

Rosa's Animal Adventure: ¡Los Animales!

Learning objective: To identify and describe animals in Spanish and understand their characteristics using descriptive adjectives.

Read the passage below written by Rosa the parrot. Use the word bank to help you translate the descriptions and answer the questions. For the Greater Depth questions, think carefully about how the Spanish language structures sentences.

¡Hola! I am Rosa. Today, we are looking at animals. El perro es pequeño y muy rápido. El león es grande y tiene una melena dorada. Mi amigo, el gato, es lento hoy. Finalmente, el pájaro es pequeño y canta en el árbol. In Spanish, we put the noun before the adjective, for example: 'el perro pequeño' (the small dog).

Word bank: el perro (dog) · el gato (cat) · el león (lion) · el pájaro (bird) · pequeño (small) · grande (big) · rápido (fast) · lento (slow) · es (is) · tiene (has)

1. Using the passage, describe 'el león' in English. Why does the author use the word 'grande' to describe him? (2 marks)

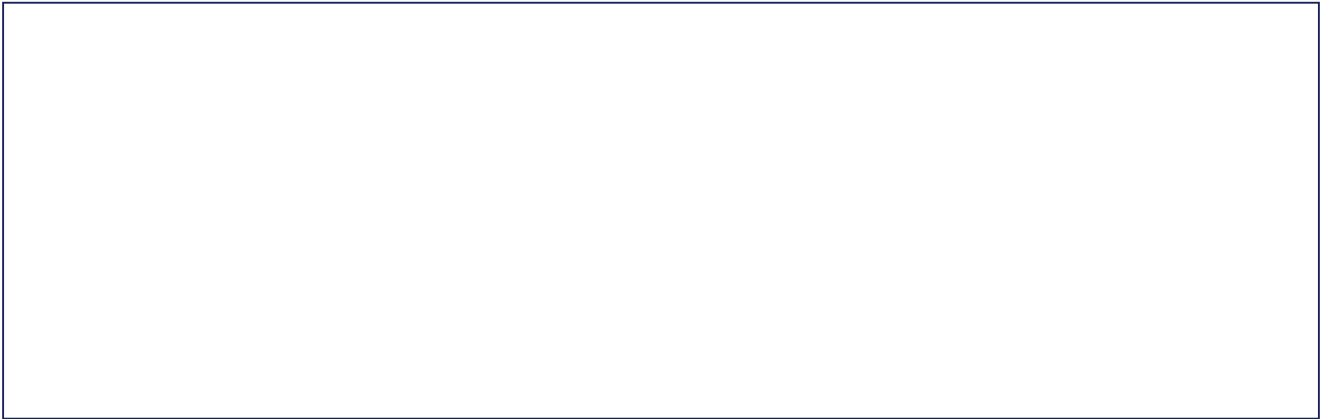
2. Translate the following sentence into English: 'El pájaro es pequeño'. (1 mark)

3. Compare and contrast the Spanish sentence structure for adjectives with English. Why do you think we say 'el perro pequeño' instead of 'el pequeño perro'? (3 marks)

4. If you were to describe a fast, big elephant in Spanish, how would you construct the sentence? Justify your word order. (3 marks)

5. What might happen to the meaning of the sentence if you swapped the adjectives for 'el perro' and 'el león'? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring 'un león grande' and 'un pájaro pequeño'. Label them correctly in Spanish.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph in Spanish (3-4 sentences) describing your favorite animal. Include its size (grande/pequeño) and speed (rápido/lento). Then, explain why you chose those specific adjectives to describe that animal's behavior.