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# LEARN SPANISH

## WITH MR. CLOUD



### Beginner's Spanish

# **Learn Spanish with Mr. Cloud**

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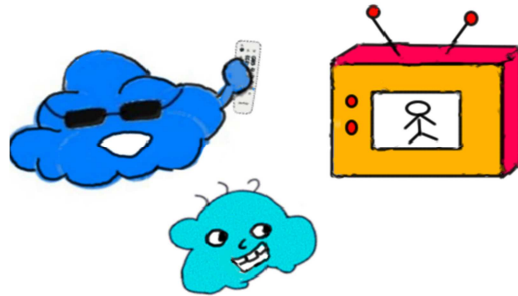
## *What are you going to learn?*

Nouns  
Definite and indefinite articles  
Pronouns  
Direct and indirect object pronouns  
Preposition pronouns  
Possessive pronouns  
Present tenses  
Present progressive tenses  
Imperatives  
Comparatives and superlatives  
Adjectives  
Possessive adjectives  
Verbs  
Irregular verbs  
Prepositions  
Questions  
Punctuations  
Time  
Days, months, dates  
Weather, seasons  
Greetings  
People, animals  
Food  
Shapes, numbers  
Places, countries, nationalities  
Body parts, clothing

This book is equivalent to a beginner level Spanish book.

## ONE FINE DAY...

while Sra. Nube and Lola are out shopping, Sr. Nube and Petro are at home watching television.



Petro: Papa, let's go out too.

Sr. Nube: I am meeting some friends later. I can spare some time now. Let's go.

Sr. Nube and Petro were floating around in the sky when they spotted something.

Sr. Nube: Can you see that? Los niños dibujan una cucaracha en el tren.

(The boys are drawing a cockroach on the train.)

Petro: Daddy, those are naughty boys.

Sr. Nube: Yes they are. Look over there! Mr Sun's boys are drawing on the bus.

Mr Sun's son Gordon: Duck? Why are you drawing a duck?

Mr Sun's son Patrick: Why not? I love ducks.

## Nouns

In Spanish, nouns are classified into masculine (M) and feminine (F)

tren train --- M                      niños boys --- M

cucaracha cockroach --- F            niñas girls --- F

How do you know if it is masculine or feminine? Here are some ways to help you.

Ends in o, s, ma, pa, ta – masculine

zapato (shoe), país (country), problema (problem), mapa (map), planeta (planet),  
programa (program), poema (poem), drama (drama)

Ends in a, ion, dad - feminine

naranja (orange), admisión (admission), universidad (university)

Ends in ista, e can be masculine or feminine

turista (tourist), estudiante (student)

Petro: Wait...tren is not mentioned in these rules

Sr. Nube: That's right. Some nouns do not follow these rules, for example día (day) is masculine. Also, moto (motorcycle), foto (photo), mano (hand) and radio (radio) are all feminine. So, you should always use a dictionary to help you.

Petro: Why should I care if it is M or F?

Sr. Nube: Because an adjective or an article associated with a noun changes with the quantity and the gender of the noun. Let's look at "A" and "The".

## Indefinite & Definite Articles

un niño (m)    a child/a male child    el niño    the boy/the male child

una niña (f)    a child/a female child    la niña    the girl/ the female child

un libro (m), el libro (m)    a book, the book

una bicicleta (f), la bicicleta (f)    a bicycle, the bicycle

un coche (f), el coche (f)    a car, the car



Can you see that “A” and “The” changes according to the gender of a noun?

“A” and “The” can help you to determine the gender of a noun.

Joven = young person, can be M or F

un joven, el joven    a young man, the young man

una joven, la joven    a young lady, the young lady

Estudiante = student, can be M or F

un estudiante, el estudiante    a male student, the male student

una estudiante, la estudiante    a female student, the female student

Certain words change their meanings when they are changed in gender.

el policía    the pólíce    la policía    the police department

el cura    the priest    la cura    the cure

el corte    the cut    la corte    the court

## Singular & Plural

Ends in o, a add s

el gusano (m) the worm      los gusanos (m) the worms  
la araña (f) the spider      las arañas (f) the spiders

Ends in s or n, add es and add or delete the accent mark

el joven the young person      los jóvenes the young people  
la televisión the television      las televisiones the televisions

Ends in z, remove z add c and add es

el lápiz the pencil      los lápices the pencils

las niñas means the girls or the female children

los niños means the boys or the male children

los niños can also mean a mixed group of boys and girls

1 boy and 2 girls = los niños

2398 boys and 2 million girls = los niños

Some nouns are always in plural

las gafas = eyeglasses

las matemáticas = mathematics

las vacaciones = vacation

## Summary

	Indefinite Article	Definite Article	
	A	The (singular)	The (plural)
Male	Un	El	Los
Female	Una	La	Las
Male and Female (e.g. 1 boy and 1 girl)	-	-	Los

From now on, the term “mixed gender” will refer to a group of males and females. Definite articles are omitted when referring to “some”, “many”, “any”. Use definite articles only when you are referring to something specific.

