

Spanish – Cultural Understanding

1. How many countries speak Spanish? _____

2. How many different Spanish-speaking countries can you name?

3. Why do you think that not all of these countries speak exactly the same kind of Spanish?

4. Research which countries these Spanish words come from and what they mean using WordReference/SpanishDict:

La frutilla (n)	
El carro (n)	
Piola (adj)	
Chido (adj)	
La neta (n)	

Food items often have different names between different regions/countries.
Research some of the words used in different varieties

Spanish – Grammar

Nouns and Gender

1. A general rule is that masculine nouns tend to end in ‘-o’ in Spanish, and feminine nouns tend to end in ‘-a’. Now, put these nouns in the correct column:

Masculine	Feminine

la coleta	el muro	la caja	el hotel	el vaso	la bola	el árbol
el bolso	la máquina	el fuego	la cama	el pelo	la naranja	

2. For words that end in ‘-e’, we have to learn their grammatical gender. Using wordreference.com, look up these words, write down their meaning and whether they are masculine or feminine, then, add them to the table in exercise 1.

Word	Definition	Masculine or feminine?
Nieve		
Luz		
Puente		
Fuente		
Gente		
Mente		
Cine		
Baile		
Paquete		

3. (i) Some words end in something other than ‘-o’, ‘-a’ or ‘-e’. Look at the words below and see whether you can spot the patterns with other endings.

Nacionalidad		Tema	
Ciudad		Problema	
Felicidad		Drama	
Salud		Enigma	
Virtud		Idioma	
Televisión		Nariz	
Canción		Luz	
Religión		Paz	
Irritación		Actriz	

4. Unfortunately, there are some common words which are exceptions to these rules. What gender do you think these words are? Check your answers on Wordreference.com

Palabra	¿M/F?	¿El/La?
Mano		
Foto		
Moto		
Radio		
Planeta		
Día		
Panda		
Disfraz		
Arroz		

5. (i) Transform these nouns from singular to plural:

- La masa → Las masas
- El zapato →
- La jaula →
- El dedo →
- La cabeza →

	m	f
(singular)	el	la
(plural)	los	las

- (ii) Now transform these nouns from plural to singular:

- Los niños → El niño
- Los cuencos →
- Las estrellas →
- Los palos →
- Las casa →