

1.3 Present tense of ser S Tutorial

Subject pronouns

ANTE TODO

In order to use verbs, you will need to learn about subject pronouns. A subject pronoun replaces the name or title of a person or thing and acts as the subject of a verb. In both Spanish and English, subject pronouns are divided into three groups: first person, second person, and third person.

Subject pronouns		
	SINGULAR	PLURAL
FIRST PERSON	yo / I	nosotros we (masculine) nosotras we (feminine)
SECOND PERSON	tú you (familiar) usted (Ud.) you (formal)	vosotros you (masc., fam.) vosotras you (fem., fam.) ustedes (Uds.) you (form.)
THIRD PERSON	él he ella she	ellos they (masc.) ellas they (fem.)

¡LENGUA VIVA!
In Latin America, **ustedes** is used as the plural for both **tú** and **usted**. In Spain, however, **vosotros** and **vosotras** are used as the plural of **tú**, and **ustedes** is used only as the plural of **usted**.
...
Usted and **ustedes** are abbreviated as **Ud.** and **Uds.**, or occasionally as **Vd.** and **Vds.**

▶ Spanish has two subject pronouns that mean *you* (singular). Use **tú** when addressing a friend, a family member, or a child you know well. Use **usted** to address a person with whom you have a formal or more distant relationship, such as a superior at work, a professor, or an older person.

Tú eres de Canadá, ¿verdad, David? ¿**Usted** es la profesora de español?
You are from Canada, right, David? *Are you the Spanish professor?*

▶ The masculine plural forms **nosotros**, **vosotros**, and **ellos** refer to a group of males or to a group of males and females. The feminine plural forms **nosotras**, **vosotras**, and **ellas** can refer only to groups made up exclusively of females.



nosotros, vosotros, ellos



nosotros, vosotros, ellos



nosotras, vosotras, ellas

▶ There is no Spanish equivalent of the English subject pronoun *it*. Generally *it* is not expressed in Spanish.

Es un problema. Es una computadora.
It's a problem. *It's a computer.*