Quiero comida	I want food (some food, any kind of food)
Quiero la comida	I want the food (specific type of food, could be the food on the table, the food in the kitchen.)
Necesito dinero	I need money (some money)
Necesito el dinero	I need the money (specific type of money, could be money given by someone, money from somewhere)

### Preposition – En

✓ To express “on/at a place”

escribir en la camiseta	to write on the shirt
dormir en el suelo	to sleep on the floor



✓ To express “in/during a period of time”

En el verano	In the summer
En 2010	In 2010

✓ To express “by a form of transportation”

Voy en autobús	I go by bus
Voy en barco	I go by boat



## Explaining “dibujan”

Before explaining “dibujan”, you must understand the following

### Subject Pronouns

I	you	he	she	you (formal)	we (mixed gender/all males)	we (all female)
yo	tú	él	ella	usted, Ud. or Vd.	nosotros	nosotras

you all (mixed gender/all males)	you all (all females)	you all (mixed gender/all males, formal)	they (mixed gender/all males)	they (all females)
vosotros	vosotras	ustedes, Uds. or Vds.	ellos	ellas

Use formal when addressing a person of a higher status such supervisor, teacher, older person, president, etc. Note that Ud., Uds., Vd., Vds. are always in caps.

Note that we only focus on present tenses in this book.

Dibujar = to draw

### Present tense

I	you	he/she/you (formal)	we	you all	they/they/you all (formal)
yo	tú	él/ella/usted	nosotros/-as	vosotros/-as	ellos/ellas/ustedes
dibujo	dibujas	dibuja	dibujamos	dibujáis	dibujan

Yo dibujo can mean “I am drawing” or “I draw”

Ella dibuja can mean “She is drawing” or “She draws”

You can also leave out the subject pronouns

I draw/am drawing a bird      Dibujo un pájaro

She draws/is drawing bird      Dibuja un pájaro



Image: FreeDigitalPhotos.net

Note: It is better to include “ella” so that we will know that it is “she” and not “you” or “he”

- Ella dibuja un inodoro todos los días      She draws a toilet every day.
- Nosotros dibujamos setenta y ocho patos.      We draw seventy-eight ducks.



“Nosotros dibujamos setenta y ocho patos” can also mean “we are drawing 78 ducks”.

To focus on the process of drawing, you should use the present progressive tense – dibujando (drawing). When using progressive tenses, you have to use the appropriate “to be” verb.

Use present tense (draw) for an action you are doing in the moment of speaking or an action you do regularly.

Use present progressive tense (drawing) for an action that you are doing in that moment.

Estar = to be

I am	you are	he is/she is /you are (formal)	we are	you all are	they/they/you all (formal) are
estoy	estás	está	estamos	estáis	están

## Present progressive tense

I am	you are	he is/she is /you are (formal)	we are	you all are	they/they/you all (formal) are
estoy	estás	está	estamos	estáis	están
dibujamos	dibujamos	dibujamos	dibujamos	dibujamos	dibujamos

Estamos dibujamos en los libros.

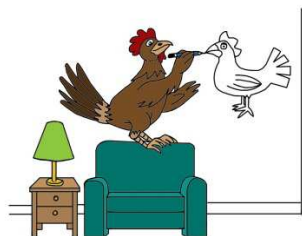
We are drawing on the books.

Mi hermano dibuja una vaca y un toro.

My brother draws a cow and a bull. (not Mi hermano él dibuja una vaca y un toro)

Mi hermano dibujamos una vaca y un toro.

My brother is drawing a cow and a bull. (not Mi hermano está dibujamos una vaca y un toro)



¡Ese gallo dibuja un gallo en mi casa!

That rooster is drawing a rooster on my house!

Note that the table showing “Estar” is different from this table (Ser)

I am	you are	he is/she is /you are (formal)	we are	you all are	they/they/you all (formal) are
yo	tú	él/ella/usted	nosotros/-as	vosotros/-as	ellos/ellas/ustedes
soy	eres	es	somos	sois	son

This table will be used for the following

- Soy Amelia                      I am Amelia
- Usted es maestro              You are a teacher
- Ella es de Boston              She am from Boston

Estar is used for progressive tenses to describe an action that you are doing in that moment. It is not used to describe who you are, what you do, where you are from, etc.

Note:

pollo = chicken (food)    pollo = chicken (animal)  
gallo = rooster              gallina = hen              pollito = chick



Petro: Makes me hungry how I wish I can have arroz con pollo (rice with chicken).

