

¿Como eres? - Component 1 - ¿Cómo es tu familia? (what is your family like?)

Model answer to the big question: ¿Cómo es tu familia?

¡Mi familia es bastante grande!	My family is quite big!
Tengo dos hermanos gemelos mayores	I have two older twin brothers
y una hermana menor. También,	and a younger sister. Also,
tengo una madre y un padre.	I have a mum and a dad.
En total, somos seis en mi familia.	In total, we are six in my family.

Key grammar:

Possessive adjectives

In Spanish, the words for 'my', 'your' and 'his' or 'her' differ according to whether the noun that follows is singular or plural.

	Singular	Plural
My	Mi	Mis
Your	Tu	Tus
His/her	Su	Sus

↑ ¡Arriba, arriba!

If you have a younger or older brother or sister, use *menor* and *mayor*:

hermano menor younger brother
hermana mayor older sister

! ¡Atención!

Be careful! A number of plural nouns in Spanish have two meanings. For example:

hermanos brothers **or** siblings
tíos uncles **or** aunt and uncle
abuelos grandfathers **or** grandparents

Key vocabulary:

La abuela	Grandma
El abuelo	Grandad
Los abuelos	Grandparents
La madre	Mother
El padre	Father
La madrastra	Step-mother
El padrastro	Step-father
Los padres	Parents
El tío/la tía	Uncle/auntie
La familia	Family
Los gemelos	Twins (boys)
Las gemelas	Twins (girls)
La hermana	Sister
El hermano	Brother
La hermanastra	Step-sister
El hermanastro	Step-brother
Los hermanos	Siblings
La hija única	Only child (daughter)
El hijo único	Only child (son)
El primo/la prima	Cousin (boy)/(girl)
Mayor	Older
Menor	Younger

To form plural (more than one)

Vowel (a, e, o, u)	+ s
Consonant (any other letter of the alphabet that is NOT a vowel)	+ es

A (un/ una)	Some (unos/ unas)
Un Un hermano  (a brother)	Unos Unos hermanos  (Some brothers)
Una Una hermana  (a sister)	Unas Unas hermanas  (some sisters)

¿Como eres? - Component 2 - ¿Cuál es tu color favorito? (What is your favourite colour?)

Model answer to the big question: ¿Cuál es tu color favorito?

Me gusta el amarillo,	I like yellow,
¿Cuál es tu color favorito?	What's your favourite colour?
Mi color favorito es el rojo y también me encanta el verde	My favourite colour is red and Also I love green
Sin embargo, odio el azul no me gusta nada.	However, I hate blue I don't like it all.

Key grammar:

Basic Opinions

Opinion expressions are very useful! They help to extend your writing and make it more interesting and personal. *However, they don't always follow the verb endings rule you have seen so far.*

Me encanta	I love
Me gusta (mucho)	I like (a lot)
No me gusta (nada)	I don't like (at all)
Odio	I hate
Detesto	I detest
Prefiero	<i>I prefer</i>

Note that you can make any sentence negative in Spanish by placing the word 'no' before the verb. E.g. No odio = I don't hate

! ¡Atención!

When giving opinions about colours, you must use **el** before the colour.

- *Me gusta **el** rojo.*
- *Mi color favorito es **el** verde.*

Conjunctions:

Conjunctions are a great way to extend sentences and make your writing more impressive!

Además	Furthermore
O	Or
Pero	But
Sin embargo	However
También	Also/ too
Y	And

Key vocabulary:

Mi color favorito es el	My favourite colour is
Amarillo/a	Yellow
Azul	Blue
Blanco/a	White
Claro/a	Light
Gris	Grey
Marrón	Brown
Morado/a	Purple
Naranja	Orange
Negro/a	Black
Oscuro/a	Dark
Rojo/a	Red
Rosa	Pink
Verde	Green
Marrón oscuro	Dark brown
Verde claro	Light green
Celeste	Light blue
Azul marino	Navy blue
De colores	colourful

Model answer to the big question: ¿Tienes animales?

No tengo animal pero me gustaría una tortuga verde.	I don't have a pet but I would like a green tortoise.
Mi amigo es Julio	My friend is called Julio/Julian.
Él tiene un perro marrón	He has a brown dog
Y su hermana tiene	And his sister has
Un conejo blanco	a white rabbit

Key grammar:

Adjective Endings

Adjectives in Spanish can be masculine or feminine, singular or plural. If an adjective ends in '- o', it changes to an '- a' to describe a feminine noun:

Un perro negro Una tortuga amarilla

If the adjective ends in '- e' or a consonant, it stays the same.

Una serpiente verde e Una cobaya marrón n

If the adjective is describing a plural noun, it adds an '- s' if it ends in a vowel and '- es' if it ends in a consonant.

Dos gatos blancos Cinco ratones grises

i iCultural!

The Amazon rainforest covers over five million square kilometres of South America, including five Spanish-speaking countries. It has approximately 390 billion trees and one in every ten of all of the world's species lives here.

Most words ending in:

- - a
 - - ad
 - - tad
 - - ion
- are feminine



↑ iArriba, arriba!

When speaking or writing, try to use verbs in the past or future tenses as much as possible. It sounds really impressive!

Tenía... I used to have...
Me gustaría tener... I would like to have...

