

## Lesson 7

### POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

#### VOCABULARY

<b>el abogado</b>	lawyer	<b>el tío</b>	uncle
<b>el campesino</b>	farmer	<b>la tía</b>	aunt
<b>el médico</b>	doctor	<b>España</b>	<i>f.</i> Spain
<b>el hermano</b>	brother	<b>Inglaterra</b>	<i>f.</i> England
<b>la hermana</b>	sister	<b>comer</b>	eat
<b>la madre</b>	mother	<b>descansar</b>	rest
<b>el padre</b>	father	<b>fumar</b>	smoke
<b>los padres</b>	parents	<b>viajar</b>	travel
<b>el (la) pariente</b>	relative	<b>cuando</b>	( <i>conjunction</i> ) when
<b>Pablo</b>	Paul	<b>Pedro</b>	Peter

I. POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES. The possessive adjectives are:

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Usage</i>
mi	mis	my
tu	tus	your ( <i>to a friend</i> )
nuestro(-a)	nuestros (-as)	our
vuestro (-a)	vuestros (-as)	your (to a friends)
su	sus	his, her, its, their, your ( <i>formal to one or several</i> )

The possessive adjective must agree in gender and number with the noun it modifies.

**Su**, because it may denote any one of several possessors (**él, ella, ellos, Ud., Uds.**), may be ambiguous; usually, however, the preceding conversation or a nod or some slight gesture will leave no doubt as to its meaning..

**Mi** padre trabaja mientras **mi** madre descansa.

*My father works while my mother rests.*

**Mis** padres no están en España.

*My parents are not in Spain.*

Juan y **su** tío viajan mucho en Inglaterra.

*John and his uncle travel a lot in England*

Señor Martin ¿Dónde está **su** madre?

*Mr. Martin, where is your mother?*

**Vuestro** pueblo es muy pobre.  
*Your town is very poor.*

Juan y María ¿Por qué no están **vuestros** padres aquí?  
*John and Maria, why aren't your parents here?*

Predicate Noun with ser. An *unqualified (unmodified) predicate noun* denoting profession or nationality is **not** preceded by the definite article.

Mi tío es abogado; es español; es **un** abogado español.  
*My uncle is a lawyer; he is Spanish; he is a Spanish lawyer.*

**I. Los padres, los tíos**, etc. The masculine plural of certain nouns is used collectively to include both genders.

los padres	<i>the parents</i>
los hermanos	<i>the brothers and sisters</i>
los tíos my uncle(s)	<i>and aunt(s)</i>
los campesinos	<i>the farmers (and their wives)</i>

### EXERCISES

*A. Read aloud twice before translating.* Mi tío Juan vive en España; mi tía Anita vive en España también; mis tíos viven en España; **son** campesinos porque viven en el campo.

– Señorita Watson ¿Dónde **están** sus padres? Mis padres **viajan** mucho en Inglaterra y España, porque **hablan** inglés y español muy bien.

– María, tu padre **es** médico ¿verdad? – Sí, señor, mi padre **es** médico. – María ¿Dónde **viven** tus padres? **Viven** en la ciudad ¿verdad? – No, señor, **viven** en un pueblo.

– Señores ¿Cuándo **fumen** Uds? – **Fumamos** cuando **comemos**, cuando **descansamos** y cuando **trabajamos**. – Dónde **fuman** Uds? – **Fumamos** en casa y en las casas de nuestros parientes. Todos nuestros parientes **fuman** también.

– ¿Por qué no **estudiáis** vuestra lección de español, Pedro y Pablo? Vuestra hermana **estudia** mucho; ella **aprende** todas sus lecciones. – Los padres no **están** aquí y **estamos** cansados; no **es** necesario **trabajar** siempre.

El padre de Pablo Real **es** abogado; su hermano y su tío **son** abogados también; en la familia de Pablo **hay** muchos abogados. Algunos **son** ricos, otros **son** pobres.

[Note: This story was written before people knew much about the dangers of smoking. Today we have ample scientific evidence that smoking is very harmful to one's health. Donald Potter, editor of Erik Greenfield's 1943 *Spanish Grammar*.]

B. *Translate into Spanish.* 1. All my relatives live in Spain. 2. Her brother is a lawyer. 3. His mother and his aunt are traveling in England. 4. Where are your notebooks, John and Mary. 5. Why are they always smoking when they are in the house? 6. Do they smoke in your house too, Mr. Wilson? 7. My brothers and sisters are poor. 8. There are many farmers in our village. 9. Gentlemen, why don't you read your newspapers? 10. He arrives late at our class every day. 11. What color is your fountain pen, Miss Watson? 12. The villages that the doctor describes are very interesting.

C. *Oral Work.* 1. My mother is at home. 2. Where is your brother, John? 3. My parents are here. 5. Her aunt speaks Spanish. 6. They learn their words. 7. We write our lessons. 8. They are not easy. 9. Where is your house, Mr. Wilson? 10. There are many colors. 11. Our notebooks are red. 12. They don't live here.

D. *10-minute quiz; 5% for each correct answer.*

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. There are other books. | 11. with chalk        |
| 2. in the country         | 12. Is is blue?       |
| 3. in a city              | 13. What color is it? |
| 4. of the village         | 14. long              |
| 5. very late              | 15. short             |
| 7. very easy              | 16. Where is it?      |
| 8. something              | 17. all the sentences |
| 9. We are living.         | 18. all the words     |
| 10. We are learning       | 19. other newspapers  |

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