

SPANISH
Basic Course

CUMULATIVE GRAMMAR NOTES

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The Spanish Basic Course, Lessons 1-35, was developed by

Ms. G. Adams
Ms. C. Barbudo
Dr. R. Cucalón
Mr. A. Pérez (starting with Lesson 24)

under the direction of Ms. D. Tovar, Academic Coordinator, School of European and Latin American Languages, assisted by Ms. B. Darrah.

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INTRODUCTION

This volume of the Spanish Basic Course provides a reference grammar that corresponds to the grammar features explained and practiced in the course.

It contains the same grammar explanations, examples, and tables as the **Estructuras** portions of the lessons. Any grammar points you look up here can be revisited in the lesson textbooks, where the **practice activities** will help you refresh and solidify your knowledge of Spanish grammar features.

Always keep in mind the “enabling” role of grammar in language learning: Grammar helps you arrange words in meaningful patterns that allow you to express your thoughts in a way that is easily understood by native speakers. It is a set of building blocks, allowing you to construct language. Do not see it as a purpose in itself: Memorizing rules and charts is only the first step in a process. Mastering the use of Spanish to communicate comes with **practice** — that is speaking, reading, and writing about real-life issues. Eventually, through engaging in real-life language tasks, you will use grammar features **automatically** and will no longer need to refer to these building blocks. After all, do you think about English grammar when you use your own language?

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LECCION 1



¡Atención!

THE ARTICLES/LOS ARTICULOS

An *article* is a word placed before a noun to show whether the noun refers to a specified person, animal, place, thing or quality (*definite articles*) or unspecified person, animal, place, thing or quality (*indefinite articles*).

Definite and Indefinite Articles						
	singular			plural		
	masculine	feminine		masculine	feminine	
definite	el	la	<i>the</i>	los	las	<i>the</i>
indefinite	un	una	<i>a/an</i>	unos	unas	<i>some</i>

el alumno	<i>(the student)</i>	los alumnos	<i>(the students)</i>
la alumna	<i>(the student)</i>	las alumnas	<i>(the students)</i>
un alumno	<i>(a student)</i>	unos alumnos	<i>(some students)</i>
una alumna	<i>(a student)</i>	unas alumnas	<i>(some students)</i>

NOTE: In Spanish, when talking about oneself or someone else, using the person's title or rank, use the definite article:

Yo soy el capitán Cox.

Mi profesor es el señor Robles.

When addressing someone directly, using the person's title or rank, omit the definite article:

Buenos días, señor Robles.



¡Atención!

NOUNS/LOS SUSTANTIVOS

A *noun* is a word that refers to a person, an animal, a place, a thing, or a quality. In Spanish, nouns have a gender (*masculine/feminine*) and number (*singular/plural*). Nouns are usually preceded by an article which agrees with the noun's gender and number.

Gender	Endings	Examples
Masculine	-o	el libro, el chico
(Some exceptions: la mano, la foto, la moto)		
Feminine	-a	la casa, la niña
(Some exceptions: el día, el diploma, el mapa, el clima, el idioma, el tema, el programa, el problema)		
Always feminine	-ción -sión -dad -tad -tud -umbre -rie	la nación, la lección la pasión, la ilusión la ciudad, la enfermedad la dificultad, la facultad la actitud, la solicitud la costumbre, la cumbre la serie, la carie
Always masculine	-j	el reloj
Sometimes masculine, sometimes feminine	-e -l -d	el parque, la clase el papel, la capital el césped, la pared
Masculine or feminine, referring to a specific person	-nte -ista	e/la estudiante e/la teniente e/la comandante e/la dentista e/la especialista e/la paracaidista

More about NOUNS/*LOS SUSTANTIVOS*

NOTE: There are some nouns that can take either the masculine or the feminine article, but their meaning will change according to the article they take. Here are some examples:

Masculine

el capital *capital (money)*
 el orden *order (arrangement/
 organization)*
 el parte *military report*
 el caza *fighter plane*
 el Papa *pope*

Feminine

la capital *capital (city)*
 la orden *order (command/
 religious order)*
 la parte *part/portion*
 la caza *hunting*
 la papa *potato*

NOTE: Feminine nouns beginning with **a** or **ha** take the masculine definite article **el** when the first syllable is stressed. In the plural, the article **las** is used. Here are some examples:

el agua	water	las aguas	waters
el águila	eagle	las águilas	eagles
el arma	weapon	las armas	weapons
el hacha	ax	las hachas	axes
el aula	classroom	las aulas	classrooms

Plural of nouns

Endings	Plural	Examples
vowel	add -s	el soldado/los soldados la mesa/las mesas
consonant	add -es	el capitán/los capitanes la canción/las canciones
-z	change -z to -c and add -es	el lápiz/los lápices la cruz/las cruces



¡Atención!

THE PRONOUNS/LOS PRONOMBRES

A *pronoun* is a word that takes the place of a noun.

Subject Pronouns

A *subject pronoun* is a pronoun used as a subject of a verb.

singular		plural	
yo	<i>I</i>	nosotros/nosotras	<i>we</i>
tú	<i>you (familiar)</i>	vosotros/vosotras	<i>you (familiar)</i>
usted (Ud.)	<i>you (formal)</i>	ustedes (Uds.)	<i>you (formal)</i>
él	<i>he</i>	ellos	<i>they</i>
ella	<i>she</i>	ellas	

NOTE: In Spanish, since the verb ending indicates the subject, the *subject pronouns* do not need to be used at all times except when needed for clarification or emphasis.

NOTE: Use **tú** (*you, singular, familiar*) when addressing someone you know well, a close friend, somebody your age, or a child.

Use **usted** (*you, singular formal*) in all other circumstances.

NOTE: **Vosotros** and **vosotras** are used only in Spain to express *you (plural, familiar)*. In all the other Spanish speaking countries, **ustedes** is used to express *you (plural, both familiar and formal)*. Throughout this course, you will occasionally see or hear **vosotros** and **vosotras**, however, these forms are not taught or tested.



¡Atención!

Affirmative Sentences

In Spanish, the usual word order is subject, verb, and object.

Jaime tiene dinero.
(subject/verb/object)

Jaime has money.

Negative Sentences

In Spanish, to express negation, the word **no** is placed in front of the verb.

Jaime **no** tiene dinero.

Jaime does not have money.

If the answer to a question is negative, the word **no** is placed at the beginning of the sentence and in front of the verb.

¿Tiene Jaime dinero?
No, Jaime **no** tiene dinero.

Does Jaime have money?
No, Jaime does not have money.

Interrogative Sentences

In Spanish, in general, the subject and verbs are inverted in interrogative sentences.

¿Tiene Jaime dinero?
(verb/subject/object)

Does Jaime have money?

NOTE: As you have seen in the previous examples, Spanish does not have an equivalent to the English **do** and **does**.



¡Atención!

VERBS/LOS VERBOS

A *verb* is a word that expresses an action or a state of being.

THE VERB TO BE

There are two verbs in Spanish meaning *to be*: **SER** and **ESTAR**. Each verb has very specific uses, and they are not interchangeable.

NOTE: There is a third verb in Spanish that also means *to be*: **HABER**. You will learn about this verb later in this lesson and throughout the course.



