# Teaching notes

This set of worksheets is designed to revise adjective agreement, opinions and school subjects before introducing the comparative and superlative forms.

## Answers

**Ex. 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| El inglés es … | La informática es … | Los idiomas son … | Las ciencias son … |
| divertido | divertida | divertidos | divertidas |
| aburrido | aburrida | aburridos | aburridas |
| interesante | interesante | interesantes | interesantes |
| difícil | difícil | difíciles | difíciles |
| útil | útil | útiles | útiles |

**Ex 2**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| e | g | a | f | h | b | d | c |

**Ex. 3 Ex. 4**

|  |
| --- |
| 1. La educación física es buena.
 |
| 1. La música es divertida.
 |
| 1. El dibujo es fácil.
 |
| 1. Los idiomas son interesantes.
 |
| 1. La historia es aburrida.
 |
| 1. Las matemáticas son difíciles.
 |
| 1. El arte dramático es bueno.
 |
| 1. La tecnología es interesante.
 |
| 1. Las ciencias son importantes.
 |
| 1. La informática es útil.
 |

|  |
| --- |
| 1. la historia
2. el inglés
3. la informática
4. las matemáticas
5. la geografía
6. el arte dramático
7. la educación física
8. las ciencias
9. los idiomas
10. los trabajos manuales
 |

**Ex. 5**

|  |
| --- |
| 1. La biología es más fácil que la física.
 |
| 1. La informática es más importante que la religión.
 |
| 1. Mi mejor asignatura es el inglés.
 |
| 1. El dibujo es tan divertido como la música.
 |
| 1. Para mí, la mejor asignatura es el mandarín.
 |
| 1. La asignatura menos útil es el arte dramático.
 |
| 1. La asignatura más difícil es la química.
 |
| 1. El francés no es tan aburrido como las matemáticas.
 |
| 1. El peor profesor es el Señor López.
 |
| 1. La tecnología es más interesante que los idiomas.
 |

## Adjectives

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Adjectives in Spanish have to agree with the noun they are describing. If the adjective ends in **–o**, this changes to **–a** when describing a feminine noun. For plural nouns, add **–s** to the singular form of the adjective.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| singular | plural |
| masculine | feminine | masculine | feminine |
| *buen****o*** | *buen****a*** | *buen****os*** | *buen****as*** |

If the adjective ends in **any other vowel**, the spelling doesn’t change to agree with feminine nouns. However, **–s** is added in the plural.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| singular | plural |
| masculine | feminine | masculine | feminine |
| *importante* | *importante* | *importante****s*** | *importante****s*** |

If the adjective ends in a **consonant**, there is usually no feminine agreement. In the plural, add **–es.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| singular | plural |
| masculine | feminine | masculine | feminine |
| *fácil* | *fácil* | *fácil****es*** | *fácil****es*** |

 |

**Ex. 1** Here are some adjectives you might use to describe school subjects. Fill in the missing forms of the adjectives in each row to complete the table below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **El** inglés es … | **La** informática es … | **Los** idiomas son … | **Las** ciencias son … |
|  | divertida |  |  |
|  |  | aburridos |  |
| interesante |  |  |  |
|  | difícil |  |  |
|  |  |  | útiles |

**Ex. 2** Match the adjectives by writing the correct letters in the answer grid:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. aburrido
 | 1. difficult, hard
 |  | 1 |  |
| 1. bueno
 | 1. important
 |  | 2 |  |
| 1. difícil
 | 1. useful
 |  | 3 |  |
| 1. divertido
 | 1. interesting
 |  | 4 |  |
| 1. fácil
 | 1. boring
 |  | 5 |  |
| 1. importante
 | 1. fun, enjoyable
 |  | 6 | **b** |
| 1. interesante
 | 1. good
 |  | 7 |  |
| 1. útil
 | 1. easy
 |  | 8 |  |

Finished? Look up some more adjectives that you could use to describe school subjects.

**Ex. 3** Use this list of school subjects to help you translate the sentences below into Spanish. Remember to make the adjectives agree and to use *es/son* (is/are) correctly!

