



NOUNS, PRONOUNS and “SER”

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What is a noun?

- A part of speech that indicates a person, animal, place or thing
- Examples?
- The **house** is big.
- The **woman** is tall.
- The **birds** are white.
- We ate the **chocolate**.

What about a pronoun?

First, let's watch a video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_oZFca8AkT0

Pronouns

- ▶ Pronouns replace nouns.
- ▶ Let's go back to our previous examples:
 - The **house** is big. → *It* is big.
 - The **woman** is tall. → *She* is tall.
 - The **birds** are white. → *They* are white.
 - We ate the chocolate → We ate *it*.

Chart expressing number (singular and plural) and person (1st, 2nd, 3rd); subject pronouns are highlighted

	Singular	Plural
1 st person	I	We
2 nd person	You	You (plural)
3 rd person	He, she, it	They

Spanish subject pronouns

	Singular	Plural
1 st person	Yo I	Nosotros/as We
2 nd person	Tú You (familiar)	Vosotros/as You (plural – Spain only)
3 rd person	Él, ella (He, she) Usted You (formal)	Ellos/as They Ustedes You all

A few notes about pronouns

- ▶ *Nosotros*, *Vosotros*, and *Ellos* are used when speaking only about men, or a mixture of men and women
- ▶ *Nosotras*, *Vosotras*, and *Ellas* are used when only speaking about women
- ▶ *Vosotros* is only used in Spain (where it is quite common)
- ▶ We will only use “ustedes” for “you (plural)” in this class; the “vosotros” form will never appear on tests, but we will still mention it in class for students’ general knowledge

Infinitives and Conjugation

- ▶ What is an **infinitive**?
 - ▶ The most basic form of the verb, without expressing a subject or tense (past or present)
- ▶ In English, the infinitive is the form “to + verb”
 - ▶ To eat, to run, to hike, to study, to believe
- ▶ To **conjugate** a verb is to add in a subject and sometimes change the way the verb looks.
- ▶ Look at the next page to see how we would conjugate the verb “to eat” using pronouns as subjects

	Singular	Plural
1 st person	I eat	We eat
2 nd person	You eat	You (plural)eat
3 rd person	He, she, it eats	They eat

The Spanish verb “SER”

- ▶ “SER” is a Spanish verb in the infinitive that means “to be”
- ▶ In the chart on the next page, we will see how we **conjugate** this verb
- ▶ **Spanish verbs change a lot more than English verbs**

	Singular	Plural
1 st	Yo soy (I am)	Nosotros/as somos We are
2 nd	Tú eres (You are, familiar)	Vosotros/as sois (You are, plural – Spain only)
3 rd	Él, ella es (He/she is) Usted es (You are, formal)	Ellos/as son They are Ustedes son You all are

When you've memorized the pronouns, you can simplify the verb chart:

	<u>Singular</u>	<u>Plural</u>
1st	soy	somos
2nd	eres	sois
3rd	es	son

Using nouns as subjects

- ▶ Of course, we can just use nouns as subjects instead of pronouns
- ▶ What if these are our subjects? What form of 'ser' would we use?

Martha _____

Martha y John _____ (y = and)

Martha y yo _____

Los peces _____ (the fish)

Martha es

Martha y John son

Martha y yo somos

Los peces son

Practice

► Fill in the blank with the proper pronoun:

1. _____ eres doctora.

2. _____ somos amigas.

3. _____ es doctor.

4. _____ son amigas.

5. _____ somos estudiantes.

6. _____ son amigos.

7. _____ es maestra.