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of ser (to be)

singular		plural	
yo	soy	nosotros/as	somos
tú	eres	vosotros/as	sois
Ud.	} es	Uds.	} son
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

Soy soldado.	<i>I am a soldier.</i>	Somos militares.	<i>We are in the military.</i>
Eres mi amigo.	<i>You are my friend.</i>		
Ud. es profesor.	<i>You are a teacher.</i>	Uds. son cabos.	<i>You are corporals.</i>
El es capitán.	<i>He is a captain.</i>	Ellos son oficiales.	<i>They are officers.</i>
Ella es tejana.	<i>She is Texan.</i>	Ellas son doctoras.	<i>They are doctors.</i>

NOTE: When stating a military rank, use **ser**: Soy sargento. Soy militar.



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>estar</i> (to be)			
singular		plural	
yo	estoy	nosotros/as	estamos
tú	estás	vosotros/as	estáis
Ud.	está	Uds. }	están
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

Estoy en el ejército. *I am in the Army.* **Estamos** en la marina. *We are in the Navy.*

Estás cansado. *You are tired.*

Ud. **está** contento. *You are happy.* Uds. **están** tristes. *You are sad.*

El **está** en Panamá. *He is in Panama.* Ellos **están** en Cuba. *They are in Cuba.*

Ella **está** en casa. *She is at home.* Ellas **están** enfermas. *They are ill.*

NOTE: When stating that you are in the Armed Forces or in which of its branches you are, use **estar**: **Estoy en las fuerzas armadas.**

Estoy en el ejército.



¡Atención!

PREPOSITIONS/LAS PREPOSICIONES

Prepositions connect and indicate the relationship between words.

To indicate *origin*, use the verb **ser** plus the preposition **de**.

El aerotécnico **es de** Florida.

The airman is from Florida.

Las profesoras **son de** Honduras.

The teachers are from Honduras.



¡Atención!

To indicate *location*, use the verb **estar** plus the preposition **en**.

México **está en** Norteamérica.

Mexico is in North America.

Las alumnas **están en** la escuela.

The students are at school.

The following summary of the uses of **ser** and **estar** is provided for your information. Items 4 in this table were not previously discussed and should be considered to be **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**. You will see the term **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** reoccur in the **Estructuras** parts of this course. It points out information that was added to include more sophisticated aspects of grammar than needed in the lesson. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** will not be practiced or tested in this lesson.

SER is used to express	ESTAR is used to express
<p>1. Identification, nationality, occupation</p> <p>Soy Juan Pérez. <i>I am Juan Pérez.</i> Pedro es chileno. <i>Pedro is Chilean.</i> El es capitán. <i>He is a captain.</i></p>	<p>1. Location</p> <p>Estoy en la marina. <i>I am in the navy.</i> Lima está en Perú. <i>Lima is in Peru.</i> Ellos están aquí. <i>They are here.</i></p>
<p>2. Origin, possession, material, with de</p> <p>Somos de Cuba. <i>We are from Cuba.</i> El libro es de Rosa. <i>It is Rosa's book.</i> El anillo es de oro. <i>It is a gold ring.</i></p>	<p>2. Health</p> <p>Ella está bien. <i>She is fine.</i> ¿Cómo están Uds.? <i>How are you all?</i> Estamos enfermos. <i>We are ill.</i></p>
<p>3. Inherent characteristic, description</p> <p>Ella es mi madre. <i>She is my mother.</i> Las casas son rojas. <i>The houses are red.</i> El libro es nuevo. <i>The book is new.</i></p>	<p>3. Condition/state of being</p> <p>El niño está triste. <i>The child is sad.</i> Están muertos. <i>They are dead.</i> El café está frío. <i>The coffee is cold.</i></p>
<p>4. Time, date and where/when an event takes place</p> <p>Son las dos. <i>It is two o'clock.</i> Hoy es martes. <i>Today is Tuesday.</i> La fiesta es aquí. <i>The party is here.</i></p>	<p>4. Progressive tenses</p> <p>Estoy estudiando. <i>I am studying.</i> Ella está leyendo. <i>She is reading.</i> Están comiendo. <i>They are eating.</i></p>
<p>NOTE: To express marital status - soltero/a (single), casado/a (married), viudo/a (widower, widow), divorciado/a (divorced)- either ser or estar can be used.</p>	



¡Atención!

Common Interrogative Words			
¿Qué? *	<i>What?</i>	¿Qué es eso?	<i>What is that?</i>
¿Cuál? *	<i>What?</i>	¿Cuál es la capital de España?	<i>What is the capital of Spain?</i>
¿Cuál? *	<i>Which (one)?</i>	¿Cuál es mi libro?	<i>Which is my book?</i>
¿Cuáles? *	<i>Which (ones)?</i>	¿Cuáles son mis libros?	<i>Which ones are my books?</i>
¿Cómo?	<i>How?</i>	¿Cómo está Ud.?	<i>How are you?</i>
¿Quién?	<i>Who?</i>	¿Quién es ella?	<i>Who is she?</i>
¿Quiénes?	<i>Who?</i>	¿Quiénes son ellos?	<i>Who are they?</i>
¿Dónde?	<i>Where?</i>	¿Dónde está María?	<i>Where is Mary?</i>
¿De dónde?	<i>From where?</i>	¿De dónde es ella?	<i>Where is she from?</i>
¿Cuándo?	<i>When?</i>	¿Cuándo comen los soldados?	<i>When do the soldiers eat?</i>
¿Por qué?	<i>Why?</i>	¿Por qué está aquí?	<i>Why is he here?</i>
¿Cuánto?	<i>How much?</i>	¿Cuánto dinero?	<i>How much money?</i>
¿Cuánta?	<i>How much?</i>	¿Cuánta agua?	<i>How much water?</i>
¿Cuántos?	<i>How many?</i>	¿Cuántos libros?	<i>How many books?</i>
¿Cuántas?	<i>How many?</i>	¿Cuántas mesas?	<i>How many tables?</i>

* Both **qué** and **cuál** mean *what* in questions using the verb *ser*.

Qué is used when you ask for a definition, explanation, information in general:

¿Qué es una capital?

What is a capital?

¿Qué idioma estudia Ud.?

What language do you study?

Cuál can mean *what* or *which*. It is used when you ask about a specific person, place, or thing.

¿Cuál es la capital de Chile?

What is the capital of Chile?

¿Cuál es la ciudad más grande de Chile?

Which (one) is the largest city in Chile?

NOTE: To answer a ¿Por qué? (*why*) question, use **porque** (*because*).



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>tener</i> (to have)			
singular		plural	
yo	tengo	nosotros/as	tenemos
tú	tienes	vosotros/as	tenéis
Ud.	tiene	Uds.	tienen
él } ella }		ellos } ellas }	

Juan **tiene** dinero.
Tenemos libros.

Juan has money.
We have books.



¡Atención!

Impersonal use of *haber* (to be): *hay*

En el aula **hay** un profesor.
Hay diez soldados aquí.

There is a teacher in the classroom.
There are ten soldiers here.

LECCION 2



¡Atención!

VERBS/LOS VERBOS

A *verb* is a word that expresses an action or a state of being.

Yo **trabajo**.

I work.

Ellos **están** contentos.

They are happy.

Infinitive (infinitivo) is the form of a verb showing no subject or number.

hablar

to speak, to talk

comer

to eat

vivir

to live

Spanish verbs consist of a *stem* and an *ending*. There are three endings: **-ar**, **-er**, **-ir**.

stem

ending

habl-

-ar

com-

-er

viv-

-ir

The verb ending will change according to the subject and the time (*tense*) when an action or a state of being takes place. When the verb ending changes, the verb is *conjugated*, and therefore no longer an infinitive. In Spanish, as in English, verb tenses are divided into three main groups: *present (el presente)*, *past (el pasado)*, and *future (el futuro)*.



