

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Absolute Beginner S1 #7

Can You Describe that Person to Me in Spanish?

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INTRODUCTION

Fernando: Welcome, everyone, Fernando here. This is Absolute Beginner, Season 1, Lesson 7, "Can You Describe that Person to Me in Spanish?" JP, what's going on, man?

JP: Not much, Fernando, we got a pretty good lesson today.

Fernando: Awesome.

JP: So welcome, everyone, to the new SpanishPod101.com. We are studying modern Spanish in a fun and educational format. So whether you started learning Spanish long ago or you're just starting with us today, we are glad you're here with us for this lesson. Now, Fernando, tell the people what we're going to learn today?

Fernando: Sure thing. In this lesson, you will learn about adjectives. This conversation takes place at a party and a conversation is between Diego and Pedro. The speakers will be using the familiar register.

JP: Cool. We're about to listen to that, so folks, find the lesson notes for this lesson and you will be able to read along. You can find those lesson notes at our website which is www.SpanishPod101.com. Let's take a listen to this dialogue.

LESSON CONVERSATION

Diego: ¿Quién es tu amiga? La morenita...

Pedro: Es Adriana. Y tiene novio.

Diego: Ni modo. ¿Me presentas?

Pedro: ¡Claro!

JP: Let's hear it again, dramatic speed.

Diego: ¿Quién es tu amiga? La morenita...

Pedro: Es Adriana. Y tiene novio.

Diego: Ni modo. ¿Me presentas?

Pedro: ¡Claro!

JP: One more time with the translation.

Diego: ¿Quién es tu amiga? La morenita...

JP: Who's your friend, the cute, dark skinned one?

Pedro: Es Adriana. Y tiene novio.

Fernando: It's Adrianna. And she has a boyfriend.

Diego: Ni modo. ¿Me presentas?

JP: Oh, well. Will you introduce

me?

Pedro: ¡Claro!

Fernando: Of course.

POST CONVERSATION BANTER

JP: All right. Now, this is a pretty short lesson but its chock full of adjectives, so we're going to have a lot to talk about in the grammar section.

Fernando: Yes. Diego starts off with, ¿Quién es tu amiga? La morenita...

JP: Okay. Let's take a look at that first question.

Fernando: ¿Quién es tu amiga?

JP: ¿Quién es tu amiga? Now that word, amiga, is the word for "friend," right?

Fernando: Yes, female friend.

JP: Ooh. And then, quién, is "who" so "who is your friend?"

Fernando: Right. ¿Quién es tu amiga?

JP: And then he specifies...

Fernando: la morenita,

JP: La morenita, and the translation I used, "the cute dark skinned one," what do you think of that? Is it an okay translation?

Fernando: It's a good translation because, morenita, is an adjective. It's an affectionate way to describe someone.

JP: Right. In the dictionary, you'll find: moreno. Which means, you know, dark skinned or dark featured. It's a feminine form, so, morena, and then we have the diminutive form which kind of lend some affection to the word, right?

Fernando: Exactly, yes.

JP: La morenita. We said it was an adjective, but here it's with a definite article, la morenita, so in English we have to say, "the dark skinned girl" or "the dark skinned one," and Diego is into her.

Fernando: Yes. And Pedro answers, "It's Adrianna."

JP: All right. So "It's Adrianna?"

Fernando: And guess what?

JP: "She has a boyfriend."

Fernando: Y tiene novio.

JP: Okay. So Pedro is giving him information that, you know, he needs to know.

Fernando: Right.

JP: Like she's probably off

limits.

Fernando: Probably off limits, I don't think that's going to stop Diego though.

JP: No. It's totally irrelevant. It's his...

Fernando: He's not the jealous type.

JP: No. He just shrugs it off.

Fernando: Ni modo, ¿me presentas?

JP: So, novio, of course means boyfriend?

Fernando: Yes, it does.

JP: But Diego, it's not going to stop him, he shrugs it off.

Fernando: Ni modo.

JP: Ni modo. He's like, "Oh, well."

Fernando: Yeah. Ni modo.

JP: So it means like, "Oh, well."

Fernando: "Whatever."

JP: And then he asked the question.

Fernando: ¿Me presentas?

JP: Okay. "Will you introduce me?" And then Pedro?

Fernando: "Of course."

JP: Claro.

Fernando: It's not his problem anymore. It's the boyfriend's problem.

JP: Okay. So Diego is interested in: la morenita, named Adrianna, who is Pedro's friend.

Fernando: Right.

JP: And Pedro's going to introduce him even though Adrianna has a boyfriend.

Fernando: Tiene novio.

JP: All right. That's the summary. Shall we go to vocabulary?

VOCAB LIST

Fernando: Yes. El amigo.

JP: Friend.

Fernando: el a-mi-go, el amigo. Moreno.

JP: Dark skinned, tanned, dark haired.

Fernando: mo-re-no, moreno. El novio.

JP: Boyfriend, groom.

Fernando: el no-vi-o, el novio.

Quién.

JP: Who, whom.

Fernando: qui-én, quién. Presentar.

JP: To introduce.

Fernando: pre-sen-tar, presentar.

KEY VOCABULARY AND PHRASES

JP: All right. We're back and we're going to discuss these vocabulary words in a little bit more depth. So we're going to start with an interrogative pronoun.

Fernando: ¿Quién?

JP: "Who?" right? ¿Quién? So this is the question where you'd ask when you know the answer is going to be a person.

Fernando: Yes.

JP: Okay. ¿Quién?

Fernando: ¿Quién?

JP: And I just want to mention that if you think it's going to be more than one person, there's a plural form of "who" in Spanish.

Fernando: ¿Quiénes?

