

Lesson 6.1

I can describe a family

Así se dice

Describing a family

To find out about a friend's family, ask:

¿Cuántas personas hay en tu familia?

¿Cómo es tu familia?

Your friend might answer:

Hay cinco personas **en mi familia**.
Mi abuela **vive** con nosotros.
... *lives* ...

Somos cinco.
There are ... *of us*.

También **tenemos** un perro.
... *we have* ...

Nuestra familia es muy grande. Tenemos muchos **primos**.
... *cousins*.

Somos muy **unidos**.
We're ... *close-knit*.

Vocabulario extra

el animal doméstico, la mascota	<i>pet</i>
el caballo	<i>horse</i>
el conejo	<i>rabbit</i>
la culebra	<i>snake</i>
el pájaro	<i>bird</i>
el pez dorado	<i>goldfish</i>
el ratón	<i>mouse</i>
la tortuga	<i>turtle</i>

Nota gramatical

You've been using **mi(s)**, **tu(s)**, and **su(s)**, which are *possessive adjectives*. Here are the others:

nuestro/a(s)	our
vuestro/a(s)	your (when "you" is plural)
su(s)	your (when "you" is plural)
su(s)	their

- Note that **nuestro** and **vuestro** also have a feminine form:

Nuestra familia es pequeña.

- Like **mi**, **tu**, and **su**, these forms add an **-s** when they modify a plural noun:
sus primos, **nuestros gatos**.

Nota cultural

When a man and a woman serve as **padrino** (*godfather*) and **madrina** (*godmother*) at a baby's baptism, it's understood that they'll have a special lifelong relationship with their godchild. The godparents give their **ahijados** love, advice, and help with education and careers. El **compadrazgo** is the relationship between the parents and godparents of a child. **Compadres** and **comadres** often consider each other family. Should a parent die, **compadres** and **comadres** are expected to care for each other's children.

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Situation 6-1: Interview

Tell me about your family or an imaginary one.

¿Cuántas personas hay en tu familia?

¿Quiénes son?

¿Tienen Uds. un perro o un gato?

¿Quién en tu familia es cómico?

Vocabulario extra

egoísta	<i>selfish (masc., fem.)</i>
leal	<i>loyal</i>
perezoso/a	<i>lazy</i>
trabajador/a	<i>hard-working</i>

What do you think these words mean?

agresivo/a	<i>generoso/a</i>
artístico/a	<i>responsable</i>
atlético/a	<i>independiente</i>
creativo/a	<i>romántico/a</i>
desorganizado/a	<i>tímido/a</i>



Entre familia

PRIMER PASO

To describe your family, you'll need to know the names of family members and how to use possessive adjectives.

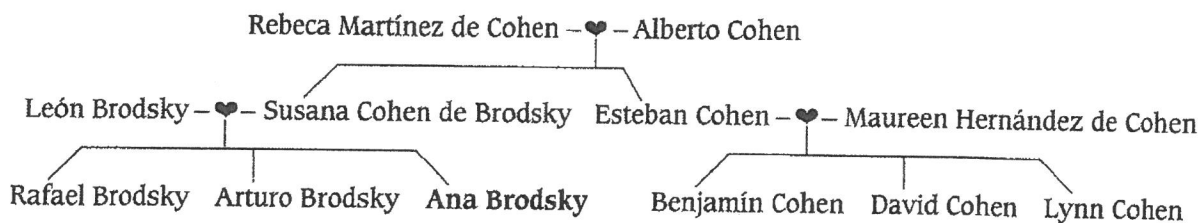
VOCABULARIO

Family members

1 Dwayne, an exchange student in La Paz, Bolivia, is describing his family members to his host family. Help with his descriptions by writing the correct family member in each blank below. Some of the choices can be used more than once.

1. La madre de mi madre es mi _____.
2. El hermano de mi madre es mi _____.
3. Mi hermana es la _____ de mis padres.
4. La hija de mi madre y mi padrastro es mi _____.
5. La madre de mi tío es mi _____.
6. La esposa de mi padre que no es mi madre es mi _____.

2 Look at the family tree and tell how these people are related to Ana.




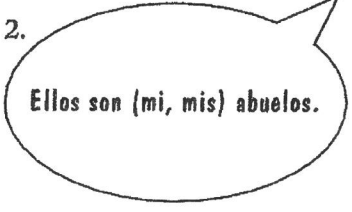
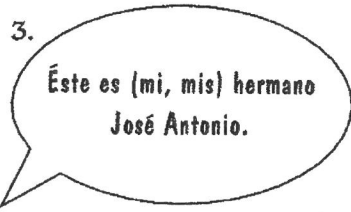
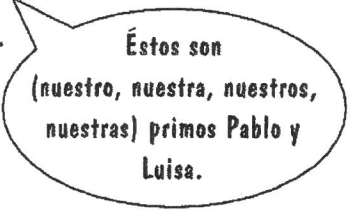

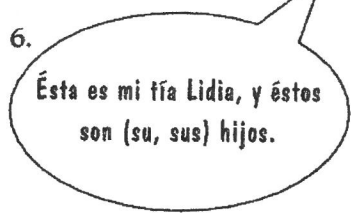
MODELO Rebeca Cohen **Es la abuela de Ana.**

1. Susana Brodsky _____
2. Alberto Cohen _____
3. Esteban Cohen _____
4. Arturo Brodsky _____
5. Maureen Hernández _____
6. León Brodsky _____
7. Rafael Brodsky _____

Nota Gramatical Possessive adjectives

- You already know the singular possessive adjectives: **mi(s)** (*my*), **tu(s)** (*your*), and **su(s)** (*his, hers, your*).
- The plural possessive adjectives are: **nuestro/a(s)** (*our*), **vuestro/a(s)** (*your- Spain*), and **su(s)** (*your, their*).
These adjectives agree in number with the nouns they modify.
Nuestros amigos miran la televisión.
Sus hermanas escuchan la radio.
- Remember that **nuestro** and **vuestro** also agree in gender with the nouns they are modifying.
Silvia es nuestra hermana y nuestras primas son Eva y Julia.

3 Felipe invited some friends to his family reunion. Help him introduce his family members to his friends by circling the possessive adjective that correctly completes each sentence.

1.		2.		3.	
4.		5.		6.	

4 Alexis is on vacation with her family, but everyone misses something from home. Complete each of her sentences with the correct form of the possessive adjective.

- Mis hermanos quieren _____ tiras cómicas. No quieren leer novelas.
- Yo quiero _____ traje de baño (*bathing suit*) porque quiero nadar en el lago.
- Marcos quiere _____ radio porque quiere escuchar música.
- Nosotros queremos _____ videojuegos que están en casa.
- Iris y Sandra quieren _____ revistas que dejaron (*they left*) en casa.
- Quiero ver a _____ mejores amigos Sara y Felipe porque quiero hablar un poco con ellos.
- Tú quieres _____ zapatillas de tenis para jugar al tenis con Hana.
- Mi hermana y yo queremos _____ novelas porque no tenemos nada que leer.