¡Atención!

Talking about the present

The Present Tense of <i>hablar</i> (to speak, to talk)	
singular	
yo	hablo
tú	hablas
Ud. } él } ella }	habla
plural	
nosotros/as	hablamos
vosotros/as	habláis
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	hablan



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of			
<i>comer</i> (to eat)		<i>vivir</i> (to live)	
singular		singular	
yo	como	yo	vivo
tú	comes	tú	vives
Ud. } él } ella }	come	Ud. } él } ella }	vive
plural		plural	
nosotros/as	comemos	nosotros/as	vivimos
vosotros/as	coméis	vosotros/as	vivís
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	comen	Uds. } ellos } ellas }	viven



¡Atención!

ADJECTIVES/LOS ADJETIVOS

An *adjective* is a word that describes a noun or a pronoun.
An adjective agrees in gender and number with the noun or pronoun it describes.

Agreement in Gender

Adjectives ending in **-o** in the masculine singular change to **-a** to form the feminine.
alto/alta pequeño/pequeña amarillo/amarilla

Adjectives of nationality, when ending in a consonant, require the addition of **-a** to form the feminine.
español/española inglés/inglesa francés/francesa

Adjectives ending in **-e** do not usually change from masculine to feminine.
inteligente excelente elegante

Adjectives ending in a consonant do not usually change from masculine to feminine.
azul fácil difícil

Adjectives ending in **-or**, **-án**, **-ón**, **-ín** require the addition of **-a** to form the feminine.
trabajador/trabajadora preguntón/preguntona hablador/habladora
holgazán/holgazana chiquitín/chiquitina parlanchín/parlanchina



¡Atención!

ADJECTIVES/LOS ADJETIVOS

Agreement in Number

If the noun or pronoun being described by an adjective is plural, the adjective has to be pluralized. To form the plural of adjectives, follow these rules.

Ending of the adjective	To form the plural	Examples
vowel	add -s	hermosa/hermosas
consonant	add -es	popular/populares
-z	change -z to -c and add -es	feliz/felices



¡Atención!

ADJECTIVES/LOS ADJETIVOS

Position of Adjectives

In Spanish, unlike in English, **adjectives** are usually placed after the noun they describe.

hombre **delgado**
thin man

mujer **moderna**
modern woman

important job
trabajo **importante**

Some adjectives drop the -o in the masculine singular when placed before the noun.

niño bueno/buen niño
good boy

hombre malo/mal hombre
bad man

libro primero/primer libro
first book

día tercero/tercer día
third day

Some adjectives change meaning depending on their position.

amigo viejo/viejo amigo
old friend/long-time friend

casa grande/gran casa
big house/grand (great) house



¡Atención!

Possessive Adjectives

Possessive adjectives denote possession. In Spanish there are two forms for the possessive adjectives: the *short forms* and the *long forms*. The long forms will be introduced in Lesson 3.

Short Forms of the Possessive Adjectives

singular	plural	
mi	mis	<i>my</i>
tu	tus	<i>your (familiar)</i>
su	sus	<i>your</i> <i>his</i> <i>her</i> <i>its</i> <i>their</i>
nuestro/nuestra	nuestros/nuestras	<i>our</i>
vuestro/vuestra	vuestros/vuestras	<i>your (familiar, Spain)</i>

The short forms of the possessive adjectives always precede the noun:

tu hijo/your son, tu hija/your daughter.

The possessive adjectives **mi**, **tu** and **su** agree in number with the possessed noun, each having two forms, singular and plural, regardless of the gender of the noun:

**mi hijo/my son, mis hijos/my sons,
mi hija/my daughter, mis hijas/my daughters.**

Only **nuestro** and **vuestro** agree in number and gender with the possessed noun, therefore each has four forms, singular, plural, masculine and feminine:

**nuestro hijo/our son, nuestros hijos/our sons,
nuestra hija/our daughter, nuestras hijas/our daughters.**

The forms **vuestro/a**, **vuestros/as** (your, familiar plural) are used when referring to the subject pronoun **vosotros** in Spain.

REMEMBER: The possessive adjectives do not agree with the possessor but with the possessed noun.



¡Atención!

More about the short forms of the possessive adjectives

Although **su** and **sus** can mean *his, her, its, your, and their*, the exact meaning is usually clear from the context of the sentence. If needed, use the following forms for clarification.

de Ud.	<i>your</i>	de Uds.	<i>you</i>
el libro de Ud./su libro	<i>your book</i>	el tío de Uds./su tío	<i>your uncle</i>
de él	<i>his</i>	de ellos	<i>their</i>
la madre de él/su madre	<i>his mother</i>	el hijo de ellos/su hijo	<i>their son</i>
de ella	<i>her</i>	de ellas	<i>their</i>
el lápiz de ella/su lápiz	<i>her pencil</i>	la clase de ellas/su clase	<i>their class</i>



¡Atención!

Another use of the preposition *de*

To express *possession or relationship* in Spanish, use the preposition **de** plus noun. Unlike English, Spanish does not use the apostrophe.

la mesa **de** Juan
las hijas **de** Rita

Juan's table
Rita's daughters

When the preposition **de** precedes the article **el**, *de + el* becomes **del**.

la esposa *de el* capitán
becomes
la esposa **del** capitán

the captain's wife

the captain's wife



¡Atención!

Using the preposition *con*

Trabaja **con** el señor Ruiz.
Escribo **con** una pluma.

He/she works with Mr. Ruiz.
I write with a pen.



¡Atención!

CONJUNCTIONS/LAS CONJUNCIONES

A *conjunction* connects words, phrases, clauses, or sentences.

y

and

Isabel **y** Fernando
hijo **y** padre

Isabel and Fernando
son and father

NOTE: When the word that is right after **y** begins with *i* or *hi*, use **e** instead of **y**.

NOTE: When the word that is right after **y** begins with *hie*, **y** does not change.

Fernando **e** Isabel
padre **e** hijo
nieve **y** hielo

Fernando and Isabel
father and son
snow and ice

o

or

ojo **o** boca
hombre **o** niño

eye or mouth
man or boy

NOTE: When the word that is right after **o** begins with *o* or *ho*, use **u** instead of **o**.

boca **u** ojo
niño **u** hombre

mouth or eye
boy or man



¡Atención!

Expressing Age

To express age, Spanish uses the verb **tener** (to have). Note that, unlike English, Spanish does not use the verb *to be*.

El soldado **tiene** dieciocho años.

The soldier is eighteen years old.

Las niñas **tienen** cuatro meses.

The girls are four months old.

To ask *How old are you?* in Spanish, you can say **¿Cuántos años tiene Ud.?** or **¿Qué edad tiene Ud.?**

¿Cuántos años **tiene** el niño?

How old is the boy?

¿Qué edad **tiene** Ud., cabo?

How old are you, corporal?

LECCION 3



¡Atención!

Possessive Adjectives

Possessive adjectives denote meaning or possession.

Long Forms of the Possessive Adjectives		
singular	plural	
mío/mía	míos/mías	<i>my; (of) mine</i>
tuyo/tuya	tuyos/tuyas	<i>your; (of) yours (familiar)</i>
suyo/suya	suyos/suyas	<i>your; (of) yours</i> <i>his; (of) his</i> <i>her; (of) hers</i> <i>its; (of) its</i> <i>their; (of) theirs</i>
nuestro/nuestra	nuestros/nuestras	<i>our; (of) ours</i>
vuestro/vuestra	vuestros/vuestras	<i>your; (of) yours</i> <i>(familiar, Spain)</i>



¡Atención!

