**NOUNS**

-Nouns are used to designate people, animals and things.

-Nouns in Spanish have gender and number.

-**Gender** refers to whether a noun is masculine or feminine.

-**Number** refers to whether a noun is singular or plural.

-Nouns designating male persons or animals are generally masculine.

-Nouns designating female persons or animals are generally feminine.

-Most (almost all) nouns that end with **–O** are masculine.

-Most (almost all) nouns that end with –**A** are feminine.

-Nouns ending with -**ión**, -**dad**, -**tad**, -**tud**, -**umbre** are feminine.

-Nouns ending with –**nte** usually refer to people and they can be used for both genders.

-Nouns ending in –**ista** refer to professions. They are masculine when referring specifically to a man and feminine when referring specifically to a woman.

-Nouns that end with anything else, the gender will have to be learned when the word is learned.

**ARTICLES**

-Nouns are introduced by articles.

-There are two types of articles: DEFINITE and INDEFINITE

-**Definite** Articles:

singular plural

masculine el los

feminine la las

All of these mean “the”

-**Indefinite** Articles:

singular plural

masculine un unos

feminine una unas

The singular **un** and **una** mean a, an

The plural **unos** and **unas** mean some, a few

-Always learn the article with the noun. This is how you will know what gender the noun is.

-When talking about (not to) a person, Spanish speakers use **el** and **la** in front of **titles** before names.

(La doctora Armetta, El capitán Kirk, La Srta. Jackson, El director Byrd)

\*The el and la has no meaning when used before a title.

**PLURAL OF NOUNS**

If the noun ends with :

-a **vowel** then add -S

-a **consonant** then add -ES

-the letter –**Z** then change it to a –**C** and add -ES