***An adjective is a word that describes a noun or pronoun in some way.***

**AGREEMENT**

An adjective agrees in **gender** and **number** with the noun or pronoun it describes. Gender means masculine, feminine, or neuter. Number means singular or plural.

An adjective that ends in ***-o*** in the masculine singular changes ***-o*** to ***-a*** to form the feminine singular:

*rojo/roja red pequeño/pequeña small*

An adjective that expresses a **person’s nationality, which ends in a consonant**, requires the addition of ***-a*** to form the feminine singular:

*Juan es español. John is Spanish María es española. Mary is Spanish.*

An adjective that **ends in** ***-e*** generally does not change to form the feminine:

*un muchacho inteligente una muchacha inteligente*

*an intelligent boy an intelligent girl*

An adjective that **ends in a consonant** generally does not change to form the feminine:

*un libro difícil a difficult book una pregunta difíci a difficult question*

**except for an adjective of nationality**, as stated above, and adjectives that end in ***-án***, **-ón**, ***-ín*** and ***-or***:

*trabajador industrious trabajadora industrious*

**POSITION**

Normally, **a descriptive adjective is placed after the noun it describes**: *una casa amarilla (a yellow house)*.

Two descriptive adjectives, ***bueno*** and ***malo***, are **sometimes placed in front of the noun**. When placed in front of a **masculine singular noun**, the -o drops:

*un buen amigo a good friend un mal alumno a bad student*

**A limiting adjective is generally placed in front of the noun**:

*algunos estudiantes some students mucho dinero much money*

**In an interrogative sentence, the predicate adjective precedes the subject when it is a noun:**

*¿Es bonita María? Is Mary pretty?*

Some adjectives have a **different meaning depending on their position**:

*un nuevo sombrero un sombrero nuevo*

*a new (different, another) hat a new (brand new) hat*

*un gran hombre/una gran mujer un hombre grande/una mujer grande*

*a great man/a great woman a large, big man/a large, big woman*

*la pobre niña la niña pobre*

*the poor (unfortunate, unlucky) little girl the poor (poor, not rich) little girl*

**PLURAL OF ADJECTIVES**

Like nouns, to form the plural of an adjective, add ***-s*** if the adjective ends in a vowel:

*blanco/blancos white blanca/blancas white*

If an adjective ends in a consonant, add ***-es*** to form the plural:

*español/españoles Spanish difícil/difíciles difficult*

Some adjectives **drop the accent mark in the plural** because it is not needed to indicate the stress. The stress falls naturally on the same vowel in the plural:

cortés/corteses courteous alemán/alemanes German

Some adjectives **add the accent mark in the plural** because the stress needs to be kept on the vowel that was stressed in the singular where no accent mark was needed. in the singular, the stress falls naturally on that vowel:

*joven/jóvenes young*

An **adjective that ends in -z** changes ***-z*** to ***-c*** and adds ***-es*** to form the plural:

*feliz/felices happy*

If an adjective **describes or modifies two or more nouns that are all masculine**, naturally the masculine plural is used:

***Roberto*** *y* ***Felipe*** *están* ***cansados****. Robert and Phillip are tired.*

If an adjective **describes or modifies two or more nouns that are all feminine**, naturally the feminine plural is used:

***Elena*** *y* ***Marta*** *están* ***cansadas****. Ellen and Martha are tired.*

If an adjective **describes or modifies two or more nouns of different genders**, the masculine plural is used:

***María****,* ***Elena****,* ***Marta*** *y* ***Roberto*** *están* ***cansados****.*

*Mary, Ellen, Martha and Robert are tired.*

**DESCRIPTIVE ADJECTIVES**

A descriptive adjective is a word that **describes a noun or pronoun**:

*casa blanca white house chicas bonitas pretty girls*

*chicos altos tall boys Ella es bonita. She is pretty.*

**Two or more descriptive adjectives of equal importance are placed after the noun.** If there are two, they are joined by ***y*** (or ***e***). If there are more than two, the last two are connected by ***y*** (or ***e***).

*un hombre alto y hermoso a tall, handsome man*

*una mujer alta, hermosa e inteligente a tall, beautiful and intelligent woman*

**LIMITING ADJECTIVES**

A limiting adjective **limits the number of the noun**:

*una casa a house un libro a book*

*algunos muchachos some boys muchas veces many times*