More about the long forms of the possessive adjectives

The long forms of the possessive adjectives are placed after the noun:

amiga mía

my friend

una amiga mía

a friend of mine

The long forms of the possessive adjectives agree in number and gender with the possessed noun. The use of the long forms of the possessive adjectives after the noun adds an emphatic or contrastive quality to the ownership.

Ella es una **amiga suya**.

She is a friend of his.

Ellas son unas **amigas tuyas**.

They are some friends of his.

¡**Amiga mía!**

My friend!

¡**Amigas mías!**

My friends!

¿Cómo estás, **amiga mía?**

How are you, my friend?

¿Cómo están, **amigas mías?**

How are you, my friends?

La señora es **amiga tuya**.

The lady is a friend of yours.

Las señoras son **amigas tuyas**.

The ladies are friends of yours.

Although **suyo, suya, suyos, suyas** can have several meanings, the exact message is usually clear from the context of the sentence. If necessary, use the following forms for clarification, emphasis or contrast: **de Ud., de él, de ella, de Uds., de ellos, de ellas**:

Es amiga **suya**. = Es amiga **de Ud.**

She is a friend of yours.

Es amiga **suya**. = Es amiga **de él.**

She is a friend of his.

Es amiga **suya**. = Es amiga **de ella.**

She is a friend of hers.

Es amiga **suya**. = Es amiga **de Uds.**

She is a friend of yours.

Es amiga **suya**. = Es amiga **de ellos.**

She is a friend of theirs.

Es amiga **suya**. = Es amiga **de ellas.**

She is a friend of theirs.

REMEMBER: The possessive adjectives do not agree with the possessor but with the possessed noun.

NOTE: **Nuestro/a/os/as** can also be expressed as **de nosotros/as**, according to the gender of the possessor:

Es amiga **nuestra**.

She is a friend of ours.

Es amiga **de nosotros**.

She is a friend of ours. (male or male and female possessors)

Es amiga **de nosotras**

She is a friend of ours. (female possessors)



¡Atención!

Possessive Pronouns

Possessive pronouns take the place of a noun to show possession.

singular	plural	
el mío/la mía	los míos/las mías	<i>mine</i>
el tuyo/la tuya	los tuyos/las tuyas	<i>yours (familiar)</i>
el suyo/la suya	los suyos/las suyas	<i>yours</i> <i>his</i> <i>hers</i> <i>its</i> <i>theirs</i>
el nuestro/la nuestra	los nuestros/las nuestras	<i>our</i>
el vuestro/la vuestra	los vuestros/las vuestras	<i>yours (familiar, Spain)</i>

To form a *possessive pronoun*, use the appropriate form of the definite article (**el, la, los, las**) + the long form of the possessive adjective, dropping the noun.

Possessive adjective: **El profesor mío** es guatemalteco.

/My teacher is Guatemalan.

Possessive pronoun: **El mío** es guatemalteco. */Mine is Guatemalan.*

A possessive pronoun agrees in number and gender with the noun it replaces, not with the possessor.

Although **el suyo, la suya, los suyos, las suyas** can have several meanings, the exact message is usually clear from the context of the sentence. If necessary, for clarification, emphasis, or contrast drop the **suyo** form, keep the appropriate definite article (**el, la, los, las**) and add **de Ud., de él, de ella, de Uds., de ellos, de ellas**:

Mi sargento y **el suyo** son de Panamá. = Mi sargento y **el de Ud.** son de Panamá. */*

My sergeant and yours are from Panama.



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>hacer</i> (to do, to make)			
singular		plural	
yo	hago	nosotros/as	hacemos
tú	haces	vosotros/as	hacéis
Ud.	} hace	Uds.	} hacen
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	




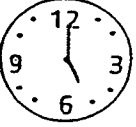
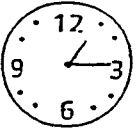
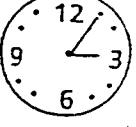
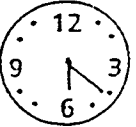

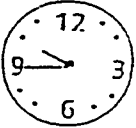

Atención!

Impersonal construction with *haber que* + infinitive

Hay que estudiar todos los días.
One has to study everyday.
We have to study everyday.
It is necessary to study every day.

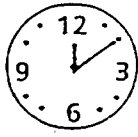


¡Atención!

TELLING TIME	
¿Qué hora es?	What time is it?
<p>The verb ser is used to tell time in Spanish.</p> <p>Es is used with one o'clock. Es la una.</p> <p>Son is used with all other hours. Son las cinco.</p>	<p><i>It is one o'clock.</i></p>  <p><i>It is five o'clock.</i></p> 
<p>In Spanish the hour (la hora) is feminine. The feminine definite articles la/las are always used before the hours.</p> <p>Es la una y cuarto. Son las tres y cinco.</p>	<p><i>It is a quarter after one.</i></p>  <p><i>It is five past three.</i></p> 
<p>The hour is given first, then the minutes.</p> <p>Son las seis y veinte.</p>	<p><i>It is twenty after six.</i></p> 
<p>The equivalent of <i>past</i> or <i>after</i> is y.</p> <p>Son las ocho y media.</p>	<p><i>It is half past eight.</i></p> 
<p>The equivalent of <i>to</i> or <i>till</i> is menos.</p> <p>Son las diez menos cuarto.</p>	<p><i>It is a quarter to ten.</i></p> 
<p>The equivalent of <i>on the dot</i> or <i>sharp</i> is en punto.</p> <p>Son las once en punto.</p>	<p><i>It is eleven o'clock sharp.</i></p> 



¡Atención!

More about telling time	
<p><i>At + time</i> is a + la(s) + time:</p> <p>A la una y dieciséis.</p>	<p><i>At one-sixteen</i></p>
<p>When a specific time is followed by a period of the day, use de la (mañana, tarde, noche):</p> <p>Mi clase es a las ocho de la mañana. Estudio a las seis de la tarde. La fiesta es a las nueve de la noche.</p>	<p><i>My class is at eight in the morning.</i> <i>I study at six in the evening.</i> <i>The party is at nine o'clock at night.</i></p>
<p>When a specific time is not mentioned, use por la or en la (mañana, tarde, noche):</p> <p>Trabajo por la mañana. Trabaja en la tarde. Estudiamos por la noche.</p>	<p><i>I work in the morning.</i> <i>He works in the afternoon.</i> <i>We study at night.</i></p>
<p>The following expressions will be useful to ask about and express time in Spanish:</p>	
<p>¿Qué hora es? Es la una.</p> <p>¿A qué hora es la fiesta? Es a las cinco.</p> <p>Son las tres y cuarto. Es la una menos cuarto. Es a las cuatro y media.</p>	<p><i>What time is it?</i> <i>It is one o'clock.</i></p> <p><i>At what time is the party?</i> <i>It is at five.</i></p> <p><i>It is three-fifteen.</i> <i>It is a quarter to one.</i> <i>It is at four-thirty.</i></p>
<p>When telling time, follow this order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Es or Son: Son 2. la or las: las 3. the hour: doce 4. y or menos: y 5. the minutes: diez. 	<p>Write the answer to this question in Spanish. ¿Qué hora es?</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p>_____</p>

NOTA CULTURAL: As in English, Spanish uses **a.m.** and **p.m.** in printed information. In many countries the twenty-four hour clock is used, especially in printed timetables, such as bus, train, or cinema schedules. To figure out time on a twenty-four hour clock, if the hour given is after twelve, subtract twelve from the hour given: 1600 is 4:00.

