

Pronouns

Subject	Direct Object	Indirect Object	Possessive	Reflexive	Prepositional
Yo	me	me	mi	me	mí
Tú	te	te	tu	te	tí
Él	lo	le	su	se	él
Ella	la	le	su	se	ella
Usted	lo, la	le	su	se	usted
Nosotros	nos	nos	nuestro	nos	nosotros
Ellos	los	les	su	se	ellos
Ellas	las	les	su	se	ellas
Ustedes	los, las	les	su	se	ustedes

Subject Pronouns

Yo soy un principiante.

I am a beginner.

Tú eres un estudiante.

You are a student.

Él es simpático.

He is agreeable/likable..

Ella es simpática.

She is agreeable/likable

Nosotros somos antipáticos.

We are not agreeable/unlikable

Nosotras somos antipáticas.

We (woman) are not agreeable/unlikable

Ellos son maestros.

They are teachers

Ellas son maestras.

They (woman) are teachers

Usted is the formal 'you' form. Using it shows respect and social distance. When it should be used varies from country to country but generally it should always be employed when addressing older individuals and people of authority like your teachers and the police.

Usted es el profesor Guzman, verdad? *You are professor Guzman, right?*

Vosotros is the plural form of 'you' in Spain. Everywhere else, *ustedes* is used.

Vosotros sois los expertos.

You (all) are the experts.

Vosotras sois inteligentes.

You (all) (women) are smart.

Ustedes son de España.

You (all) are from Spain

As you probably noticed, the verb form changes whenever the subject changes. The form of the verb, known as the conjugation, indicates the subject as well as the tense. Because the form of the verb does such a good job of indicating the subject, mentioning the subject is optional whenever it is understood.

Soy el patrón. *I'm the boss.*

Eres alto. *You are tall.*

Possessive Pronouns

Remember that the Possessive pronouns need to agree in number with the possessed object; and in the case of the Nosotros form, the pronouns must agree in gender as well.

Mi, tu and *su* are used when the noun is singular. *Mis, tus* and *sus* are used when the noun is plural.

<u>mi</u> dinero	<i>my money.</i>	<u>mis</u> zapatos	<i>my shoes</i>
<u>tu</u> alegría	<i>your happiness</i>	<u>tus</u> revistas	<i>your magazines</i>

Su and *sus* are used when the possessor is an *el, ella, ellos, ellas, usted* or *ustedes*.

<u>su</u> dinero	<i>her/his/their/your(formal) money</i>
<u>sus</u> problemas	<i>her/his/their/your (formal) problems</i>

In addition to having singular and plural forms, *nuestro* and *vuestro* have masculine and feminine forms and reflect the gender of the noun.

<u>nuestro</u> gobierno	<i>our government</i>	<u>nuestros</u> éxitos	<i>our successes</i>
<u>nuestra</u> tristeza	<i>our sadness</i>	<u>nuestras</u> madres	<i>our mothers</i>

The *vuestro* forms are used in Spain for plural 'your'. Everywhere else, *su* and *sus* is used.

<u>vuestro</u> voto	<i>your plural (Spain) religious vowel.</i>
<u>vuestra</u> vida	<i>your plural (Spain) life</i>
<u>vuestros</u> cuentos	<i>your plural (Spain) stories</i>
<u>vuestras</u> casas	<i>your plural (Spain) houses</i>

Practice

el amigo de Jaime.	<i>Jaime's friend. (the friend of Jaime)</i>
el carro del señor González	<i>Mr. Gonzalez's car (the car of Mr. Gonzalez)</i>
las llaves de mi primo.	<i>my cousin's keys.</i>

Prepositional Pronouns:

When a pronoun is an object of a preposition, normally a subject pronoun should be used.

Guillermo está sentado entre él y ella. *Guillermo is seated between him and her.*

Elena no puede tener éxito sin nosotros. *Elena can't be successful without us.*

This isn't the case for the first and second person singular forms- *mí* and *tí*.

La serpiente está cerca de tí y José. *The snake is close to you and Jose.*

Prefiero que el diablo esté muy lejos de mí.
I prefer that the devil be very far from me.

In all other cases subject pronouns are used.

El bebé está con ella. *The baby is with her.*

Yo estoy con ellos. *I am with them.*

Reflexive Pronouns:

When something does something to itself, a reflexive pronoun is used. The reflexive pronouns are exactly like the direct object pronouns except for the third person singular and plural forms.

Yo me lavo las manos. *I wash my hands*

Yo lavo los platos. *I wash the dishes.*

Él se peina el cabello. *He combs his hair.*

Ella peina el cabello de su hija. *She combs the hair of her daughter.*

Él se levanta. *He gets up.*

Él levanta las pesas. *He lifts the weights.*

Reflexive pronouns are also used when a reflexive relationship doesn't truly exist. In these situations the pronouns serve to distinguish the verbs from the transitive forms.

David se casa con Patricia.

David is marrying Patricia.

El sacerdote casa a David y Patricia.

The priest is marrying David and Patricia.

Ella se llama Matilde.

Her name is Matilda.

Él llama a su madre.

He calls his mother.

Reflexive pronouns are also used when two entities do things to each others.

Javier y Susana se quieren.

Javier and Susana love each other.

Marta y Cristina se abrazan.

Marta and Cristina hug each other.

To make clear that the action is taking place between two different entities, follow the verb with preposition + indirect pronouns.

Los tribus se pelean entre las mismas. The tribes fight amongst themselves.