



## Unit 3: La familia

Learn how to talk about your family, describe people and express ownership

# Page 81: Completa las actividad 7

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## ► ¡Fichas!:

1. ¿Cuántas personas hay en tu familia?
2. ¿Cómo se llaman tus padres? ¿De dónde son? ¿Dónde trabajan?
3. ¿Cuántos hermanos tienes? ¿Cómo se llaman? ¿Dónde estudian o trabajan?
4. ¿Cuántos primos tienes? ¿Cuáles son los apellidos? ¿Cuánto son niños y cuántos son adultos? ¿Hay más chicos o chicas en tu familia?
5. ¿Quién es tu pariente favorito?
6. ¿Tienes mejor amigo/a? ¿Cómo se llama?
7. ¿Tienes novio o novia? ¿Quién es?



# Grammar: Page 93 **Possessive adjectives**

<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>	<b>English</b>
<b>mi</b>	<b>mis</b>	<b>my</b>
<b>tu</b>	<b>tus</b>	<b>Your (familiar)</b>
<b>su</b>	<b>sus</b>	<b>His/her, its, your(form.)</b>
<b>Nuestro/a</b>	<b>Nuestros/as</b>	<b>our</b>
<b>Vuestro/a</b>	<b>Vuestros/as</b>	<b>Your (you all)</b>
<b>su</b>	<b>sus</b>	<b>Their, your (you all)</b>

# What IS a possessive adjective?

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In English, we use possessive adjectives all the time, though we probably haven't always known that they had a name. Examples of English possessive adjectives are:

**My, your, his, her, our, and their**



Can't we just memorize them in Spanish?

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Yes and No.

As with all adjectives in Spanish, possessive adjectives **MUST AGREE WITH THE NOUNS THEY MODIFY IN BOTH NUMBER AND GENDER!**

This means that the possessive adjective you use will depend on the gender and the number of the noun that comes after it.



# Where do we begin?

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Let's start with the possessive adjective for "my"

In Spanish it is either

mi      or      mis

The gender of the noun has no effect on the possessive adjective in this case, only the number.



# Can I get an example?

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Here we go:

While you would say

*“Mi lapiz”* for *“my pencil”*

you would say

*“mis libros”* for *“my books”*

because the noun is plural in the second example.



# What about “your”

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It works the same way as “my,” except spelled slightly different:

“your” is:

tu or tus

“tu zapato”

“tus bolígrafos”





# His and her?

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Again, only the number makes a difference here.

And, his and her is the same, regardless of whether it is a boy or a girl in possession of the object.

For his/her:

su      or      sus

“su cuaderno”

“sus puertas”



Finally, a more complicated possessive adjective

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“our” has four different translations in Spanish. They are:

nuestro

nuestra

nuestros

nuestras

As you can see, the adjective you use will depend on whether the noun that follows is masculine or feminine, singular or plural.



Looks like this:

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“nuestro **libro**”

“nuestra **lámpara**”

“nuestros **cuartos**”

“nuestras **granjas**”

A basic rule of thumb on this is that if the noun ends in o/a/os/as, then so does the possessive adjective. This doesn't ALWAYS work, but it will most of the time.



# Finally...the last one

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“Their” is written exactly like “his/her”

su            or            sus

“their dog” is “su perro”

“their cats” is “sus gatos”



# A warning

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Many people make the mistake of thinking that the owner of the object makes the difference in the number of the possessive adjective. For example, people think that “their book” is “sus libro” because “they” is plural. Remember, it is the noun that follows the adjective that determines the plurality/singularity of the adjective.



## 3.2 Possessive adjectives

**ANTE TODO** Possessive adjectives, like descriptive adjectives, are words that are used to qualify people, places, or things. Possessive adjectives express the quality of ownership or possession.

### Forms of possessive adjectives

#### SINGULAR FORMS

**mi****tu****su****nuestro/a****vuestro/a****su**

#### PLURAL FORMS

**mis****tus****sus****nuestros/as****vuestros/as****sus***my**your* (fam.)*his, her, its, your* (form.)*our**your* (fam.)*their, your* (form.)

## 3.2 Possessive adjectives

### COMPARE & CONTRAST

In English, possessive adjectives are invariable; that is, they do not agree in gender and number with the nouns they modify. Spanish possessive adjectives, however, do agree in number with the nouns they modify.

*my cousin*

**mi** primo

*my cousins*

**mis** primos

*my aunt*

**mi** tía

*my aunts*

**mis** tías

The forms **nuestro** and **vuestro** agree in both gender and number with the nouns they modify.

**nuestro** primo

**nuestros** primos

**nuestra** tía

**nuestras** tías

## 3.2 Possessive adjectives

- ▶ Possessive adjectives are always placed before the nouns they modify.

—¿Está **tu novio** aquí?  
*Is your boyfriend here?*

—No, **mi novio** está en la biblioteca.  
*No, my boyfriend is in the library.*



## 3.2 Possessive adjectives

- ▶ Because **su** and **sus** have multiple meanings (*your, his, her, their, its*), you can avoid confusion by using this construction instead: *[article] + [noun] + de + [subject pronoun]*.

**sus** parientes



los parientes **de él/ella**

*his/her relatives*

los parientes **de Ud./Uds.**

*your relatives*

los parientes **de ellos/ellas**

*their relatives*

## 3.2 Possessive adjectives

 ¡INTÉNTALO!

Provide the appropriate form of each possessive adjective. The first item in each column has been done for you.

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|--|--|
| 1. Es <u>mi</u> ( <i>my</i> ) libro.               | 1. <u>Sus</u> ( <i>Her</i> ) primos son franceses. |
| 2. _____ ( <i>My</i> ) familia es ecuatoriana.     | 2. _____ ( <i>Our</i> ) primos son canadienses.    |
| 3. _____ ( <i>Your, fam.</i> ) esposo es italiano. | 3. Son _____ ( <i>their</i> ) lápices.             |
| 4. _____ ( <i>Our</i> ) profesor es español.       | 4. _____ ( <i>Their</i> ) nietos son japoneses.    |
| 5. Es _____ ( <i>her</i> ) reloj.                  | 5. Son _____ ( <i>our</i> ) plumas.                |
| 6. Es _____ ( <i>your, fam.</i> ) mochila.         | 6. Son _____ ( <i>my</i> ) papeles.                |
| 7. Es _____ ( <i>your, form.</i> ) maleta.         | 7. _____ ( <i>My</i> ) amigas son inglesas.        |
| 8. _____ ( <i>Their</i> ) sobrina es alemana.      | 8. Son _____ ( <i>his</i> ) cuadernos.             |