ▶ Nouns are words which identify people, animals, places, things, or ideas.
- ▶ In Spanish, all nouns (even those that refer to non-living things), are considered even masculine or feminine. They also have number which means they are either singular or plural.

# Nouns referring to living things

## Masculine nouns

- ▶ El hombre - the man
  - ▶ Ending in -o
    - ▶ El chico - the boy
    - ▶ El pasajero - the male passenger
  - ▶ Ending in -or
    - ▶ El conductor - the male driver
    - ▶ El profesor - the male teacher
  - ▶ Ending in -ista
    - ▶ El turista - the male tourist

## Feminine nouns

- ▶ La mujer - the woman
  - ▶ Ending in -a
    - ▶ La chica - the girl
    - ▶ La pasajera - the female passenger
  - ▶ Ending in -ora
    - ▶ La conductor - the female driver
    - ▶ La profesora - the female teacher
  - ▶ Ending in -ista
    - ▶ La turista - the female tourist

# Non-living things

## Masculine nouns

- ▶ Ending in -o
  - ▶ El cuaderno - the notebook
  - ▶ El diario - the diary
  - ▶ El diccionario - the dictionary
  - ▶ El número - the number
  - ▶ El video - the video
- ▶ Ending in -ma
  - ▶ El problema - the problem
  - ▶ El programa - the program
- ▶ Ending in -s
  - ▶ El autobus - the bus
  - ▶ El país - the country

## Feminine nouns

- ▶ Ending in -a
  - ▶ La cosa - the thing
  - ▶ La escuela - the school
  - ▶ La computadora - the computer
  - ▶ La maleta - the suitcase
  - ▶ La palabra - the word
- ▶ Ending in -ción
  - ▶ La lección - the lesson
  - ▶ La conversación - **the conversation**
- ▶ Ending in -dad
  - ▶ La nacionalidad - the nationality
  - ▶ La comunidad - the community

# Noun rules

- ▶ Some nouns endings suggest gender.
- ▶ Not all nouns can be determined by fool-proof rules.
- ▶ Memorize gender of noun as you learn the word.
- ▶ There are some exceptions to the rules:
  - ▶ El día and el mapa end in a but they are masculine.
  - ▶ La mano ends in -o but it is feminine.

# Plural of nouns

- ▶ Nouns that end in a vowel are made plural by adding - s
  - ▶ El chico - los chicos      la chica - las chicas
- ▶ Nouns that end in a consonant are made plural by adding - es
  - ▶ La comunidad - las comunidades    el país - los países
- ▶ Nouns that end in -z change the z to c and add -es.
  - ▶ El lápiz - los lápices      el pez - los peces
- ▶ When a noun has an accent on the last syllable, drop the accent when it is made plural.
  - ▶ La lección - las lecciones    el autobús - los autobuses.
- ▶ When a group has both male and female the plural form is masculine.
  - ▶ 1 chico + 1 chica = 2 chicos