NOTA CULTURAL: The perception of time in Spanish speaking countries may be somewhat different from that in the United States. The visitor from the United States should become aware of the local customs regarding punctuality.

LECCION 4



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>ir</i> (to go)			
singular		plural	
yo	voy	nosotros/as	vamos
tú	vas	vosotros/as	vais
Ud.	va	Uds.	van
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	



¡Atención!

Spanish contractions: *al* and *del*

1. When the preposition *a* precedes the article *el*: **a + el = al**.

Van **a + el** parque = Van **al** parque.

They go to the park.

2. When the preposition *de* precedes the article *el*: **de + el = del**.

Van **de + el** parque a la casa = Van **del** parque a la casa. *They go from the park to the house.*



¡Atención!

The preposition **a** (to) follows a verb of motion (**ir, venir, subir, bajar**) to express direction.

Vengo **a** cocinar.

I come to cook.

Vamos **a** la cocina.

We go to the kitchen.



¡Atención!

Talking about future plans: periphrastic future
ir a + infinitive = to be going to + infinitive

¿Qué va a lavar?
 Voy a lavar la ropa.

What are you going to wash?
I am going to wash the clothes.



¡Atención!

Comparisons: Inequality
más / menos { noun
adjective } **que**
adverb

El sofá cuesta **más** dinero **que** la silla.

The sofa costs more money than the chair.

El baño está **menos** limpio **que** la cocina.

The bathroom is less clean than the kitchen.

Jaime corre **más** rápidamente **que** Teresa.

Jaime runs faster than Teresa.

Comparisons: Inequality
más / menos de + number

El tiene **más de** cinco pesos.

He has more than five pesos.



¡Atención!

Another use of **de**
With modifying nouns, the preposition **de** indicates
what something is made of.

Tengo una mesa **de** madera.
Compras una planta **de** plástico.

I have a wooden table.
You buy a plastic plant.



¡Atención!

To indicate obligation:
Use **tener que** (to have to) + infinitive

Tengo que trabajar.
Tenemos que hacer el café.

I have to work.
We have to make the coffee.

LECCION 6



¡Atención!

Stem-changing Verbs

Some Spanish verbs have a stem change in most conjugated forms. In this lesson we will look at verbs that change the stem of the infinitive **o** to **ue** and **e** to **ie**. In the next lesson you will learn about verbs that change the stem of the infinitive from **e** to **i**. These changes occur with all subject pronouns except **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as**.

The Present Tense of **o** ⇒ **ue** Stem-changing Verbs

The Present Tense of *poder* (to be able, can)

singular		plural	
yo	puedo	nosotros/as	podemos
tú	puedes	vosotros/as	podéis
Ud. } él } ella }	puede	Uds. } ellos } ellas }	pueden

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Here are other **o** ⇒ **ue** stem-changing verbs. *Costar* is introduced in this lesson. The chart gives you verbs that will be introduced later in the course. Remember that **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** is just that: the information is additional and needs not be learned, nor will it be tested at this time.

acordar	<i>to agree (upon)</i>	llover	<i>to rain</i>
acostar	<i>to put to bed</i>	mostrar	<i>to show</i>
almorzar	<i>to have lunch</i>	morir	<i>to die</i>
aprobar	<i>to approve</i>	mover	<i>to move</i>
contar	<i>to count/tell/relate</i>	probar	<i>to prove/taste/try on</i>
costar	<i>to cost</i>	recordar	<i>to remember/remind</i>
devolver	<i>to return/give back</i>	rogar	<i>to beg/plead</i>
doler	<i>to ache</i>	sonar	<i>to sound</i>
dormir	<i>to sleep</i>	soñar	<i>to dream</i>
encontrar	<i>to encounter/find</i>	volar	<i>to fly</i>
envolver	<i>to wrap</i>	volver	<i>to return</i>

NOTE: The verb *costar* is generally conjugated in the third person *it/they*, impersonally: **cuesta** (*it costs*), **cuestan** (*they cost*). The verb *llover* is conjugated in the third person *it*, impersonally: **lueve** (*it rains*).



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of e ⇒ ie Stem-changing Verbs

The Present Tense of <i>querer</i> (to want, to wish)			
singular		plural	
yo	quiero	nosotros/as	queremos
tú	quieres	vosotros/as	queréis
Ud. } él } ella }	quiere	Uds. } ellos } ellas }	quieren

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Here are other e ⇒ ie stem-changing verbs. **Cerrar** is introduced in this lesson. The chart also gives you verbs that will be introduced later in the course.

cerrar	<i>to close</i>	negar	<i>to deny</i>
comenzar	<i>to begin/start</i>	pensar	<i>to think</i>
despertar	<i>to awaken</i>	perder	<i>to lose</i>
defender	<i>to defend</i>	preferir	<i>to prefer</i>
divertirse	<i>to have a good time</i>	recomendar	<i>to recommend</i>
empezar	<i>to begin/start</i>	sentar	<i>to sit</i>
entender	<i>to understand</i>	sentir	<i>to feel</i>
mentir	<i>to lie</i>	sugerir	<i>to suggest</i>

NOTE: *Querer* followed by the preposition **a** means *to love*:

Quiero a mi familia. I love my family.

Queremos a nuestro país. We love our country.



¡Atención!

Using the *conjugated* forms of the verbs **poder**, **querer**, and **necesitar** + *infinitive*

Use **poder** + **infinitive** to indicate *what you are able to do or can do*:

Podemos ir al gimnasio hoy. *We can go to the gym today.*

Use **querer** + **infinitive** to indicate *what you want or wish to do*:

Quieren lavar sus uniformes. *They want to wash their uniforms.*

Use **necesitar** + **infinitive** to indicate *what you need to do*:

Necesito comprar una camisa blanca. *I need to buy a white shirt.*



¡Atención!

Number one/número uno

The number **uno** is shortened to **un** when it is followed by a masculine singular noun.

Quiero uno. *I want one.*
Quiero un traje. *I want one suit.*

The number **uno** becomes **una** when it refers to a feminine singular noun.

Quiero una. *I want one.*
Quiero una camisa. *I want one shirt.*

NOTE: The forms **un** and **una** coincide with those of the indefinite article and may be translated into English as *a, an* or *one*, depending on what needs to be expressed.

Necesito un par de zapatos. *I need a pair of shoes.*
I need one pair of shoes.

Necesito una falda. *I need a skirt.*
I need one skirt.



¡Atención!

The Prepositions POR and PARA

The prepositions **por** and **para** have very distinct uses in Spanish. **Por** and **para** are generally translated into English as *for* but both of them can have other meanings. In later lessons you will learn more about their different uses and meanings depending on a given situation. In this lesson, both prepositions will have the English translation *for*.

Use POR when you mean <i>in exchange for:</i>	Use PARA when you mean <i>intended for:</i>
Voy a comprar una blusa por diez balboas. <i>I am going to buy a blouse for ten balboas.</i>	Voy a comprar una blusa para mi madre. <i>I am going to buy a blouse for my mother.</i>

Voy a comprar una blusa **por** diez balboas **para** mi madre.
I am going to buy a blouse for ten balboas for my mother.

NOTE: In Spanish, when you want to ask for a favor, consider it an exchange and say "**Por favor** . . . "

Quiero esa camisa, **por** favor. *I want that shirt, please.*

Por favor, necesito una. *Please, I need one.*

To thank somebody for something, consider it also an exchange and say "**Gracias por** . . . "

Gracias **por** todo. *Thanks for everything.*

Gracias **por** el regalo. *Thanks for the present.*



¡Atención!

