

## Spanish Nouns And Gender # 2

### Masculine Nouns - Places, Things, Ideas

### A Review for Intermediate and Advanced Students

As a general rule, nouns that end in **-o**, are masculine and nouns that end in **-a** are feminine. For example, **el año** is a masculine noun and **la vida** is a feminine noun. But, there are many exceptions to the rule.

Some nouns that end in **-a**, **-e**, **-u** are masculine.

|             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| el cine     | movie house     |
| el coche    | car             |
| el colega   | colleague       |
| el día      | day             |
| el espíritu | spirit          |
| el meringue | baked egg white |
| el parque   | park            |
| el perfume  | perfume         |
| el pie      | foot            |
| el postre   | dessert         |
| el viaje    | trip            |
| el tranvía  | trolley         |



el tranvía

#### Exercise 1

Read each English clue below. Circle the corresponding Spanish article and noun in the word search puzzle. The words can appear horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, and backward.

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E | J | K | H | E | A | N | B | O | E |
| Z | L | N | M | D | I | Z | O | L | L |
| Q | G | P | F | M | B | P | C | I | T |
| D | O | N | E | D | G | O | L | X | R |
| X | D | A | N | R | L | J | Z | E | A |
| A | í | D | L | E | F | G | R | P | N |
| L | O | B | G | T | L | U | D | T | V |
| Z | B | A | R | Y | X | A | M | X | í |
| I | U | L | U | N | F | P | K | E | A |
| Q | A | Y | D | J | M | X | Q | D | O |

colleague      day      foot      perfume      trolley

Nouns ending in **-ma**, **-pa**, **-ta** are usually masculine. These nouns have Greek origins.

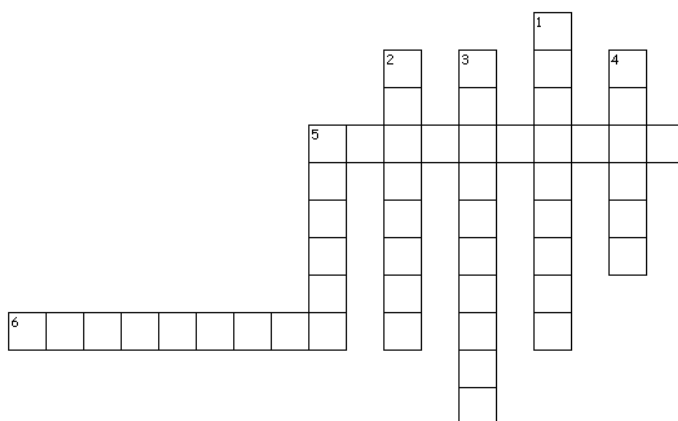
|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| el anagrama   | anagram   |
| el aroma      | aroma     |
| el clima      | climate   |
| el cometa     | comet     |
| el crucigrama | crucigram |
| el diagrama   | diagram   |
| el dilema     | dilemma   |
| el diploma    | diploma   |
| el drama      | drama     |
| el enigma     | enigma    |
| el esquema    | sketch    |
| el fantasma   | ghost     |
| el idioma     | language  |
| el mapa       | map       |
| el panorama   | panorama  |
| el pentagrama | pentagram |
| el planeta    | planet    |
| el poema      | poem      |
| el prisma     | prism     |
| el problema   | problem   |
| el programa   | program   |
| el profeta    | prophet   |
| el síntoma    | symptom   |
| el sistema    | system    |
| el telegrama  | telegram  |
| el tema       | theme     |



el planeta

## Exercise 2

Read the English clue. Complete the puzzle with the Spanish article and noun.