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **masculine** | **feminine** | **masculine plural** | **feminine plural** |
| el alemánel arte dramáticoel dibujoel españolel francésel inglésel mandarín | la biologíala educación físicala físicala geografíala historiala informáticala músicala químicala religiónla tecnología | los idiomaslos trabajos manuales | las cienciaslas ciencias empresarialeslas matemáticas |
| Example: Business Studies is useful. | Las ciencias empresariales **son** útiles. |
| 1. PE is good.
 |  |
| 1. Music is fun.
 |  |
| 1. Art is easy.
 |  |
| 1. Languages are interesting.
 |  |
| 1. History is boring.
 |  |
| 1. Maths is difficult.
 |  |
| 1. Drama is good.
 |  |
| 1. Technology is interesting.
 |  |
| 1. The sciences are important.
 |  |
| 1. ICT is useful.
 |  |

## Comparatives

|  |
| --- |
| If you want to **compare** two school subjects, simply put ***más … que*** (more … than) around the adjective. The adjective agrees in the normal way with the first subject you mention: *El mandarín* ***es más difícil que*** *el español.* *La música* ***es más divertida que*** *el arte dramático.* *Las ciencias* ***son más aburridas******que*** *los trabajos manuales.*You can also use ***menos … que*** (less … than): *La física* ***es******menos interesante que*** *la biología.*If you have the same opinion of two subjects, use ***tan … como*** (as … as): *La educación física* ***es tan fácil como*** *el dibujo.*If you don’t think they are the same, simply make the sentence negative: *La química* ***no es tan útil******como*** *la informática.*There are a small number of adjectives which have their own special word for making comparisons. The two most useful ones for this topic are: *bueno* (good) 🡪 ***mejor*** (better) *malo* (bad) 🡪 ***peor*** (worse)These follow the normal rules, so you say *mejores/peores* in the plural. |

**Ex. 4** Read this list of opinions and rank the 10 subjects mentioned in order of preference, starting with the best subject. Example: 1. la historia

1. La educación física no es tan fácil como el arte dramático.
2. La informática es más interesante que las matemáticas.
3. El arte dramático es menos útil que la geografía.
4. Los trabajos manuales son más aburridos que los idiomas.
5. El inglés no es tan interesante como la historia.
6. Los idiomas son más difíciles que las ciencias.
7. Las matemáticas son más importantes que la geografía.
8. Las ciencias son menos divertidas que la educación física.
9. El inglés es mejor que la informática.

## Superlatives

|  |
| --- |
| To say **the most** … , put ***más*** **+ adjective** after the noun you are describing:*La asignatura* ***más divertida*** *es la geografía.* The most enjoyable subject is Geography.To say **the least** … , put ***menos* + adjective** after the noun you are describing:*La asignatura* ***menos interesante*** *es la física.* The least interesting subject is Physics.To say **the best/worst**, put ***mejor/peor*** in front of the word you are describing: *El* ***mejor*** *profesor es el señor Gómez.* The best teacher is Señor Gómez. *Mi* ***peor*** *asignatura es el francés.* My worst subject is French. |

**Ex. 5** Translate these sentences into Spanish:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Biology is easier than Physics.
 |  |
| 1. ICT is more important than RE.
 |  |
| 1. My best subject is English.
 |  |
| 1. Art is as enjoyable as Music.
 |  |
| 1. For me, the best subject is Mandarin.
 |  |
| 1. The least useful subject is Drama.
 |  |
| 1. The most difficult subject is Chemistry.
 |  |
| 1. French is not as boring as Maths.
 |  |
| 1. The worst teacher is Señor López.
 |  |
| 1. Technology is more interesting than languages.
 |  |

## Extension

|  |
| --- |
| If you are having a discussion about subjects/teachers and you want to say, for example, **the most interesting one**, use ***el/la más interesante***. Your choice of *el/la* depends on the gender of the person or thing you are talking about.For example, if you are talking about languages (***el*** *idioma*), you might say:  *En mi opinión,* ***el más difícil*** *es el mandarín.* In my opinion, the most difficult one is Mandarin.If you are discussing sciences (***la*** *ciencia*), you might say:  *Para mí,* ***la más interesante*** *es la biología.* For me, the most interesting one is Biology.Similarly:  *La señora Martínez es* ***la mejor*** *(profesora).* Miss Martínez is the best (teacher). *El señor Blanco es* ***el peor*** *(profesor).* Mr White is the worst (teacher). |

Try to use some of these phrases in the exercise on the next page.

**Ex. 6**  For each of the following pairs of subjects, write a sentence comparing them in some way. Use as wide a variety of expressions as you can.

|  |  |  |
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 |  |

7. Challenge a partner to try and memorise your Spanish sentences as you read them out. Ask them to try and repeat your sentences from memory, using only the picture prompts. Every time they make a mistake they must start again from the top! Then swap roles.