

Soy... / El vecino, la vecina

Introductions, people and articles

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

[Arrival](#)[Spanish](#)

Introduce yourself with ser

Yo means I; **tú** means familiar singular you; **él** means he and **ella** means she. **Nosotros** or **nosotras** means we, and **ellos** or **ellas** means they. The feminine plural forms refer to all-female groups; the masculine plural can refer to men or a mixed group.

Soy Elvira means I am Elvira. **Spanish normally leaves out a subject pronoun when the verb already makes the person clear.** **Soy Elvira** and **Yo soy Elvira** are both correct; the second can emphasise I. **Me llamo...** is the useful phrase My name is.... Names have no article.

SER IDENTITY AND WHO SOMEONE IS

Person	Form	Meaning
yo	soy	I
tú	eres	you, familiar singular
él / ella / usted	es	he / she / you politely
nosotros / nosotras	somos	we
vosotros / vosotras	sois	you, familiar plural (Spain)
ellos / ellas / ustedes	son	they / you politely plural

Tú addresses one person familiarly. **Usted** is polite singular and uses **es**. In standard Spain Spanish, **vosotros** or **vosotras** addresses several people familiarly and uses **sois**. **Ustedes** uses **son**. These are **ordinary verb forms**, not an extra polite conjugation.

Soy Elvira.

I am Elvira.

Michi es el gato.

Michi is the cat.

Somos vecinos.

We are neighbours.

¿Sois vecinos?

Are you neighbours? (familiar plural)

Learn the article with the noun

El is the masculine article and **la** the feminine article. Learn **the whole pair**, such as **el gato**, **la llave** and **la casa**. Grammatical gender is a property of the noun. It is not the learner's gender, and a final vowel alone does not always predict it.

PEOPLE AND THINGS

Masculine	Feminine	Meaning
el vecino	la vecina	male neighbour · female neighbour
el gato	la llave	cat · key

A person can be **el nuevo vecino** or **la nueva vecina**: the adjective (describing word) agrees with the noun. Elvira says **encantada**. A man says **encantado**. For now recognise **mi casa** and **su llave** as whole expressions; scene 5 explains these ownership words.

More than one person or thing

For these nouns ending in a vowel, add -s: **vecino** becomes **vecinos**, and **vecina** becomes **vecinas**. Their plural articles are **los** and **las**: **los vecinos**, **las vecinas**. The same pattern gives **amigos** and **llaves**. More plural patterns come in module 2.

A Spanish greeting after dark

Buenas noches can greet someone when you arrive after dark and can also wish them good night when you leave. Earlier in the afternoon/evening use **buenas tardes**. **Neither greeting needs a verb**. **Sí** (yes) has a written accent; **si** has a different job later.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE WHO THE VERB REFERS TO

Underline the conjugated verb. Use its form to identify the person.

Meaning: I am Elvira.

- 1 Yo soy Elvira.

Meaning: You are the new neighbour.

- 2 Tú eres el nuevo vecino.

Meaning: Michi is the cat.

3 Michi es el gato.

Meaning: We are neighbours.

4 Nosotros somos vecinos.

Meaning: You are female neighbours.

5 Vosotras sois vecinas.

Meaning: They are neighbours.

6 Ellos son vecinos.

G2) FIND THE FORM OF SER

Underline the conjugated form of ser.

Meaning: I am Elvira.

1 Yo soy Elvira.

Meaning: Elvira is my neighbour.

2 Elvira es mi vecina.

Meaning: You are neighbours.

- 3 Vosotros sois vecinos.

G3) WHO IS SPEAKING?

Choose the right word for the gap.

Meaning: I am Elvira.

- 1 Yo _____ Elvira.

- ☐ A son
- ☐ B eres
- ☐ C soy

Meaning: You are my neighbour.

- 2 Tú _____ mi vecino.

- ☐ A soy
- ☐ B somos
- ☐ C eres

Meaning: Michi is the cat.

3 Michi _____ el gato.

- ☐ A eres
- ☐ B es
- ☐ C sois

Meaning: We are female neighbours.

4 Nosotras _____ vecinas.

- ☐ A son
- ☐ B somos
- ☐ C es

Meaning: You are neighbours.

5 Vosotros _____ vecinos.

- ☐ A somos
- ☐ B sois
- ☐ C soy

Meaning: They are female neighbours.

6 Ellas _____ vecinas.

- ☐ A eres
- ☐ B es
- ☐ C son

Meaning: You are the new neighbour (polite).

7 Usted _____ la nueva vecina.

- ☐ A es
- ☐ B sois
- ☐ C eres

G4) THE FIRST MEETING

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

Meaning: Elvira is my neighbour.

soy es

Elvira _____ mi vecina.

Meaning: The key is here.

El La

_____ llave está aquí.

Meaning: The cat is Michi.

La El

_____ gato es Michi.

G5) INTRODUCE SOMEONE

Put the words in order.

Meaning: I am the new neighbour.

1 Soy nueva la vecina.

Meaning: Michi is the cat.

2 Michi gato. el es

Meaning: We are the new neighbours.

- 3
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G6) AT THE FRONT DOOR

Choose the right words for the situation.

- 1 **You arrive after dark. The woman at the door greets you. What is a suitable greeting? You say:**
- ☐ A Adiós.
 - ☐ B Buenas noches.
 - ☐ C Gracias.
- 2 **At your first meeting, Elvira has just told you her name. You want to show that you are pleased to meet her. You say:**
- ☐ A Encantada.
 - ☐ B ¿Y quién es ese?
 - ☐ C Adiós.