### Across

- 5. diagram
- 6. sketch

### Down

- 1. prophet
- 2. dilemma
- 3. anagram
- 4. map
- 5. theme

Nouns that end in **-ambre**, **-aje** are masculine.

|              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| el alambre   | wire           |
| el calambre  | cramp          |
| el enjambre  | swarm of bees  |
| el montaje   | setting        |
| el paisaje   | scenery        |
| el pasaje    | train/bus fare |
| el personaje | character      |
| el salvaje   | savage         |



el enjambre

### Exercise 3

Unscramble each of the words. Copy the letters in the numbered boxes to the corresponding numbered boxes at the bottom. A sentence will appear. (**Hint: The scenery is pretty.**) The answer to the sentence is on page 9.

|              |                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| LE LAVJESA   | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>8                                                   |
| LE NOMEJTA   | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>13 14 15 4                                                               |
| LE CAMRBLAE  | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>2 12                                                |
| LE SEAREOPNJ | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>3 10 16 9 |
| LE BALRAME   | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>1                                                                        |
| LE JEASAP    | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>6                                                                                             |
| LE JABMENRE  | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>7                                                   |
| LE SEIPAAJ   | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/><br>5 11                                                                     |

|                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |                                           |                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> |
| 1 2                                       | 3 4 5 6 7 8 9                                                                                                                                                           | 10 11                                     | 12 13 14 15 16                                                                                                                                                          |

These nouns are masculine. They end in **an accented vowel, a consonant, -ín, -ís, -ón, -or, -ión, -z**. Many of them can easily be mistaken for feminine nouns.

| <b>accented vowel</b>       | <b>consonant</b>        | <b>-ín</b>            | <b>-ís</b>                      | <b>-ón</b>             | <b>-or</b>             | <b>-ión</b>                | <b>-z</b>                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| el colibrí<br>(hummingbird) | el abad<br>(abbot)      | el cojín<br>(cushion) | el análisis<br>(analysis)       | el galardón<br>(prize) | el amor<br>(love)      | el avión<br>(airplane)     | el ajedrez<br>(chess)       |
| el sofá<br>(sofá)           | el árbol<br>(tree)      | el jardín<br>(garden) | el énfasis<br>(emphasis)        | el malecón<br>(jetty)  | el calor<br>(heat)     | el bastión<br>(stronghold) | el altavoz<br>speaker       |
|                             | el césped<br>(turf)     |                       | el país<br>(country)            | el rincón<br>(corner)  | el color<br>(color)    | el camión<br>(truck)       | el antifaz<br>(mask)        |
|                             | el huésped<br>(host)    |                       | el parenthesis<br>(parenthesis) | el riñón<br>(kidney)   | el rencor<br>(hate)    | el gorrión<br>(sparrow)    | el aprendiz<br>(apprentice) |
|                             | el general<br>(general) |                       |                                 |                        | el sudor<br>(sweat)    | el limpión<br>(wipe)       | el arroz<br>(rice)          |
|                             | el origen<br>(origen)   |                       |                                 |                        | el temblor<br>(tremor) | el sarampión<br>(measles)  | el avestruz<br>(ostrich)    |
|                             | el pan<br>(bread)       |                       |                                 |                        | el valor<br>(courage)  | el turbión<br>(squall)     | el cáliz<br>(goblet)        |
|                             | el régimen<br>(regime)  |                       |                                 |                        | el vapor<br>(vapor)    |                            | el haz<br>(sheaf)           |
|                             | el reloj<br>(watch)     |                       |                                 |                        | el bailador            |                            | el lápiz<br>(pencil)        |
|                             | el sol<br>(sun)         |                       |                                 |                        |                        |                            | el maíz<br>(maize)          |
|                             | el sud<br>(south)       |                       |                                 |                        |                        |                            | el pez<br>(fish)            |

#### Exercise 4

Find and circle the words in the box on the right. The words can appear horizontally, vertically, diagonally, forward, and backward. A hidden Spanish sentence will appear between the circled words in the top 2 lines of the word search puzzle. Write the sentence below. **(Hint: I prefer rice to bread.)** The answer to the sentence is on page 9.

