



## Unit 3: La familia

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

# Listening activities...

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- ▶ -Listening activities P. 102 Act. 1 and 3; P 103 Act. 1 and 4
- ▶ -Listening: P. 104 Act. 4 and 5 de C de A.



### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

**ANTE TODO** Adjectives are words that describe people, places, and things. In Spanish, descriptive adjectives are used with the verb **ser** to point out characteristics such as nationality, size, color, shape, personality, and appearance.

## 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

# Forms and agreement of adjectives

### COMPARE & CONTRAST

In English, the forms of descriptive adjectives do not change to reflect the gender (masculine/feminine) and number (singular/plural) of the noun or pronoun they describe.

*Juan is nice.*

*Elena is nice.*

*They are nice.*

In Spanish, the forms of descriptive adjectives agree in gender and/or number with the nouns or pronouns they describe.

Juan es simpático**.**

Elena es simpática**.**

Ellos son simpáticos**.**

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives that end in **-o** have four different forms. The feminine singular is formed by changing the **-o** to **-a**. The plural is formed by adding **-s** to the singular forms.

#### Masculine

SINGULAR

PLURAL

el muchacho**o** alto

los muchach**os** altos

#### Feminine

SINGULAR

PLURAL

la muchach**a** alta

las muchach**as** altas

Mi abuelo  
es muy  
simpático.

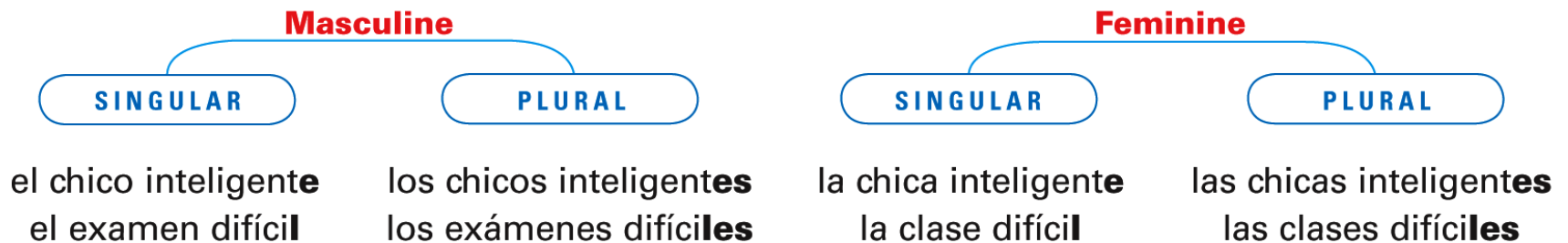


¡Qué alto es tu  
papá! Y tu mamá,  
¡qué bonita!



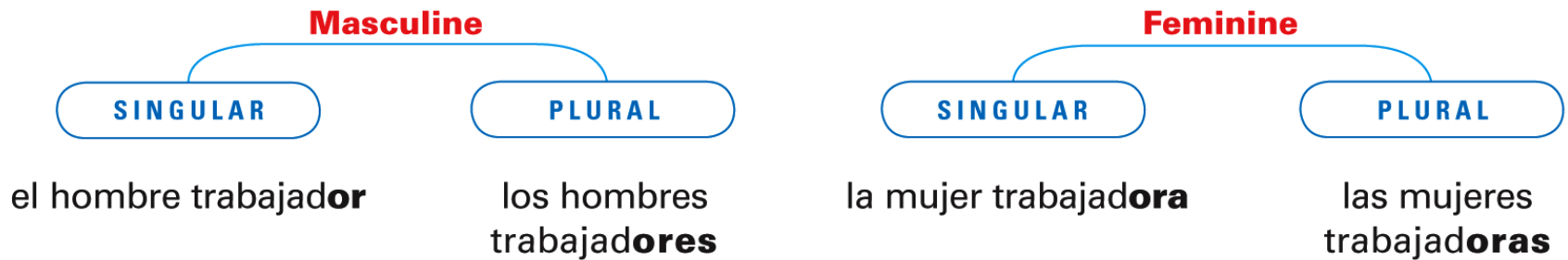
### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives that end in **-e** or a consonant have the same masculine and feminine forms.



### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives that end in **-or** are variable in both gender and number.



### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives that refer to nouns of different genders use the masculine plural form.

Manuel es **alto**.

Lola es **alta**.

Manuel y Lola son **altos**.

#### Common adjectives

<b>alto/a</b>	<i>tall</i>	<b>gordo/a</b>	<i>fat</i>	<b>moreno/a</b>	<i>brunet(te)</i>
<b>antipático/a</b>	<i>unpleasant</i>	<b>grande</b>	<i>big; large</i>	<b>mucho/a</b>	<i>much; many; a lot of</i>
<b>bajo/a</b>	<i>short (in height)</i>	<b>guapo/a</b>	<i>handsome; good-looking</i>	<b>pelirrojo/a</b>	<i>red-haired</i>
<b>bonito/a</b>	<i>pretty</i>	<b>importante</b>	<i>important</i>	<b>pequeño/a</b>	<i>small</i>
<b>bueno/a</b>	<i>good</i>	<b>inteligente</b>	<i>intelligent</i>	<b>rubio/a</b>	<i>blond(e)</i>
<b>delgado/a</b>	<i>thin; slender</i>	<b>interesante</b>	<i>interesting</i>	<b>simpático/a</b>	<i>nice; likeable</i>
<b>difícil</b>	<i>hard; difficult</i>	<b>joven</b>	<i>young</i>	<b>tonto/a</b>	<i>silly; foolish</i>
<b>fácil</b>	<i>easy</i>	<b>malo/a</b>	<i>bad</i>	<b>trabajador(a)</b>	<i>hard-working</i>
<b>feo/a</b>	<i>ugly</i>	<b>mismo/a</b>	<i>same</i>	<b>viejo/a</b>	<i>old</i>



# Exceptions

Type 1: Adjectives of *nationality*

# Exceptions

There are two types of irregular adjectives.

Type 1: Adjectives of *nationality*

Many adjectives of nationality are already the four-form type, since their base form ends in o.

Vladimir Putin es ruso. 1

Su esposa es rusa. 2

Sus hijos son rusos. 3

Sus hijas son rusas. 4

Notice that adjectives of nationality are not capitalized in Spanish.

# Exceptions

There are two types of irregular adjectives.

Type 1: Adjectives of *nationality*

But even if an adjective of nationality ends in a consonant, it normally has four forms rather than two.

Plácido Domingo es español<sup>1</sup>.

Su esposa es española<sup>2</sup>.

Sus hijos son españoles<sup>3</sup>.

Sus hijas son españolas<sup>4</sup>.

# Exceptions

There are two types of irregular adjectives.

Type 1: Adjectives of *nationality*

But even if an adjective of nationality ends in a consonant, it normally has four forms rather than two.

Jacques Chirac es francés.	1
Su esposa es francesa.	2
Sus hijos son franceses.	3
Sus hijas son francesas.	4

Notice that if the masculine singular of an adjective bears a written accent, it is omitted on all other forms.

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

## Adjectives of nationality

- ▶ Unlike in English, Spanish adjectives of nationality are **not** capitalized. Proper names of countries, however, are capitalized.

### Some adjectives of nationality

<b>alemán, alemana</b>	<i>German</i>	<b>inglés, inglesa</b>	<i>English</i>
<b>canadiense</b>	<i>Canadian</i>	<b>italiano/a</b>	<i>Italian</i>
<b>chino/a</b>	<i>Chinese</i>	<b>japonés, japonesa</b>	<i>Japanese</i>
<b>ecuatoriano/a</b>	<i>Ecuadorian</i>	<b>mexicano/a</b>	<i>Mexican</i>
<b>español(a)</b>	<i>Spanish</i>	<b>norteamericano/a</b>	<i>(North) American</i>
<b>estadounidense</b>	<i>from the U.S.</i>	<b>puertorriqueño/a</b>	<i>Puerto Rican</i>
<b>francés, francesa</b>	<i>French</i>	<b>ruso/a</b>	<i>Russian</i>