Sr. Nube: How about pollo quesadilla (chicken quesadilla) or picante de pollo (spicy chicken)?

Petro: Dad, you are the best! Pollo quesadilla sounds great.

Sr. Nube: Now, let me catch that rooster.



## This and That

Adjectives associated with a noun changes with the quantity and the gender the noun.

### **Demonstrative Adjectives**

	masculine/ mixed gender	feminine
this	este	esta
these	estos	estas
that	ese	esa
those	esos	esas
that (over there, far from speaker )	aquel	aquella
those (over there, far from speaker)	aquellos	aquellas

- Aquellos hombres                      Those men over there
- Aquellas señoras                      Those ladies over there
- Estos hombres / esos hombres      These men/those men
- Estos hombres y mujeres              These men and women

✓ If no nouns are placed after these adjectives, you will add an accent to create:

### **Demonstrative pronouns**

éste, ésta, éstos, éstas, ése, ésa, esos, esas, aquél, aquella, aquellos, aquellas

This book is good	This is good	Use éste
These fruits are the best	These are the best	Use éstos
Those shows are interesting	Those are interesting	Use esos

✓ If you are referring to abstract ideas and not nouns, use neuter pronouns: esto, eso, and aquello.

Esto es tonto.    This is silly                                      Esto me preocupa.    That worries me.

✓ Use “que” instead “ese” and “esa” for certain sentences such as:



- El gato que se sienta en la mujer es gordo.  
The cat that is sitting on the lady is fat.

- Los libros que son extensos son aburridos.  
The books that are long are boring.

## Possessive Adjectives

my child	my children
mi niño/niña	mis niños/niñas



mi teléfono my phone

mis llaves my keys

his/her/its child	his/ her/its children
su niño/niña	sus niños/niñas

su periódico your newspaper

sus cepillos de dientes her toothbrushes

your child	your children	your child (formal)	your children (formal)
tu niño/niña	tus niños/niñas	su niño/niña	sus niños/ niñas

tu reloj your clock

tus apartamentos your apartments

su leche your milk

sus palacios your palaces

their child	their children
su niño/niña	sus niños/niñas



su castillo their castle

sus bolígrafos their pens

our child (masculine noun)	our child (feminine noun)	our children (all masculine nouns /mixed gender)	our children (all feminine nouns)
nuestro niño	nuestra niña	nuestros niños	nuestras niñas

nuestro lápiz      our pencil                      nuestra puerta      our door  
nuestros relojes    our clocks                      nuestras televisiones    our televisions

“Your” as in you all

your child (masculine noun)	your child (feminine noun)	your children (all masculine nouns /mixed gender)	your children (all feminine nouns)
vuestro niño	vuestra niña	vuestros niños	vuestras niñas

vuestro espejo    your mirror                      vuestros hoteles      your hotels  
vuestra vida      your life                      vuestras tarjetas      your cards

- ✓ Certain possessive adjectives change according to gender and quantities of the nouns.
- ✓ All possessive adjectives mentioned above are considered as short form possessive adjectives. They must be placed before the noun.
- ✓ Long form possessive adjectives will be mentioned later. They are placed after the noun.
- ✓ Possessive adjectives are not used with articles of clothing or body parts. Instead of using possessive adjectives, use “the” (el, los, la, las).

	Wrong	Correct
his pants	sus pantalones	los pantalones
your arm	tu brazo	el brazo
my face	mi cara	la cara

Petro: What if I want to say “The girl’s pen”?

Sr. Nube: Use “de”. El bolígrafo de la chica” which means “the pen of the girl”

Note: chica is the same as niña (referring to a young girl), chico is the same as niño (referring to young a boy).

la mesa de Susan = Susan’s table      los coches de los niños = the boys’ cars

los libros de las profesoras = the teachers’ books    el coche del niño = the boy’s car

Note: “de and el” is always combined together to form “del”.

### Preposition - De

✓ To express “of”

Un pedazo de manzana      A piece of apple  
Un poco de pimienta      A little bit of pepper

✓ To express: What is it about? What is it made of?

Agua de coco      Coconut water  
Una camisa de seda      A silk shirt  
Una compañía de computadoras      A computer company

✓ To express “from”

Soy de Estados Unidos.      I am from United States.  
Ella toma una manzana de la bolsa.      She takes an apple from her bag.



## De vs Desde

- ✓ “Desde” also means “from”. It is usually with the following prepositions:

desde arriba (from above), , desde abajo (from underneath), desde dentro (from inside)

- ✓ Desde is used to indicate a movement from a place and no destination is indicated.

Quiere correr desde la playa.

He wants to run from the beach (it does not say where he is heading to)

Quiere correr de la playa al parque.

He wants to run from the beach to the park.

Note: It is not “a el parque” because when “a” is before “el”, it is combined to form “al”

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