P N R E F I E E Í R O E L A R  
R Ó O Z A L P R L A N K B P N  
S I B C X E B Y Q V R V G E C  
R B N E V I Q N U J A X G I A  
K R L S L Y P K P J L L T H E  
J U R O D E P S É C L E O L U  
G T C L J V W S X S Z Z P R X  
Y L N D L D Q Í A E U E G V B  
E E J Í W V R A H I Z G K F F  
Q B B S D G E P A C S G U Y Y  
Q J E O B R R L W B F S T R P  
X K K U Q K A E Y T E X M L P  
J C U G P X T J G C G U J I Z  
N Ó C N I R L E L K B T L E V  
S D R T R C D J X E J X U Z N

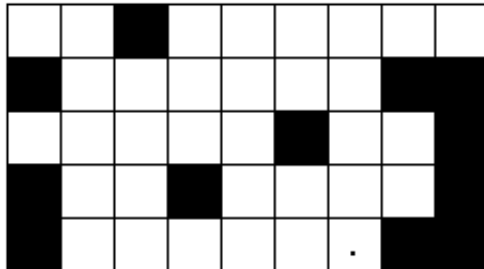
EL COLIBRÍ  
EL CÉSPED  
EL JARDÍN  
EL PAÍS  
EL PEZ  
EL RINCÓN  
EL TURBIÓN  
EL VALOR

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| el agua   | water     |
| el águila | eagle     |
| el ala    | wing      |
| el alba   | dawn      |
| el alma   | soul      |
| el área   | area      |
| el arma   | weapon    |
| el arpa   | harp      |
| el aula   | classroom |
| el ave    | bird      |
| el hacha  | ax        |
| el hada   | fairy     |
| el hambre | hunger    |

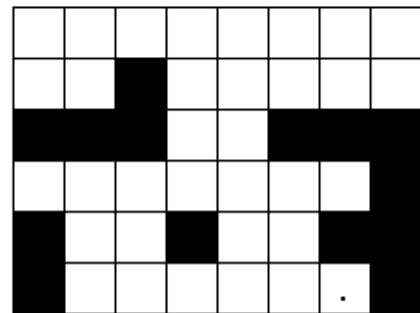


el alba

Here are 2 fallen phrase puzzles. A Spanish sentence fits into each puzzle. Use the scrambled letters under each column of the puzzle to complete the sentence. (*Hints: The golden eagle flies high in the sky. Let's put the Christmas tree in the living room.*) The answers are on page 9.



L            G  
 E A L E L T  
 C E Á A A E O  
 E C I U L O L L  
 V U L E D U I N A



D  
 A Á E N  
 E V D E A  
 P S N G Ó B D  
 N L N L R L O L  
 E O A I A M O S

Compound nouns combine a verb or a preposition with a noun. They are masculine.

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| el abrelatas     | can opener     |
| el cumpleaños    | birthday       |
| el guardarropa   | closet         |
| el lavaplatos    | dishwasher     |
| el parabrisas    | windshield     |
| el parachoques   | bumper         |
| el paraguas      | umbrella       |
| el paracaídas    | parachute      |
| el pararrayos    | lightening rod |
| el rascacielos   | skyscraper     |
| el rompecabezas  | jigsaw puzzle  |
| el sacacorchos   | corkscrew      |
| el salvavidas    | life preserver |
| el sujetapapeles | stapler        |



el rompecabezas

### Exercise 6

Here are 3 cryptograms. Write the letter that corresponds with the number in each of the blanks below in order to form the Spanish sentence. (**Hints: You had better take your umbrella. Juan throws the life preserver to Mario. Today is Robert's birthday.**) The answers are on page 10.

|    |    |   |   |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |    |   |
|----|----|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| A  | B  | D | E | G | Í | L | P  | R  | S  | T  | U  | V |
| 13 | 12 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 22 | 16 | 26 | 21 | 15 | 6 |

8 5 12 5 16 7 13 26    4 4 5 6 13 16 21 5    5 4  
 22 13 16 13 1 15 13 26

|    |   |    |   |    |   |    |    |    |    |    |    |   |    |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|----|
| A  | D | E  | I | J  | L | M  | N  | O  | R  | S  | T  | U | V  |
| 26 | 6 | 19 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 22 | 21 | 24 | 13 | 15 | 17 | 2 | 10 |

