Adjective Agreement

Grammar essential #7

- Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns.
- In Spanish, adjectives agree in number and gender.
- In Spanish, adjectives follow the noun or pronoun which they modify.
- In English we say, the red wagons.
- In Spanish we say, the wagons reds

the tall boy el chico alto the tall boys los chicos altos the tall girl la chica alta the tall girls las chicas altas

- If the noun is singular, the adjective must be singular to match.
- If the noun is plural, the adjective must be plural to match.
- If the noun is feminine, the adjective must be feminine to match.
- If the noun is masculine, the adjective must be masculine to match.

However....

adjectivos

There are some adjectives that are **genderless**.

Genderless adjectives can show **number** but <u>not</u> **gender**.

gendered – pequeño genderless – grande gendered- alto genderless – inteligente gendered – viejo genderless - joven

the interesting boy el chico interesante the interesting boys los chicos interesantes the interesting girl la chica interesante the interesting girls las chicas interesantes

Adjectivos

Exceptions:

There are some nouns that do not end in —o that change with gender: trabajador, trabajadora;

hablador, habladora

Nationalities

If the nationality is gendered, -o = masculine

-a = feminine

If the nationality is genderless, leave for masculine. – add – a for feminine.