# Nacionalidades...

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- ▶ Argentina Argentino
- ▶ Bolivia Boliviano
- ▶ Brasil Brasileño
- ▶ Chile Chileno
- ▶ Colombia Colombiano
- ▶ Costa Rica Costarricense
- ▶ Cuba Cubano
- ▶ Ecuador Ecuatoriano
- ▶ Guatemala Guatemalteco
- ▶ Honduras Hondureño
- ▶ México Mexicano
- ▶ Nicaragua Nicaragüense
- ▶ Panamá Panameño
- ▶ Paraguay Paraguayo
- ▶ Perú Peruano
- ▶ Puerto Rico  
Puertorriqueño
- ▶ República Dominicana  
Dominicano
- ▶ El Salvador Salvadoreño
- ▶ Uruguay Uruguayo
- ▶ Venezuela Venezolano

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives of nationality are formed like other descriptive adjectives. Those that end in **-o** form the feminine by changing the **-o** to **-a**.

chino **o** → china **a**

mexicano **o** → mexicana **a**

The plural is formed by adding an **-s** to the masculine or feminine form.

chino **o** → chinos **os**

mexicana **a** → mexicanas **as**

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives of nationality that end in **-e** have only two forms, singular and plural.

canadiense → canadienses

estadounidense → estadounidenses



### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives of nationality that end in a consonant form the feminine by adding **-a**.

alemán → alemana  
japonés → japonesa

español → española  
inglés → inglesa

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Adjectives of nationality which carry an accent mark on the last syllable drop it in the feminine and plural forms.

ingl**és** → ing**les**a

ale**mán** → ale**man**es

## 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

### Position of adjectives

- ▶ Descriptive adjectives and adjectives of nationality generally follow the nouns they modify.



El niño **rubio** es de España.  
*The blond boy is from Spain.*



La mujer **española** habla inglés.  
*The Spanish woman speaks English.*

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ Unlike descriptive adjectives, adjectives of quantity are placed before the modified noun.

Hay **muchos** libros en la biblioteca.  
*There are many books in the library.*

Hablo con **dos** turistas puertorriqueños.  
*I am talking with two Puerto Rican tourists.*

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ **Bueno/a** and **malo/a** can be placed before or after a noun. When placed before a masculine singular noun, the forms are shortened: **bueno** → **buen**; **malo** → **mal**.

Joaquín es un **buen** amigo.

Joaquín es un amigo **bueno**.



*Joaquín is a good friend.*

Hoy es un **mal** día.

Hoy es un día **malo**.



*Today is a bad day.*

### 3.1 Descriptive adjectives

- ▶ When **grande** appears before a singular noun, it is shortened to **gran**, and the meaning of the word changes: **gran** = *great* and **grande** = *big, large*.

Don Francisco es un **gran** hombre.  
*Don Francisco is a great man.*

La familia de Inés es **grande**.  
*Inés' family is large.*

**3.1** Descriptive adjectives  ¡INTÉNTALO!

Provide the appropriate forms of the adjectives. The first item in each group has been done for you.

**simpático**

1. Mi hermano es simpático.
2. La profesora Martínez es \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Rosa y Teresa son \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Nosotros somos \_\_\_\_\_.

**alemán**

1. Hans es alemán.
2. Mis primas son \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Marcus y yo somos \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Mi tía es \_\_\_\_\_.

**3.1** Descriptive adjectives  ¡INTÉNTALO!

Provide the appropriate forms of the adjectives. The first item in each group has been done for you. (cont'd)

**difícil**

1. La química es difícil.
2. El curso es \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Las pruebas son \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Los libros son \_\_\_\_\_.

**guapo**

1. Su esposo es guapo.
2. Mis sobrinas son \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Los padres de ella son \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Marta es \_\_\_\_\_.



# Completa los ejercicios 1, 2 y 3 de la página 91

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