

Para empezar

Vowel sounds

- Like English, Spanish has five basic vowels, **a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, and **u**. But unlike English, each Spanish vowel sounds nearly the same in every word, which will help you figure out how to pronounce any Spanish word you see.

A. The letter **a** is pronounced "ah," as in the English word "father." Write three Spanish words related to *body parts (el cuerpo)* that contain the letter **a**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **a**.

B. The letter **e** is pronounced "ay," as in the English word "pay." Write three Spanish *numbers under ten* that contain the letter **e**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **e**.

C. The letter **i** is pronounced "ee," as in the English word "see." Write two Spanish words used in *greetings* that contain the letter **i**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **i**.

D. The letter **o** is pronounced "oh," as in the English word "go." Write three Spanish *numbers over ten* that contain the letter **o**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **o**.

E. The letter **u** is pronounced "oo," as in the English word "zoo." Write three Spanish words that you've learned so far that contain the letter **u**. Say each word as you write it, paying special attention to the **u**.

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Guided Practice Activities P-2

The letter c

- The letter c has two different sounds in Spanish. When it is followed by a, o, u, or any consonant other than h, it is a "hard c" and is pronounced like the c in "cat." Say these words with a hard c:

cómo práctica encantado

- When the letter c is followed by e or i, it is a "soft c" and is pronounced like the s in "Sally." Say these words with a soft c:

doce gracias silencio

A. Write out the numbers below (which all contain at least one letter c) in Spanish on the blanks provided.

1. 4

2. 0

3. 13

4. 100

5. 11

6. 5

7. 16

8. 14

9. 55

10. 48

B. Now, say aloud each of the words you wrote, paying special attention to the letter c. Go back to the answers you gave in part A and underline each hard c (as in cat). Circle each soft c (as in Sally). Ojo: Some words contain more than one c.



It's a Small Word



Me llamo _____.

La fecha de hoy es el _____ de _____.

In Spanish, there are four ways to say "the"—*el, la, los, las*. The definite article (the) agrees with its noun in gender (masculine or feminine) and number (singular or plural).

Masculine singular nouns go with *el*. Feminine singular nouns go with *la*.

Examples: *el libro* (the book) *el papel* (the paper)
la silla (the chair) *la regla* (the ruler)



Masculine plural nouns go with *los*. Feminine plural nouns go with *las*.

Examples: *los libros* (the books) *los papeles* (the papers)
las sillas (the chairs) *las reglas* (the rulers)

Refer to the Word Bank to complete the chart. Write the singular and plural forms and the correct definite articles. The first ones have been done for you.

Word Bank	cuaderno	mesa	pluma	oso	falda
	papel	gato	bota	silla	libro

English	Masculine Singular	Masculine Plural
the book	<i>el libro</i>	<i>los libros</i>
the paper		
the notebook		
the cat		
the bear		

English	Feminine Singular	Feminine Plural
the chair	<i>la silla</i>	<i>las sillas</i>
the table		
the boot		
the skirt		
the pen		



One or Some



Me llamo _____.

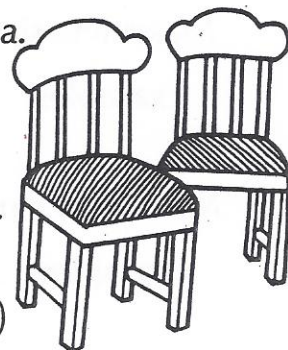
La fecha de hoy es el _____ de _____.

In English, the words *a*, *an*, and *some* are indefinite articles. In Spanish, there are four indefinite articles—*un*, *una*, *unos*, and *unas*.

Masculine singular nouns go with *un*. Feminine singular nouns go with *una*.

Examples: *un libro* (a book)
un papel (a paper)

una silla (a chair)
una mesa (a table)



Masculine plural nouns go with *unos*. Feminine plural nouns go with *unas*.

Examples: *unos libros* (some books)
unos papeles (some papers)

unas sillas (some chairs)
unas mesas (some tables)

Refer to the Word Bank to complete the chart. Write the singular and plural forms and the correct indefinite articles. The first one has been done for you.

Word Bank

falda papel gato bota oso
cuaderno mesa pluma silla libro

English	Masculine Singular	Masculine Plural
a book	<i>un libro</i>	<i>unos libros</i>
a paper		
a notebook		
a cat		
a bear		

English	Feminine Singular	Feminine Plural
a chair		
a table		
a boot		
a skirt		
a pen		