Subject Pronouns
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¡Empecemos! Let’s get started!

Compare these two sentences:

- Carlos es mexicano.
- Él es mexicano.

- In the first sentence, we name the person who is Mexican.
- In the second sentence, we replace the person’s name with the pronoun él (he).
In other words….

- A **pronoun** is a word that replaces a **noun**.
  
  Jorge = **él**  
  Marta = **ella**

*Subject pronouns in English: I, you, he, she, it, we, they*

- **Subject pronouns** replace the **subject** in a sentence.
  
  **George** is sociable.  
  **He** is sociable.

- **It works the same in Spanish.**
  
  **Jorge** es sociable.  
  **Él** es sociable.
The Spanish subject pronouns are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I</th>
<th>we</th>
<th>you</th>
<th>you all</th>
<th>they</th>
<th>you guys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>yo</td>
<td>nosotros, nosotras</td>
<td>tú</td>
<td>vosotros, vosotras</td>
<td>ellos, ellas</td>
<td>ustedes (Uds.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Yo means ‘I’:

- **Yo** soy americano.
- **Yo** soy de EEUU.

**Yo will never be replaced**

**Yo does not always need to be included in a sentence if you have a conjugated verb**

- ✓ **Yo estoy** bien. (I am well.)
- ✓ **Estoy** bien. (I am well.)

Note: yo is not capitalized unless it starts a sentence.

**Mi amigo y yo.......**
The pronouns **he & she:**

- **Carlos** es mexicano.
  - Él es de Acapulco.
  *The sentence is talking about Carlos.
  *It is using third person.
  *Carlos is a singular, masculine noun.
  *The pronoun ‘él’ replaces the name Carlos.
  Don’t forget to put the accent mark on él!!

- **Luisa** es peruana.
  - Ella es de Cusco.
  *The sentence is talking about Luisa.
  *It is using third person.
  *Luisa is a singular, feminine noun.
  *The pronoun ‘ella’ replaces the name Luisa.
In English we have one way to say ‘they’ but in Spanish we distinguish between **masculine** and **feminine**.

- **Carlos y Diego** son americanos.
- **Ellos** son americanos.

*The sentence is talking about Carlos and Diego. (3rd person)  
*Carlos and Diego are plural, masculine nouns.  
*The pronoun ‘ellos’ replaces the names Carlos and Diego.

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- **Carmen y Ana** son americanas.
- **Ellas** son americanas.

*The sentence is talking about Carmen and Ana. (3rd person)  
*Carmen and Ana are plural, feminine nouns.  
*The pronoun ‘ellas’ replaces the names Carmen and Ana.

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**If the group is mixed, use the masculine form!**

- **David y Carla** son americanos.
- **Ellos** son americanos.
In English we have one way to say ‘we’ but in Spanish we distinguish between **masculine** and **feminine**.

Diego:  **Pablo y yo** somos de Quito.  
**Nosotros** somos de Ecuador.

or

Ana:  **Claudia y yo** somos de Madrid.  
**Nosotras** somos de España.

**If you have a mixed group, use the masculine forms!**

Juan:  **Rebeca y yo** somos de Havana.  
**Nosotros** somos de Cuba.
In English we use ‘you’ to speak to:

• One person
• Many people
• A person older/younger than us
• A person the same age
• A person of higher ranking
• Etc……

In Spanish things are not that simple!

Hey, you!
There is more than one form of ‘you’ (singular) in Spanish. We must distinguish between formal and informal.

**Tú:** use when talking to one person that you know well enough to call them by their first name.
- Marta, ¿eres de Panamá?
- ¿Eres tú de Panamá?

**Usted:** (abbreviated Ud.) use when talking to one person that you might call my their last name.
- Sr. Juárez, ¿es de México?
- ¿Es Ud. de México?

**You will always answer a tú/usted question in the YO form!!**
The informal pronouns used for ‘you all’ must be distinguished between masculine and feminine.

Vosotros/Vosotras: use when speaking to more than one person you call by their first name.

- Pamela y Sofia, ¿sois de Managua?
- ¿Sois vosotras de Managua?

Or...

- Estudiantes, ¿sois inteligentes?
- ¿Sois vosotros inteligentes?

**You will always answer a vosotros/vosotras question in the NOSOTROS/NOSOTRAS!!

**You can always tell if you are talking to someone if there is a common after the names/subjects.

**Vosotros/Vosotras is only used in Spain.
Ustedes means ‘you guys’ and is the formal pronoun used when speaking to someone.

**Ustedes:** (abbreviated Uds.) use when speaking to more than one person you might call by their last name.

- Sr. Pérez y Sra. López, ¿son de Caracas?
- ¿Son Uds. de Venezuela?

**Or...**

- Profesores, ¿son talentosos?
- ¿Son Uds. talentosos?

**You will always answer an ustedes question in the NOSOTROS/NOSOTRAS!!**

**You can always tell if you are talking to someone if there is a common after the names/subjects.**

**Ustedes is only formal is Spain. In the other SSCs it is considered both formal and informal.**
You are talking about the following people!!
Replace the following subjects with the correct pronoun:

1. Juan
2. Felipe y yo
3. Andrea y Pepe
4. Barbara y Vanesa
5. Yourself

Answers:
1. Él
2. Nosotros
3. Ellos
4. Ellas
5. Yo

Try it out!
You are talking **about** the following people!!
Replace the following subjects with the correct pronoun:

1. la pluma
2. los estudiantes
3. el Doctor Garcia
4. la mochila y el marcador
5. la familia

Answers:

Try out more!
You are talking **to** the following people!!
Replace the following subjects with the correct pronoun:

1. Miguel
2. tus amigos
3. el Sr. Fernandez
4. Paco y Samantha
5. un bebé
6. un grupo de chicas en España
7. los maestros

Answers:
1. tú
2. vosotros/Uds.
3. Ud.
4. vosotros/Uds.
5. tú
6. vosotras
7. Uds.

Try even more!