11 2 26 21    17 1 13 26    19 3    15 26 3 10 26 10 1 6 26 15    26  
 22 26 13 1 24

|    |   |    |    |    |   |   |    |    |   |   |   |    |    |    |    |
|----|---|----|----|----|---|---|----|----|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| A  | B | C  | D  | E  | H | L | M  | ñ  | O | P | R | S  | T  | U  | Y  |
| 13 | 1 | 10 | 14 | 26 | 9 | 5 | 21 | 20 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 15 | 23 | 25 | 17 |

9 6 17    26 15    26 5    10 25 21 3 5 26 13 20 6 15 14 26  
 2 6 1 26 2 23 6

Words that fit into these categories are masculine.

| Category                       | Example                                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| rivers                         | el Tajo                                            |
| mountains, lakes, seas, oceans | el Himalaya, el lago Titicaca, el mar Mediterráneo |
| cars, boats, aircraft          | el Mercedes                                        |
| months, days                   | el enero, el lunes                                 |
| wines                          | el Rioja                                           |
| pictures named by artists      | el Goya                                            |
| sports teams                   | el Real Madrid                                     |
| infinitives                    | el comer                                           |
| numbers                        | el siete                                           |
| musical notes                  | el do, el fa                                       |
| colors                         | el verde                                           |
| fruit trees                    | el limonero                                        |
| languages                      | el español                                         |

### Exercise 7

These are scrambled sentences. Unscramble the boxes to reveal the sentence. Write the sentence on the line provided. (**Hints: The Tajo is the largest river of the Iberian Peninsula. The lemon tree is a citrus tree. January is the first month of the year.**) The answers are on page 10.

**Example:**

|     |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| DE  | ÍO  | L R | N ÍN | ICA | O E | SUL | S E | EL  |
| BÉR | RGO | TAJ | LA   | PE  | A I | LA  | .   | MÁS |

|    |     |     |      |     |     |     |     |     |
|----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| EL | TAJ | O E | S E  | L R | ÍO  | MÁS | LA  | RGO |
| DE | LA  | PE  | N ÍN | SUL | A I | BÉR | ICA | .   |

**El Tajo es el río más grande de la Península Ibérica.**

|     |     |     |    |     |    |     |     |
|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| O . | EL  | LIM | OL | CÍT | UN | ONE | RIC |
| ES  | ÁRB | RO  |    |     |    |     |     |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|     |     |     |     |     |    |    |    |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| AÑO | ME  | EL  | ES  | ENE | RO | EL | EL |
| .   | PRI | S D | MER |     |    |    |    |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Some nouns have a different meaning if used with the masculine or the feminine article.

| Masculine    |                              | Feminine     |                          |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| el capital   | capital ( <i>money</i> )     | la capital   | capital ( <i>city</i> )  |
| el canal     | TV channel                   | la canal     | gutter                   |
| el cólera    | cholera                      | la cólera    | anger                    |
| el coma      | coma                         | la coma      | comma                    |
| el cometa    | comet                        | la cometa    | kite                     |
| el corte     | cut                          | la corte     | court                    |
| el cura      | priest                       | la cura      | cure                     |
| el editorial | newspaper editorial          | la editorial | publishing house         |
| el frente    | front                        | la frente    | forehead                 |
| el guía      | guide ( <i>person</i> )      | la guía      | guidebook                |
| el mañana    | tomorrow                     | la mañana    | morning                  |
| el modelo    | model ( <i>example</i> )     | la modela    | fashion model            |
| el orden     | order ( <i>arrangement</i> ) | la orden     | order ( <i>command</i> ) |
| el papa      | pope                         | la papa      | potato                   |
| el pez       | fish                         | la pez       | tar                      |
| el policía   | police officer               | la policía   | police department        |

### Exercise 8

Complete the sentence with the appropriate definite article.

