# Gramática: La concordancia del adjetivo



### Describiéndote a ti mismo y a otros: Concordancia del adjetivo.

In Chapter 1, you learned that definite and indefinite articles (el/la, los/las, un/una, unos/unas) must agree in number and gender with the noun they modify. The same is true of descriptive adjectives. Adjectives must agree in gender (masculine / feminine) and number (singular / plural) with the noun they describe. In order to make adjectives agree with the noun they describe, change the ending to reflect the number and gender of the noun they modify.

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| Concordancia del género del adjetivo |
| If an adjective describes a masculine noun, the adjective must take the masculine ending. If an adjective describes a feminine noun, the adjective must take the feminine ending. |
| 1. Adjectives ending in -o will also end in -o when they describe a masculine noun. 2. Adjectives ending in -o will end in -a when they describe a feminine noun. 3. Adjectives ending in -e or most consonants will not change to reflect gender. 4. Adjectives ending in -or will also end in -or when they describe a masculine noun, but they will end in -ora when describing a feminine noun. |
| Ejemplos:   * Un amigo: cómico, inteligente, trabajador, joven * Una amiga: cómica, inteligente, trabajadora, joven |
| Concordancia del número del adjetivo |
| When adjectives describe a plural noun or multiple nouns, the adjective must be changed to the plural form. Just like with articles and subject pronouns, if adjectives describe a group of masculine and feminine nouns, the masculine form of the adjective is used. |
| 1. If the adjective ends in a vowel, add -s to make the adjective plural. 2. If the adjective ends in a consonant, add -es to make the adjective plural. 3. Just like you learned with nouns ending in -z, if an adjective ends in -z, change the z to c and then add -es to make the adjective plural. |
| Ejemplos:   * Un amigo: cómico, inteligente, trabajador, feliz, joven * Unos amigos: cómicos, inteligentes, trabajadores, felices, jóvenes\* * Una amiga: cómica, inteligente, trabajadora, feliz, joven * Unas amigas: cómicas, inteligentes, trabajadoras, felices, jóvenes\*   \*Joven (young) is our only adjective for now that adds an accent to the plural form. |
| Posición de los adjetivos |
| In Spanish, descriptive adjectives follow the noun they describe rather than preceding the noun, as in English.   * Una clase interesante -VERSUS- An interesting class   Adjectives of quantity, however, will precede the noun they modify.   * Tengo mucha tarea. / I have a lot of homework. * Hay veinticinco estudiantes en la clase de español. / There are twenty-five students in Spanish class.   Some adjectives may be used before or after the noun they describe. Three of these adjectives are bueno (good), malo (bad), and grande (big, large).  When bueno and malo are used before a singular masculine noun, they shorten to buen and mal.   * Un amigo bueno / Un buen amigo * Una amiga buena / Una buena amiga * Un día malo / Un mal día * Una semana mala / Una mala semana   When grande is used before any noun, singular or feminine, it is shortened to gran. However, grande changes meaning depending upon the position relative to the noun. When grande follows the noun, it means big/large, but when gran is used before the noun, it means great/famous.   * Un edificio grande / A big building -VERSUS- Un gran edificio / A great or famous building * Una clase grande / A big class -VERSUS- Una gran clase / A great class |
| Listado de adjetivos |
| When you are listing multiple adjectives to describe a particular noun, you can use commas, **y** (and), or **o** (or). Note that each adjective must reflect the number and gender of the noun it describes.   * La profesora es simpática, paciente y trabajadora. / The professor is nice, patient, and hardworking. * ¿El profesor es alto o bajo?/ Is the professor tall or short?   When **y** is used before a word beginning in **i** or **hi**, change the **y** to **e**.   * Mi amiga es simpática **e** introvertida. / My friend is nice and introverted.   When **o** is used before a word beginning in **o** or **ho** change the **o** to **u**.   * Hay siete **u** ocho clases de español 101 y 102. / There are seven or eight Spanish 101 and 102 classes. |

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| Actividades de conversación |

##### **Actividad 1.** ¿Cómo es su apariencia física?

Describe each person below using as many physical descriptions as you can. (The image in this activity is sourced from [openclipart.org](https://openclipart.org/), licence [CC-PD](https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/).)



##### **Actividad 2.** ¿Cómo es? ¿Cómo son?

Combine the nouns and adjectives below to form descriptions of the people and objects. Remember to use the correct forms of ser and make nouns and adjectives agree.

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| Nouns | Adjectives |
| El libro de español  El/La profesor(a) de español  Mi compañero(a) de cuarto  La clase de español  Mis amigos y yo  Yo  La universidad de Gettysburg | * interesante * aburrido * simpático * paciente * moreno * rubio * pelirrojo * alto * bajo * grande * pequeño * trabajador * divertido |

##### **Actividad 3.** Los ideales.

Complete the following statements expressing your own opinion regarding the ideal characteristics for the following subjects.

1. El/La profesor(a) ideal es… No es…
2. El estudiante ideal es… No es…
3. Los amigos ideales son… No son…
4. La universidad ideal es… No es…
5. Las mascotas (pets) ideales son… No son…

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