

# Subject Pronouns

In English, a subject pronoun replaces a noun that is doing the action of a verb.

For example: Mr. McCabe talks to students. Mr. McCabe sees them in the hall.  
Mr. McCabe is the principal.

In these sentences we can replace “Mr. McCabe” with “He” since we know who we are talking about and who is doing the action. “He” is a subject pronoun (or personal pronoun).

English subject pronouns are:

I, you, he, she, it, we, they

Spanish pronouns work the same way. In Spanish, they are:

Yo, tú, él, ella, usted (Ud), nosotros, nosotras, vosotros, vosotras, ellos, ellas,  
 Ustedes (UDS.)

You can organize these pronouns in a simple chart to help understand them better.

MEMORIZE THIS CHART!

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> person</b>	Yo = I	Nosotros = we (all male or mixed group) Nosotras = we (all female)
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> person</b>	Tú = you (familiar)	<del>Vosotros = all of you (familiar, male or mixed)</del> <del>Vosotras = all of you (familiar, all female)</del>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> person</b>	Él = he Ella = she Usted (Ud.) = you (formal)	Ellos = They (all male or mixed) Ellas = They (all female) Ustedes (UDs.) = all of you

Vosotros and Vosotras are only used in parts of Spain. You will not be tested on these, but you need to know that they exist.

Notice that there are 5 ways to say “you” in Spanish. We will use 3.

Tú - this is used informally, meaning with your friends, family, kids, pets, etc.

Usted – This is used formally, with adults, strangers, people in authority, to show Respect. It’s often abbreviated to Ud.

Ustedes – This is used to address a group of “you”s or y’all, all of you, ‘you guys’.

Abbreviated to Uds.

With plural subject pronouns, remember that if there is one guy in the group, no matter how many women, use the masculine form.

Some times you will see multiple nouns and subject pronouns together. Any time that “yo” is included, use the nosotros,as form. If you see tú or Ud. Or Uds., and “yo” is not included, use the Uds. Form. This will become more important later with verbs.

Here is another chart to help you determine when to use each subject pronoun.

	<b>Singular 1 person</b>	<b>Plural Two or more people</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> person</b>	<p><i>Yo = I</i></p> <p>To Talk <b>about</b> oneself</p>	<p><i>Nosotros = we (all male or mixed group)</i>  <i>Nosotras = we (all female)</i></p> <p>To talk <b>about</b> a group of two or more people that <b>includes “yo”</b>  Ex: tú y yo  Rosa y yo  Los alumnos, tú, y yo</p>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> person</b>	<p><i>Tú = you (familiar)</i></p> <p>To talk <b>to</b> a friend, kid, etc.  To someone with whom you are on a first name basis.  Ex: Maria, ¿Eres (tú) de Roxana?</p>	
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> person</b>	<p><i>Él = he</i>  To talk <b>about</b> a guy  Ex: Jorge  el amigo  El alumno  El profesor</p> <p><i>Ella = she</i>  To talk <b>about</b> a Girl  Ex: Juanita  la amiga  la alumna  la profesora</p> <p><i>Usted (Ud.) = you (formal)</i>  To talk <b>to</b> an adult, stranger, a person in authority, some one you are NOT on a first name basis with, etc.  EX: (to) Mr. McCabe  (to) Mrs. Chromiak  (to) a police officer  (to) a stranger  Sr. Martínez, ¿De donde es Ud.?</p>	<p><i>Ellos = They (all male or mixed)</i>  To talk <b>about</b> a group of people  Ex: Juan, Paco, y José  Carlos y Rosa  Él y ella  Los alumnos</p> <p><i>Ellas = They (all female)</i>  To talk <b>about</b> a group of girls  Elena, Margarita, y Esperanza  Lupe y Rosa  Carla y ella  Las alumnas</p> <p><i>Ustedes (Uds.) = all of you</i>  To talk <b>to</b> a group of people that <b>doesn’t include “yo”</b>.  EX: (to) Mr. Lenhart y Mr. McCabe  (to) los amigos  (to) las alumnas y tú  (to) Javier, Lina, y tú</p>