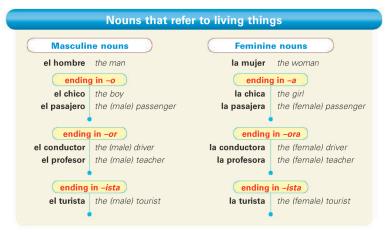
1.1 Nouns and articles (S) Tutorial



Spanish nouns

A noun is a word used to identify people, animals, places, things, or ideas. Unlike English, all Spanish nouns, even those that refer to nonliving things, have gender; that is, they are considered either masculine or feminine. As in English, nouns in Spanish also have number, meaning that they are either singular or plural.



- Generally, nouns that refer to males, like el hombre, are masculine, while nouns that refer to females, like la mujer, are feminine.
- Many nouns that refer to male beings end in **-o** or **-or**. Their corresponding feminine forms end in -a and -ora, respectively.







The masculine and feminine forms of nouns that end in **-ista**, like **turista**, are the same, so gender is indicated by the article el (masculine) or la (feminine). Some other nouns have identical masculine and feminine forms.

the youth; the young man

el estudiante the (male) student the youth; the young woman

la estudiante the (female) student

Profesor(a) and turista are cognates— words that share similar spellings and meanings in Spanish and English. Recognizing cognates will help you determine the meaning of many Spanish words. Here are some other cognates: la administración, el animal, el apartamento, el cálculo, el color, la decisión, la historia, la música, el restaurante

el/la secretario/a.

Cognates can certainly be very helpful in your study of Spanish. Beware, however, of "false" cognates, those that have similar spellings in Spanish and English, but different

la carpeta folder el/la conductor(a) driver

el éxito success la fábrica factory