Key vocabulary:

¿Tienes animales?	Do you have pets?
No tengo animales	I don't have pets.
Me gustaría tener	I would like to have
El caballo	Horse
La cobaya	Guinea pig
El conejo	Rabbit
El gato	Cat
El pájaro	Bird
El perro	Dog
El pez	Fish
El ratón	Mouse
La serpiente	Snake
De colores	Colourful
Enorme	Enormous
Feroz	Ferocious
Grande	Big
Pequeño/a	Small
Tenía	I used to have

Model answer to the big question: ¿Cómo eres?

Tengo los ojos azules y el pelo marrón	I have blue eyes and brown hair
Mi mejor amiga es Emma.	My best friend is called Emma.
Tiene el pelo rubio y los ojos verdes.	She has blonde hair and green eyes.
Mi hermana también tiene	My sister also has
los ojos azules pero	blue eyes but
Ella tiene pelo pelirrojo	She has ginger hair.

Key grammar:

Tener

Remember to say 'have' in Spanish, you use the verb 'tener'. The verb 'tener' is irregular and so doesn't follow a pattern – you have to learn it!

Tener	To have
Tengo	I have
Tienes	You have
Tiene	He/she has
Tenemos	We have
Tienen	They have

! ¡Atención!

Be careful! In Spanish, the adjective generally comes after the noun, but if you don't change the word order when translating into English, it will sound very odd.

You can use to give physical descriptions:

Mi hámster **tiene** los ojos rojos.

¿**Tienes** el pelo corto?

Mis abuelos **tienen** el pelo blanco.

Mi hermano y yo **tenemos** los ojos verdes.

Key vocabulary:

Los ojos	Eyes
Azules	Blue
Marrones	Brown
Verdes	Light
Calvo/a	Bald
El pelo	Hair
Castaño	Brown (hair)
Pelirrojo	Ginger (hair)
Rubio	Blond
El color	Colour
Corto	Short
Largo	Long
Liso	Straight
Ondulado	Wavy
Rizado	Curly
El estilo	Style
La barba	Beard
El bigote	Moustache
Las pecas	Freckles
La cara	Face
Las gafas	Glasses

¿Como eres? - Component 4 - ¿Cómo es?

Model answer to the big question: ¿Cómo es?

Soy alto y delgado	I am tall and thin
pero no musculoso.	but not muscular.
Mi amigo es bajo	My friend is short
y un poco gordo, sin embargo	and a bit fat however
Él es muy guapo.	He is very good-looking.

Key grammar:

'Ser'

Ser is a useful verbs that like **'Tener'** is also irregular. Learning their conjugations will help you with your written work.

Soy	I am
Eres	You are
Es	He/she/it is
Somos	We are
Sois	You are (<i>plural</i>)
Son	They are

Tener

You can also use *the verb 'tener'* to give physical descriptions:

Tener	To have
Tengo	I have
Tienes	You have
Tiene	He/she has
Tenemos	We have
Tienen	They have

Intensifiers:

muy (very)	tan (so)
bastante (quite)	realmente (really)
un poco (a bit)	un poquito (a little bit)



Estrategia

Extended writing

As you build your knowledge of Spanish vocabulary and grammar, you should be able to write in lots more detail. To show off your skills, always try to include opinions, conjunctions, intensifiers and a range of different verb forms. Always read the example first to see how it's done.

Key vocabulary:

Soy	I am
Es	He/she is
Alto/a	Tall
Bajo/a	Short
Delgado/a	Slim
Feo/a	Ugly
Gordo/a	Fat
Guapo/a	Good-looking
Joven	Young
Mediano/a	Average height
Musculoso/a	Muscular
Viejo/a	Old
Los rasgos físicos	Physical features

¿Como eres? - Component 5 - ¿Cómo eres de carácter? (what is your personality like?)

Model answer to the big question: ¿Cómo eres de carácter?

Soy una persona simpática y graciosa	I am a nice and funny person
pero a veces soy tonto.	but sometimes I am silly.
Mi amiga es divertida e inteligente	My friend is fun and intelligent
Pero nunca es antipática.	But she is never unfriendly
Su hermano mayor	Her big brother
Es perezoso y	is lazy and
a veces arrogante.	sometimes arrogant.

Key vocabulary:

Aburrido/a	Boring
Activo/a	Active
Agresivo/a	Aggressive
Alegre	Happy
Antipático/a	Unfriendly
Arrogante	Arrogant
Divertido/a	Fun
Entusiasta	Enthusiastic
Generoso/a	Generous
Inteligente	Intelligent
Nervioso/a	Nervous
Perezoso/a	Lazy
Rápido/a	Fast
Simpático/a	Nice
Sincero/a	Honest
Tímido/a	Shy
Tonto/a	Silly
Torpe	Clumsy

Key grammar:

Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency can improve the quality of your writing:

Siempre	<i>Always</i>
A veces	<i>Sometimes</i>
A menudo	<i>Often</i>
Raras veces	<i>Rarely</i>
Nunca	<i>Never</i>



¡Arriba, arriba!

To make your answers even more ambitious, use:

antes era... before, I was...

pero ahora soy... but now I am...

Antes era perezoso, pero ahora soy activo.



Patrones y reglas

Did you notice the cognates in the listening exercise? There are many personality features that are English-Spanish cognates. Look at these examples. How would you pronounce them in Spanish?

<i>sincero</i>	<i>arrogante</i>
<i>activa</i>	<i>nerviosa</i>
<i>agresivo</i>	<i>estúpido</i>
<i>popular</i>	<i>honesta</i>