**INDEFINITE ARTICLES**

There are four forms of the indefinite article in Spanish. Singular forms translate into English as ***a***, ***an***. Plural forms translate into English as ***some***, ***any***.

singular plural

masculine ***un unos***

feminine ***una unas***

The indefinite article agrees in gender and number with the noun it modifies.

***un*** *libr****o*** *the book* ***unos*** *libr****os*** *the books*

***una*** *plum****a*** *the pen* ***unas*** *plum****as*** *the pens*

**USES OF THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE**

The indefinite article is used:

1. When you want to say a or an. It is also used as a numerala to mean one: un libro -- a book or one book.

If you want to make it clear that you mean one, you may use solamente (only) in front of un or una: Tengo solamente un libro. -- I have (only) one book.

2. With a modified noun of nationality, profession, rank, or religion: El doctor Gómez es un médico excelente. -- Dr. Gómez is an excellent doctor.

3. In front of each noun in a series, which we do not always do in English: Tengo un libro, un cuaderno y una pluma. -- I have a book, notebook and pen.

4. In the plural when an indefinite number is indicated: Tengo unos dólares. -- I have some (a few) dollars.

**WHEN THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE IS NOT USED**

1. **With cien and mil:** *cien libros -- a (one) hundred books; mil dólares -- a (one) thousand dollars*.

2. **With cierto, cierta and tal:** *cierto lugar - a certain place; cierta persona -- a certain person; tal hombre -- such a man; tal caso -- such a case*.

3. **With otro, otra:** *otro libro -- another book; otra pluma -- another pen*.

4. **With an unmodified noun of nationality, profession, rank or religion:** *Mi hijo es dentista. -- My son is a dentist. Soy mexicano. -- I am Mexican.*

5. **When you use Qué in an exclamation:** *¡Qué hombre! -- What a man!*

6. **With some negations, particularly with the verb tener, or in an interrogative statement before an unmodified noun object:** *¿Tiene Ud. libro? -- Do you have a book?*

7. **With a noun in apposition:** *Martí, gran político y más grande poeta... -- Martí, a great politician and greatest poet...*