JP: ¿Quiénes? Okay, ¿quién? ¿quiénes? They both mean "who." All right, moving on.

Fernando: La amiga.

JP: La amiga, now this is the "friend." In the isolated dialogue, we use the masculine form: el amigo, because that's what you're going to find in the dictionary. But in the dialogue, we heard: la amiga. "Who's your friend," right?

Fernando: "Who's your friend?" ¿Quién es tu amiga?

JP: ¿Quién es tu amiga?

Fernando: It's Adrianna. La morenita.

JP: La morenita, is our next word. And I kind of explained it already. The dictionary form is going to be: moreno, to make it feminine, it's: morena. And then to add some affection to it, we use the diminutive.

Fernando: It could go either way: morenito, morenita.

JP: Morenita, in this case, we're talking about Adrianna, so she's morenita.

Fernando: Right.

JP: And you'll notice that we use it with the article, la morenita.

Fernando: la morenita.

JP: Okay, the dark haired, the dark skinned one, right, the tanned

one.

Fernando: And Adrianna, la morenita, has a boyfriend, el novio.

JP: El novio, all right. That's the next vocab word. Now, novio, in this context means boyfriend, but in other context it could also mean "groom."

Fernando: And, novios, plural, it can mean bride and groom as well.

JP: So, el novio, and the feminine, la novia.

JP: What's next?

Fernando: presentar.

JP: presentar, "to introduce." Now you can present someone an object, like if you present them a gift...

Fernando: Yes.

JP: ...you can give it to them to present, presentar. But it's used commonly in these social situations to mean to introduce somebody to someone else, right?

Fernando: Right. ¿Me presentas?

JP: Okay. "Will you introduce me?" Sweet. Let's move on to the grammar.

LESSON FOCUS

JP: All right, in the grammar section today, we're going to talk about adjectives in terms of gender and number. Now we already kind of talked about this word for "dark skinned."

Fernando: la morenita.

JP: La morenita. In the dictionary, it's: moreno, right, because it's the masculine form that's listed. Now usually, adjectives, even if they're listed in the masculine form, will also have a feminine equivalent, so it'll be, moreno, in the dictionary but women will be referred to as morena.

Fernando: You can call me: moreno.

JP: I could call you, moreno. Give us another adjective. How about the word for tall?

Fernando: alto.

JP: Alto, means "tall." Now that's the dictionary form because it's masculine and if you're referring to a woman?

Fernando: alta

JP: Okay.

Fernando: But that's usually because of the heels.

JP: Okay.

Fernando: Just

kidding.

JP: Right. You'll notice that the feminine version ends in: A, alta, morena. How about the adjective for funny?

Fernando: chistoso.

JP: chistoso "funny." In the dictionary, the masculine form, chistoso, will be listed, right?

Fernando: Yes.

JP: If it's a woman that's funny?

Fernando: Chistosa.

JP: Chistosa. It ends in that: A. So I think you're getting the pattern here. Usually, if an adjective ends in an: O, it's a masculine form and it has a feminine equivalent that ends in: A. Moreno, morena, alto, alta, chistoso, chistosa.

Fernando: I think you just described my ideal woman.

JP: Okay. All right. How about the word for "imaginary?"

Fernando: Imaginario.

JP: Imaginario, and the feminine form?

Fernando: imaginaria.

JP: Okay. So "imaginary," that fits in our pattern as well.

Fernando: That means that this ideal woman no longer exists?

JP: Well, you can't win them all, Fernando. Now, it's true that not all adjectives follow this pattern. For example, the word for "demanding."

Fernando: exigente.

JP: Exigente. Now, exigente, "demanding," this is a quality that all your girlfriends have too, right, Fernando?

Fernando: Um.

JP: So the masculine form, exigente, and the feminine form?

Fernando: exigente.

JP: Exigente. Notice that both the masculine form and the feminine form both end in: E. In the dictionary you'll find it listed: exigente.

Fernando: This girlfriend thing is not working out from JP.

JP: One last thing that I want to talk about is that affectionate suffix that we put on the end of morena, to make it more cute. So how do we do that?

Fernando: morenita, morenito. ITO

JP: Morenita, okay. So ITO and ITA. If you see those on the end of an adjective you know that there's some kind of affection or, you know, cuteness that is going along with it. So when Diego calls Adrianna, morenita, we kind of know that he's interested in

her.

Fernando: Yeah, from the get-go.

JP: From the get-go.

Fernando: Guy moves fast. And these can all be applied to: alta, alto, chistoso, chistosa.

JP: So if I want to be affectionate about a woman that's tall?

Fernando: Altita.

JP: Altita.

Fernando: Está altita. that's right.

JP: She's a little tall. She's tally-tall. How about if you want to be affectionate about a woman that's funny?

Fernando: Es bien chistosita.

JP: Es bien chistosita.

Fernando: But you could also use that to be sarcastic: Que chistosito ehh.

JP: Oh, "you're funny now?"

Fernando: Yeah, "you're funny now?"

JP: Yeah, that's pretty funny.

Fernando: Comedian, there were go. Yeah.

JP: Exactly. If you have any questions or if you'd like to read more about adjectives, please go to the lesson notes of this lesson and I've got a whole grammar explanation written out for you there. You can find that at our website which is www.SpanishPod101.com.

Fernando: Another incentive, please leave us your suggestions. Leave us comments. Leave us any questions you might have about this lesson. We want to hear from you. This is going to make your learning experience much better and our teaching experience way more better.

JP: Absolutely. Leave us a comment for goodness sakes. I think that's it for today, Fernando.

Fernando: I think so.

JP: Let's say Goodbye.

Fernando: Adiós.

JP: Hasta luego.