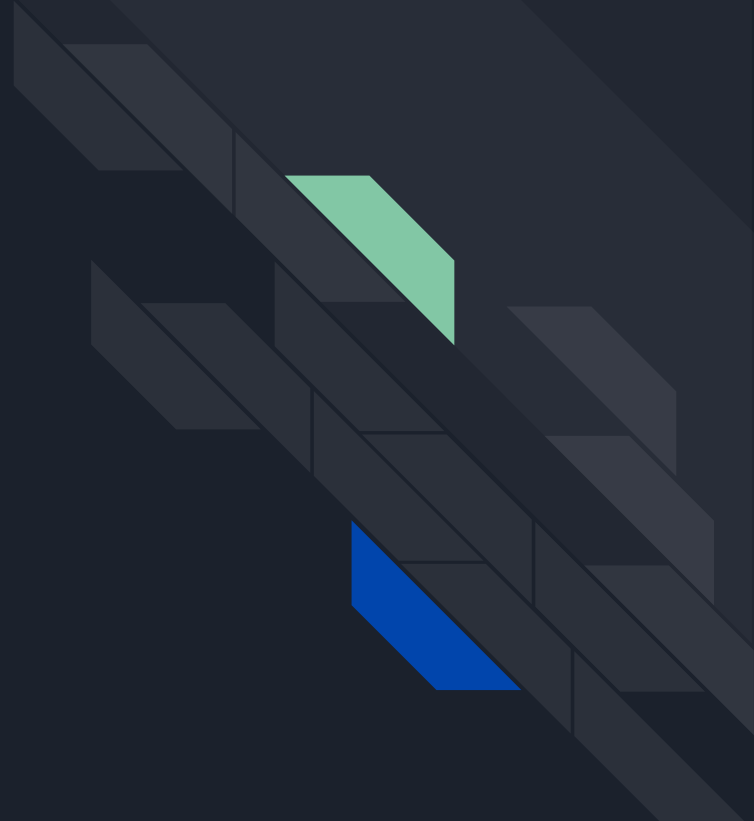




# Grammatical Gender: Review and New Concepts

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This lesson will review the concept of grammatical gender and give more specific examples of masculine and feminine nouns in Spanish.





## Definition of Grammatical Gender

Grammatical gender is a trait of nouns in Spanish that determines how the noun interacts with articles and adjectives. The article and adjective that modify a feminine noun must also be feminine, for example. We also have learned that nouns, adjectives and articles must also match in number (singular or plural).



## Definition of Grammatical Gender, cont'd.

With some exceptions, we cannot think of biological gender when thinking about the gender of a noun. There is nothing feminine about *la mesa* (the table) or masculine about *el tenedor* (the fork). In fact, some objects that are actually associated with men or women don't match the most likely gender in Spanish: for example, *la corbata* (the necktie) and *el maquillaje* (makeup). We will address the gender of living objects later.



## Definition of Grammatical Gender, cont'd.

Examples:

- **El niño pequeño** corre por **el sendero nuevo**.  
The small boy runs along the new path.
- Hay **unas aves blancas** en **el árbol muerto**.  
There are some white birds in the dead tree



## Definition of Grammatical Gender, cont'd.

In your guided notes, we will:

- roughly divide masculine and feminine nouns depending on common word endings
- explain how to identify nouns that actually have biological gender
- discuss an example where feminine nouns have a masculine article