To ask the price of something, use the verbs **valer**, **costar**, or **ser** and say

¿Cuánto vale(n)?

¿Cuánto cuesta(n)?

¿Cuánto es?

¿Cuánto valen las medias?

How much are the socks?

¿Cuánto cuesta el suéter azul?

How much is the blue sweater?

¿Cuánto es?

How much is it?

LECCION 7



¡Atención!

Weather expressions

Use **hace** to say:

Hace buen tiempo.	<i>The weather is good.</i>
Hace mal tiempo.	<i>The weather is bad.</i>
Hace calor.	<i>It is hot.</i>
Hace fresco.	<i>It is cool.</i>
Hace frío.	<i>It is cold.</i>
Hace sol.	<i>It is sunny.</i>
Hace viento.	<i>It is windy.</i>

NOTE: **Hace** is *not* used to say:

Graniza.	<i>It hails./It is hailing.</i>
Llueve.	<i>It rains./It is raining.</i>
Nieva.	<i>It snows./It is snowing.</i>

Use **está** to say:

Está despejado.	<i>It is clear.</i>
Está granizando.	<i>It is hailing.</i>
Está lloviendo.	<i>It is raining.</i>
Está nevando.	<i>It is snowing.</i>
Está nublado.	<i>It is cloudy.</i>

Use **hay** to say:

Hay hielo.	<i>It is icy.</i>
Hay niebla.	<i>It is foggy.</i>
Hay neblina.	<i>It is misty/foggy.</i>
Hay tormenta.	<i>There is a storm.</i>
Hay truenos y relámpagos.	<i>There is thunder and lightning.</i>
Hay viento.	<i>It is windy.</i>



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of e ⇒ i Stem-changing Verbs

Notice that changes occur in all persons except **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as**.

The Present Tense of <i>decir</i> (to say)			
singular		plural	
yo	digo	nosotros/as	decimos
tú	dices	vosotros/as	decís
Ud.	dice	Uds.	dicen
él } ella }		ellos } ellas }	

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Here are other e ⇒ i stem-changing verbs. *Pedir* is introduced in this lesson. The chart also gives you verbs that will be introduced later in the course.

conseguir	<i>to obtain</i>	reír	<i>to laugh</i>
despedir	<i>to say good-bye</i>	repetir	<i>to repeat</i>
desvestir	<i>to undress</i>	seguir	<i>to follow/continue</i>
freír	<i>to fry</i>	servir	<i>to serve</i>
medir	<i>to measure</i>	sonreír	<i>to smile</i>
pedir	<i>to ask/request</i>	vestir	<i>to dress</i>

The verbs *pedir* and *preguntar* (to ask)

These verbs are not interchangeable and their differences are made clear in context.

Pedir means to ask for something, to request something or to order something.

Los alumnos **piden** información sobre el clima en España.

The students ask for/request information on the weather in Spain.

Preguntar means to ask, to inquire, or to question.

Los alumnos **preguntan** cómo es el clima en España.

The students ask what the weather is like in Spain.



¡Atención!

THE ADVERBS/LOS ADVERBIOS

An adverb is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

Siempre (*always*) and **nunca** (*never*) are adverbs. They tell *when* something happens.

Siempre can precede the verb or follow it.

Siempre llueve en Seattle.
Llueve **siempre** en Seattle.

It always rains in Seattle.

Nunca can precede the verb. It can also follow the verb which is preceded by **no**.

Nunca llueve en Lima.
No llueve **nunca** en Lima.

It never rains in Lima.

If you want to answer a question by using **nunca**, use it between **No**, and the verb, or after the double negation **No, no** and the verb.

¿Llueve en Lima?
No, **nunca** llueve en Lima.
No, no llueve **nunca** en Lima.

Does it rain in Lima?
No, it never rains in Lima.



¡Atención!

Talking about future plans

In Lesson 4 you learned one way of expressing future plans, by using the periphrastic future: **ir a + infinitive**.

In this lesson you will learn another way to talk about future plans, by using the future tense.

The future tense is equivalent to the English *will + verb*. In Spanish the word *will* is not needed, only the verb plus specific endings.

As in English, the future tense is generally used in Spanish instead of the periphrastic future when there is more of a commitment:

Yo **estudiaré** mañana.

I will study tomorrow.

Yo **voy a estudiar** mañana.

I am going to study tomorrow.

In Spanish, the future tense is also used more in writing, while the periphrastic future is used more in an informal, everyday manner.



¡Atención!

The future tense

Regular verbs

To form the future tense of regular verbs, add the following endings to the infinitive:
-é, -ás, -á, -emos, -éis, -án.

	caminar	correr	vivir
yo	caminaré	correré	viviré
tú	caminarás	correrás	vivirás
Ud. } él } ella }	caminará	correrá	vivirá
nosotros/as	caminaremos	correremos	viviremos
vosotros/as	caminaréis	correréis	viviréis
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	caminarán	correrán	vivirán

Irregular verbs

To form the future tense of irregular verbs, add the same endings as for the regular verbs to the stem changes of these verbs: **-é, -ás, -á, -emos, -éis, -án**. There are 12 verbs that are irregular in the future tense. You have already been introduced to the present tense of the verbs that appear below.

decir	<i>to say</i>	dir-	(yo) diré
hacer	<i>to do/make</i>	har-	(yo) haré
poder	<i>to be able/can</i>	podr-	(yo) podré
tener	<i>to have</i>	tendr-	(yo) tendré
valer	<i>to cost/be worth</i>	valdr-	(yo) valdré
querer	<i>to want/wish/love</i>	querr-	(yo) querré

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This list gives you the remaining verbs that are irregular in the future tense. They will be introduced later in the course.

caber	<i>to fit</i>	cabr-	(yo) cabré
haber *	<i>to have (auxiliary)</i>	habr-	(yo) habré
saber	<i>to know</i>	sabr-	(yo) sabré
poner	<i>to put</i>	pondr-	(yo) pondré
salir	<i>to leave/go out</i>	saldr-	(yo) saldré
venir	<i>to come</i>	vendr-	(yo) vendré

* As you learned in Lesson 1, **haber** means *to be* when used in the impersonal form **hay** (there is, there are). The future tense of **hay** is **habrá** (there will be).

Hay un problema.	<i>There is a problem.</i>
Habrá un problema.	<i>There will be a problem.</i>

NOTE: When you study the *conditional* later in the course, you will learn that the same verbs that are irregular in the future are irregular in the conditional.



¡Atención!

**Introduction to the present progressive:
expressing actions in progress in the present**

In this lesson we will begin learning about the present progressive and present participles. More will be done in future lessons. To describe an action that is taking place at the moment in the present, Spanish uses a verb phrase composed of the verb **estar** conjugated in the present tense and a *present participle* (-ing form) of any other verb. This combination is called the *present progressive*:

present tense of the verb **estar** (to be) + the present participle of the main verb

- **Formation of the present participle**

Spanish present participles are formed by dropping the infinitive ending and adding **-ando** to **-ar** verbs and **-iendo** to **-er** and **-ir** verbs:

hablar	hablando
comer	comiendo
escribir	escribiendo

Está lloviendo.	<i>It is raining.</i>
-----------------	-----------------------

NOTE: There are several verbs with irregular present participles: **decir** ⇒ diciendo, **leer** ⇒ leyendo, **pedir** ⇒ pidiendo. We will see these present participles in the future.

NOTE: The present progressive is generally used more in English than in Spanish. In Spanish, the present tense or the periphrastic future are commonly used instead of the present progressive to refer to future events.

