

5N3: Possession and possessive adjectives

In English we use 's to indicate possession. In Spanish, we do not have 's, we use the following format instead:

el/la/los/las		de	
article	object	of	owner(s)

Examples:

- Marta's pen = la pluma de Marta
- George and Luis's uncle = el tío de George y Luis

Practice:

- 1) Sarah's backpack = _____
- 2) Carolina's nieces = _____
- 3) Sandra's nephews = _____
- 4) Trevor and Julia's son = _____

Answers:

- 1) la mochila de Sarah 2) las sobrinas de Carolina 3) los sobrinos de Sandra 4) el hijo de Trevor y Julia

Possessive adjectives

Remember that an adjective is a word that is used to describe a noun.

The possessive adjectives in English are *my, your, his, her, its, our, and their*.

In Spanish, the possessive adjectives are:

mi(s) = my	nuestro(a)(s) = our
tu(s) = your tu(s) = your	vuestro(a)(s) = your (for vosotros/as)
su(s) = his/her/ your (for usted)	su(s) = their/ your (for ustedes)

In English, the possessive adjectives match the owner only. In Spanish, they match both the owner and the object. First, you must determine who the subject is, then select that possessive adjective that matches the number and gender (if applicable) to the object.

Examples:

- my cats = mis gatos (you use "mis" because "gatos" is plural.)
- our sisters = nuestras hermanas (since "hermanas" is feminine plural, we have to use "nuestras", which is also feminine plural)
- your (in Spain) dog = vuestro perro (since "perro" is masculine and singular, we have to use "vuestro", which is also masculine singular)

Practice:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1) your book = _____ | 4) my school = _____ |
| 2) my pencils = _____ | 5) his water = _____ |
| 3) our aunt = _____ | 6) her hamburgers = _____ |

Answers:

- 1) tu libro 2) mis lápices 3) nuestra tía 4) mi escuela 5) su agua 6) sus hamburguesas