

Números ordianales - Ordinal Numbers

*In Spanish, They're Seldom Used Above 10

Ordinal numbers give the "order" in which something occurs: first, second, etc. Ordinals exist for all numbers, but normally only the forms from one to ten are used in Spanish:

In Spanish, the ordinal forms are used most commonly for the numbers 10 and under. Here are the forms: Put them in correct order to correspond with the pictures.

primero(a)
cuarto(a)

noveno(a)
décimo(a)

sexto(a)
octavo(a)

tercero(a)
quinto(a)

séptimo(a)
segundo(a)



A. The ordinal numbers might be thought of as the **adjective** form of the **cardinal numbers**, which are the numbers in the form they are most often used. (1.2.3,4,5...)

Thus **uno** ("one") is a cardinal number, while **primero** ("first") is its ordinal form.

*Of course, in Spanish as in English, adjectives often can be used as nouns, so **el primero** is "the first one."

B. When used as an adjective, ordinal numbers **must agree** with the **nouns** they refer to in **both number and gender**:

el segundo coche ("the second car") but, **la segunda vez** ("the second time").

These are adjective forms, so the usual endings are used, depending on the noun modified: **-o, -os, -a, -as**.

C. Note also that when **primero** and **tercero** precede a singular masculine noun, the final -o is dropped: **el primer rey** ("the first king"), **el tercer trimestre** ("the third trimester").

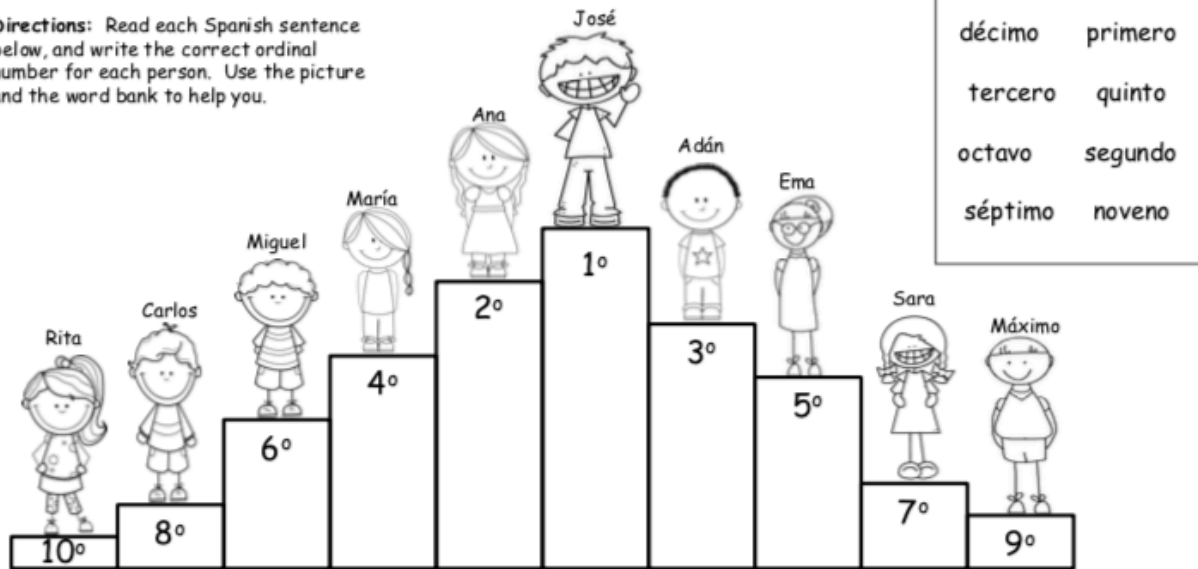
D. The ordinals are most frequently used before nouns, but may appear afterwards, especially with names.

After names, the word "the" is omitted in Spanish.

Felipe III = Felipe **Tercero** *Felipe the Third*
 Isabel II = Isabel **Segunda** *Isabel the Second*

Me llamo _____

Directions: Read each Spanish sentence below, and write the correct ordinal number for each person. Use the picture and the word bank to help you.



Máximo es _____
 José es _____
 Ema es _____
 Carlos es _____
 Sara es _____
 María es _____
 Miguel es _____
 Ana es _____
 Rita es _____
 Adán es _____