Voy/Voy a ir/ a Salinas mañana.	<i>I'm going to (go to) Salinas tomorrow.</i>
---------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------

LECCION 8



¡Atención!

REFLEXIVE CONSTRUCTIONS/CONSTRUCCIONES REFLEXIVAS

A reflexive construction, such as *I wash myself*, consists of a reflexive pronoun (*self/selves*) and a verb. Many verbs that require reflexive pronouns in Spanish do not require them in English. You have already used one: **llamarse** (*to be called*).

Reflexive pronouns/Pronombres reflexivos

Reflexive pronouns are used when the action of the verb is done by the subject of the sentence to himself or herself. They are usually placed before the conjugated verb.

Reflexive verbs/Verbos reflexivos

Reflexive verbs refer to the same person or thing that is the subject of the sentence. When using reflexive verbs, the reflexive pronouns are also needed in Spanish. The verb ending agrees with the subject pronoun.

Subject pronouns	Reflexive pronouns		Reflexive pronouns and verb
Yo	me	<i>myself</i>	(Yo) Me lavo.
Tú	te	<i>yourself</i>	(Tú) Te lavas.
Ud. } El } Ella }	se	<i>yourself</i> <i>himself</i> <i>herself</i>	(Ud.) Se lava. (El) Se lava. (Ella) Se lava.
Nosotros/as	nos	<i>ourselves</i>	(Nosotros/as) Nos lavamos.
Vosotros/as	os	<i>yourselves</i>	(Vosotros/as) Os laváis.
Uds. } Ellos } Ellas }	se	<i>yourselves</i> <i>themselves</i> <i>themselves</i>	(Uds.) Se lavan. (Ellos) Se lavan. (Ellas) Se lavan.

NOTE: As you know, the Spanish subject pronouns can be dropped from the sentence. They can be kept if they are needed for clarification, as in the case of the reflexive pronoun *se*, which has many meanings and needs clarification through the subject pronoun.

El se despierta tarde. *He wakes up late.*
Ud. se despierta tarde. *You wake up late.*

NOTE: In Spanish, the possessive adjectives are not used when referring to parts of the body because the reflexive pronoun indicates the action is being done by the subject to him/herself. The definite or indefinite articles are used.

El capitán se afeita la barba. *The captain shaves his beard.*



¡Atención!

More about the Reflexive Constructions: Position of Reflexive Pronouns in Relation to the Verbs

Reflexive pronouns precede the conjugated verb form, as you can see in the previous examples.

In constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, reflexive pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb or attached to the infinitive:

(Yo) Me voy a afeitar.

or

I am going to shave (myself).

(Yo) Voy a afeitarme.

In progressive constructions, reflexive pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb *estar* or attached to the *-ing* form of the main verb:

(El) Se está afeitando.

or

He is shaving (himself).

(El) Está afeitándose.*

* In these cases, an accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.

To make negative sentences, place **no** in front of the reflexive pronoun:

¿(Tú) **No te lavas la cara por la noche?** *You do not wash your face at night?*
(Yo) **No me lavo la cara por la noche.** *I do not wash my face at night.*

In negative constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, **no** can be placed in front of the reflexive pronoun or it can be placed in front of the conjugated verb, if the reflexive pronoun is attached to the infinitive verb:

(Tú) **No te vas a lavar el pelo.** *You are not going to wash your hair.*
 or
(Tú) **No vas a lavarte el pelo.**



¡Atención!

More about Reflexive Constructions

As you have learned before, Spanish verbs end in **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir**. When a verb is reflexive, *se* is attached to the infinitive verb endings **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir**. Most Spanish verbs can be made reflexive if they act upon the subject with the aid of a reflexive pronoun. If the action is directed at someone other than the subject, the verb is no longer reflexive.

Some Spanish verbs change meaning when they are used with reflexive pronouns. Here are several commonly used ones. You already know **ir**. The others are introduced in this lesson.

acostar (ue)	<i>to put to bed</i>	acostarse (ue)	<i>to go to bed</i>
dormir (ue)	<i>to sleep</i>	dormirse (ue)	<i>to fall asleep</i>
ir	<i>to go</i>	irse	<i>to go away/leave</i>
poner	<i>to put</i>	ponerse	<i>to put on (clothes)/become</i>
quitar	<i>to take away/remove</i>	quitarse	<i>to take off (clothes)</i>
vestir (i)	<i>to dress</i>	vestirse (i)	<i>to get dressed</i>

When a verb is irregular in a certain tense, the reflexive verb in that tense will also be irregular, e. g., **poner/ponerse**, in the future tense. The reflexive pronoun remains unchanged, regardless of the verb tense.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: these two Spanish verbs are always used with reflexive pronouns:

acordarse (ue) de	<i>to remember</i>
quejarse de	<i>to complain</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The preposition **a** is used when the action indicated by the verb is no longer directed toward the speaker but toward someone else. This is called the personal **a** in Spanish.

José se baña.	<i>José bathes (himself).</i>
José baña a su hijo.	<i>José bathes his son.</i>



¡Atención!

The Present tense of <i>poner</i> (to put) and <i>ponerse</i> (to put on/to become)			
singular		plural	
yo	pongo/me pongo	nosotros/as	ponemos/nos ponemos
tú	pones/te pones	vosotros/as	ponéis/os ponéis
Ud.	} pone/se pone	Uds.	} ponen/se ponen
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

NOTE: Remember that since **poner** is irregular in the future indicative, **ponerse** is also irregular in the future indicative.

Yo **pongo** el despertador en la mesa. *I put the alarm clock on the table.*
 Yo **pondré** el despertador en la mesa. *I will put the alarm clock on the table.*

Yo **me pongo** el uniforme todos los días. *I put on my uniform every day.*
 Yo **me pondré** el uniforme todos los días. *I will put on my uniform every day.*

NOTE: When followed by an adjective, **ponerse** also means *to become (to get)*, indicating the physical or mental state or condition of the individual.

Flora **se pone** nerviosa en los exámenes. *Flora becomes nervous during exams.*
 El **se pondrá** triste con la noticia. *He will become sad when he hears the news.*



¡Atención!

Use of the Infinitive after Prepositions

- The Spanish prepositions **antes de** (*before*) and **después de** (*after*) are followed by the infinitive form of a verb.

Siempre estudio
antes de ver televisión.

*I always study
before watching TV.*

Vamos a comer
después de estudiar.

*We are going to eat after
studying.*

- In reflexive constructions with **antes de** or **después de**, the reflexive pronoun is attached to the infinitive verb.

Nunca como mucho
antes de acostarme.

*I never eat too much
before going to bed.*

Después de lavarte las
manos, puedes comer.

*After washing your hands,
you can eat.*

LECCION 9



¡Atención!

Demonstrative Adjectives

- Demonstrative adjectives (this, that, etc.) are used to point out people and objects. They indicate the relative distance between the speaker and the modified person or object. They agree in gender and number with the noun they modify.

		singular		plural		
Gender	Adjective	Noun		Adjective	Noun	
Masculine	este	banco	<i>this bank</i>	estos	bancos	<i>these banks</i>
Feminine	esta	casa	<i>this house</i>	estas	casas	<i>these houses</i>
Masculine	ese	banco	<i>that bank</i>	esos	bancos	<i>those banks</i>
Feminine	esa	casa	<i>that house</i>	esas	casas	<i>those houses</i>
Masculine	aquel	banco	<i>that bank (over there)</i>	aquellos	bancos	<i>those banks (over there)</i>
Feminine	aquella	casa	<i>that house (over there)</i>	aquellas	casas	<i>those houses (over there)</i>

Este sello y **estos** sobres son grandes.