Él me dio \_\_\_\_\_ orden y tengo que hacer lo que quiere.  
(*He gave me the order and I have to do what he wants.*)

¿Cuál es \_\_\_\_\_ capital de España?  
(*What is the capital of Spain?*)

\_\_\_\_\_ cólera es una enfermedad epidémica.  
(*Cholera is an epidemic illness.*)

Compré \_\_\_\_\_ guía pero no me sirvió de ayuda.  
(*I bought the guidebook but it didn't help me.*)

Él me besó en \_\_\_\_\_ frente.  
(*He kissed me on the forehead.*)

\_\_\_\_\_ pez huele mal.  
(*The fish smells bad.*)

Ella vio el amanecer por \_\_\_\_\_ mañana.  
(*She saw the sunrise in the morning.*)

Los científicos no han hallado \_\_\_\_\_ cura contra el cáncer.  
(*Scientists have not found the cure for cancer.*)

\_\_\_\_\_ corte castigó a los criminales.  
(*The court punished the criminals.*)



El me besó en la frente.

**The Answers****Exercise 1**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E |   |   |   | E |   |   |   | E |
|   | L |   |   |   | I |   |   | L |
|   |   | P |   |   |   | P | C | T |
|   |   |   | E |   |   | O | L | R |
|   |   |   |   | R | L |   |   | E |
| A | Í | D | L | E | F |   |   | N |
|   |   |   | G |   |   | U |   | V |
|   |   | A |   |   |   |   | M | Í |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | E | A |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

el colega, el día, el pie, el perfume, el tranvía

**Exercise 2**

Across – 5. el diagrama 6. el esquema

Down – 1. el profeta 2. el dilema 3. el anagrama 4. el mapa 5. el tema

**Exercise 3**

el salvaje, el montaje, el calambre, el personaje, el alambre, el pasaje, el enjambre, el paisaje

The sentence: El paisaje es bonito. (*The scenery is pretty.*)

**Exercise 4**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | N |   |   |   |   |   | E | Í |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | Ó |   |   |   |   |   | R | L |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | I |   |   |   |   | B |   |   | V |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | B |   |   |   | I |   |   |   |   | A |   |   |   |   |
|   | R |   |   | L |   |   |   |   |   |   | L |   |   | E |
|   | U |   | O | D | E | P | S | É | C | I | E | O | L |   |
|   | T | C |   |   |   |   | S |   |   |   |   | P | R |   |
|   | L | N |   |   |   |   | Í |   |   |   | E |   |   |   |
| E | E |   | Í |   |   |   | A |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | D |   |   | P |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | R |   | L |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   | A | E |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   | J |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| N | Ó | C | N | I | R | L | E | L |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | E |   |   |   |   |   |

Hidden sentence: Prefiero el arroz al pan. (*I prefer rice to bread.*)

|   |  |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P |  | R | E | F | I | E |  |   | R | O | E | L | A | R |
| R |  | O | Z | A | L | P |  | A | N |   |   |   |   |   |

**Exercise 5**

El águila caudal vuela en el alto cielo. (*The golden eagle flies high in the sky.*)

Pongamos el árbol de Navidad en el salón. (*Let's put the Christmas tree in the living room.*)

**Exercise 6**

Deberías llevarte el paraguas. *(You had better take your umbrella.)*

Juan tira el salvavidas a Mario. *(Juan throws the life preserver to Mario.)*

Hoy es el cumpleaños de Roberto. *(Today is Robert's birthday.)*

**Exercise 7**

El Tajo es el río más largo de la Península Ibérica. *(The Tajo is the largest river of the Iberian Peninsula.)*

El limonero es un árbol cítrico. *(The lemon tree is a citrus tree.)*

El enero es el primer mes del año. *(January is the first month of the year.)*

**Exercise 8**

Él me dio la orden y tengo que hacer lo que quiere. *(He gave me the order and I have to do what he wants.)*

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