**Possessive Adjectives**

Possessive adjectives are used to show ownership.

**mi libro**  
my book

**tu pluma**  
your pen

There are four possessive adjectives.

mi  
tu  
su

nuestro

Three possessive adjectives (mi, tu, su) have only two forms, singular and plural.

mi  
mis

tu  
tus

su  
sus

Possessive adjectives agree with the nouns they modify. That is, they agree with the thing possessed, not the possessor.

**mi libro**

my book

**mis libros**

my books

**tu pluma**

your pen

**tus plumas**

your pens

Mi, tu and su do not have masculine and feminine forms. They stay the same, regardless of the gender of the nouns they modify.

mi amigo  
mi amiga

tus hermanos  
tus hermanas

su libro  
sus plumas

**Mi** means "my" ; **tu** means "your."

**Mi casa es tu casa.**  
My house is your house.

**Su**, like **tu**, can mean "your." The difference between your (tu) and your (su) lies in the degree of formality the speaker wishes to convey.

**Mi casa es tu casa.**  
(speaking to someone you would address as "tú")

**Mi casa es su casa.**  
(speaking to someone you would address as "usted")

**Note:** The two words "tu" and "tú" are pronounced the same. Tú (with the written accent) is the subject pronoun meaning "you" (informal). Tu (without the written accent) is the possessive adjective meaning "your" (informal).

**Su** has four meanings: his, her, their and your (formal).

**María busca a su hermana.**  
María is looking for **her** sister.

**Juan busca a su hermana.**  
Juan is looking for **his** sister.

**Ellos buscan a su hermana.**  
They are looking for **their** sister.

**Su madre busca a su hermana.**  
**Your** mother is looking for **your** sister.

If the meaning of su is not clear from the context of the sentence, a prepositional phrase is used in place of su.

**María busca a la hermana de él.**  
María looks for his sister.

**El hombre busca las llaves de ella.**  
The man looks for her keys.

**María busca el cuaderno de Juan.**  
María looks for Juan's notebook.

**El hombre busca las llaves de Samanta.**  
The man looks for Samanta's keys.

nuestro and have four forms.

**nuestro  
nuestra  
nuestros  
nuestras**

Nuestro means "our."

**nuestro hermano**

our brother

**nuestra hermana**

our sister

**nuestros hermanos**

our brothers

**nuestras hermanas**

our sisters

Here are all of the possessive adjectives:

**mi(s)**  
my

**tu(s)**  
your (fam. sing.)

**su(s)**  
his, her, your (formal), their

**nuestro(-a, -os, -as)**  
our

Note that these possessive adjectives are **not** used with articles of clothing or body parts. Rather, the definite article is used.

**Me gusta el vestido nuevo.**  
I like my new dress

**Me duele el brazo.**  
My arm hurts.

Adjetivos posesivos

mi my (singular)

mis my (plural)  
tu your (singular)

tus your (plural)  
su your (the difference between you(tu) and your (su) lies in the degree of formality the speaker wishes to convey.

Has for meaning: his, her, their and your (formal)

Sus your (plural)

nuestro “Our”

nuestra “our”

nuestros “our”

nuestras “our”

**Possessive Adjectives: Quiz #1**

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**A. Choose the correct translation.**

1. your (informal) classes  


2. your (formal) telephone  


3. his son  


4. her children  


5. our daughter  


6. your (informal) car  


7. their books  


8. my book  


**B. Write the correct word in order to form a logical response.**

9. ¿Dónde trabaja su esposo?  
Where does your husband work?

esposo trabaja en el aeropuerto.

10. ¿Es grande su casa?  
Is his house big?

Sí, casa es muy grande.

11. ¿Dónde está su tienda?  
Where is her store?

tienda está en el centro.

12. ¿Cómo están los padres de Ernesto?  
How are Ernest's parents?

padres están bien.

13. ¿Cuántos años tiene el hermano de ella?  
How old is her brother?

hermano tiene cinco años.

14. ¿Dónde están nuestros vecinos?  
Where are our neighbors?

vecinos están en sus casas.

15. ¿Cuándo abren los niños sus regalos?  
When do the kids open their gifts?

Ellos abrenregalos mañana.

16. ¿Necesitan ustedes nuestros libros?  
Do you-all need our books?

Sí, necesitamos libros. (formal)

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