

Adjectives: Part II

Many adjectives of nationality end in -o. These adjectives follow the same rules as other adjectives ending in -o. That is, they have four forms.

el muchacho **mexicano**
la muchacha **mexicana**

los muchachos **mexicanos**
las muchachas **mexicanas**

Many other adjectives of nationality end in a consonant. These adjectives **do not** follow the same rules as other adjectives ending in a consonant, rather, they have a distinct feminine form ending in -a.

el muchacho **español**
la muchacha **española**

los muchachos **españoles**
las muchachas **españolas**

There is another group of adjectives that does not follow the normal rules. Adjectives ending in -or, -án, -ón, or -ín also have a feminine form.

el chico **hablador**
la chica **habladora**

los chicos **habladores**
las chicas **habladoras**

el hombre **trabajador**
la mujer **trabajadora**

los hombres **trabajadores**
las mujeres **trabajadoras**

NOTE: Adjectives ending in “-erior” do not have a feminine form.

Adjectives that are descriptive usually follow the noun they describe.

el chico **alto**
la chica **alta**
los libros **pequeños**
las plumas **rojas**

Adjectives of quantity almost always come before the noun. Such adjectives tell how much or how many.

pocos libros
mucha energía
mucho trabajo
pocas casas

Sometimes, a descriptive adjective can precede the noun. If the adjective is descriptive, but speaks of a quality that is inherent and usually taken for granted, the adjective comes first.

la blanca nieve the white snow (snow is inherently white)

los altos picos..... the tall peaks (peaks are inherently tall)

Let's review the last two lessons.

- Adjectives that end in -o have four forms

alto

alta

altos

altas

- Adjectives of nationality ending in -o are no different from other such adjectives

guatemalteco

guatemalteca

guatemaltecos

guatemaltecas

- Adjectives that end in -e have two forms

inteligente

inteligentes

- Most adjectives ending with a consonant have two forms

popular

populares

- Adjectives of nationality ending in a consonant have four forms

español

española

españoles

españolas

- Adjectives ending in -or, -án, -ón, or -ín have four forms

hablador

habladora

habladores

habladoras

- Adjectives that are descriptive usually follow the noun they describe

casa blanca

chica alta

- When an adjective speaks of a quality that is inherent and usually taken for granted, the adjective precedes the noun

la blanca nieve

los altos picos

- Adjectives of quantity usually come before the noun

pocos libros

muchos libros