Ese señor y **esos** niños son cubanos.

Aquel auto y **aquellos** buses son caros.

Esta ciudad y **estas** casas son bonitas.

Esa estampilla y **esas** postales son tuyas.

Aquella carta y **aquellas** notas son mías.

This stamp and these envelopes are big.

That gentleman and those boys are Cuban.

That car and those buses are expensive.

This city and these houses are nice.

That stamp and those postcards are yours.

That letter and those notes are mine.



¡Atención!

Demonstrative Pronouns

- Demonstrative pronouns (this one, that one, etc.) are also used to point out people and objects. They also indicate the relative distance between the speaker and the modified person or object. Even though they are not followed by a noun, all of them, (except for the neuter forms **esto**, **eso**, and **aquello**), still agree in number and gender with the noun to which they refer.
- Most demonstrative pronouns take an accent mark, to differentiate them from the demonstrative adjectives. The neuter forms **esto**, **eso**, and **aquello** do not take an accent mark nor do they have a plural form.

	singular		plural	
Gender	Pronoun		Pronoun	
Masculine	éste	<i>this one</i>	éstos	<i>these ones</i>
Feminine	ésta	<i>this one</i>	éstas	<i>these ones</i>
Neuter	esto	<i>this</i>		
Masculine	ése	<i>that one</i>	esos	<i>those ones</i>
Feminine	ésa	<i>that one</i>	esas	<i>those ones</i>
Neuter	eso	<i>that</i>		
Masculine	aquél	<i>that one (over there)</i>	aquéllos	<i>those ones (over there)</i>
Feminine	aquella	<i>that one (over there)</i>	aquellas	<i>those ones (over there)</i>
Neuter	aquello	<i>that (over there)</i>		

Este mapa es bueno, pero **éste** es mejor.
 Ese auto es caro, pero **ése** es barato.
 Aquel hotel es elegante, pero **aquél** no.
 Estos cuartos son caros y **éstos** también.
 Esos hoteles son buenos, **esos** también.
 Aquellos mapas son míos, **aquéllos** no.
 Esta casa es nueva y **ésta** también.
 Esa niña es cubana y **ésa** es china.
 Aquella carta es larga, **aquella** es corta.
 Estas casas son caras y **éstas** también.
 Esas comidas son buenas, **ésas** no.
 Aquellas cartas son mías, **aquellas** no.

This map is good, but this one is better.
That car is expensive, but that one is cheap.
That hotel is elegant, but that one is not.
These rooms are expensive and these too.
Those hotels are good, those are too.
Those maps are mine, those are not.
This house is new, and so is this one.
That girl is Cuban and that one is Chinese.
That letter is long, that one is short.
These houses are expensive and these too.
Those meals are good, those are not.
Those letters are mine, those are not.

The neuter forms **esto**, **eso**, and **aquello** refer to situations, ideas or things that are abstract, general, unidentified or unspecified. They are equivalent to the English *this* or *that* (*stuff, thing, matter, business*).

¿Qué es **esto**?

What is this?

¿Qué es **eso**?

What is that?

¿Qué es **aquello**?

What is that (over there)?

Esto es muy caro.

This is very expensive.

Eso es barato.

That is cheap.

Aquello es también caro.

That (over there) is also expensive.



¡Atención!

More about Adverbs

In Lesson 7 we learned that an adverb is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. An adverb answers the questions "How?", "When?", "Where?". An adverb remains invariable, it does not agree in gender and number. In Lesson 7 we learned the adverbs **siempre** and **nunca**. They answer the question "When?"

- Most Spanish adverbs are formed by adding **-mente** (the equivalent of *-ly* in English) to an adjective ending in a consonant or in *e*. Most of them are cognates with English.

final

final

finalmente

finally

frecuente

frequent

frecuentemente

frequently

If the adjective ends in **-o**, change the **-o** to **-a** and add **-mente**:

completo

complete

completamente

completely

If the adjective has a written accent mark, the adverb retains it:

fácil

easy

fácilmente

easily

NOTE: The adjective **solo** means alone. It agrees in gender and number with the subject of the sentence. The adverb **solamente** means *only*. It can be shortened to **sólo** (with an accent mark).

solo	<i>alone</i>	solamente/sólo	<i>only</i>
El vive solo.	<i>He lives alone.</i>	Solamente/sólo hay un alumno en clase.	<i>There is only one student in class.</i>
Ella come sola.	<i>She eats alone.</i>	Solamente/sólo ella está aquí.	<i>Only she is here.</i>

NOTE: As you already know because of **siempre** and **nunca**, not all Spanish adverbs end in **-mente**. Here are some others that are introduced in this lesson:

mucho	<i>much/a lot</i>	El come mucho.	<i>He eats much/a lot.</i>
poco	<i>not very much/little</i>	Yo como poco.	<i>I eat little.</i>
también	<i>also/too</i>	Ella también come.	<i>She also eats.</i>
tampoco	<i>neither/not . . . either</i>	Yo tampoco como.	<i>I don't eat either.</i>
cerca	<i>near/nearby/close</i>	El banco está cerca.	<i>The bank is nearby.</i>
lejos	<i>far/far away</i>	Está lejos.	<i>It is far away.</i>



¡Atención!

Adverbs *también* and *tampoco*

también

also, too

Yo voy al correo.

I go to the post office.

Mi hermano **también** va al correo.

My brother also goes to the post office.

También mi hermano va al correo.

Also my brother goes to the post office.

Mi hermano va al correo **también**.

My brother goes to the post office, too.

También can be used before the verb or after it.

tampoco

neither, not . . . either

Su padre no trabaja en un banco.

His father does not work in a bank.

Su hijo **tampoco** trabaja en un banco.

His son does not work in a bank either.

Su hijo **no** trabaja **tampoco** en un banco.

His son does not work in a bank either.

Tampoco su hijo (trabaja en un banco).

Neither does his son (work in a bank).

Tampoco can be used before the verb or in a double negative construction, preceded by **no** and the verb.



¡Atención!

Todo, toda, todos, and todas as Adjectives

- When **todo** and **todos** are used as adjectives, they agree in gender and number with the noun they qualify. Notice their different meanings: *all, every, all of, whole*.

Trabajo todo el día.	<i>I work all/the whole day.</i>
Estudia toda la tarde.	<i>He studies all/the whole afternoon.</i>
Vamos al banco todos los días.	<i>We go to the bank every day.</i>
Hablan por teléfono todas las tardes.	<i>They talk on the phone every afternoon.</i>
Todos mis amigos viven en Tejas.	<i>All (of) my friends live in Texas.*</i>
Todas ellas son soldados.	<i>All of them are soldiers.*</i>

* Notice that in Spanish, the preposition **de** is not needed for the English *of*.

Todo, toda, todos, and todas as Pronouns

- When **todo** and **todos** are used as pronouns, they take the appropriate gender of the noun they replace. Notice their different meanings: *all, everybody, everyone, all of*.

Todos los alumnos están aquí. (adjetivo)	<i>All (of) the students are here. (adjective)</i>
Todos están aquí. (pronombre)	<i>All are here. (pronoun)</i>
Todas las señoras trabajan. (adjetivo)	<i>All (of) the ladies work. (adjective)</i>
Todas trabajan. (pronombre)	<i>All (of them) work. (pronoun)</i>
Todos hablan español. (pronombre)	<i>Everybody/everyone speaks Spanish./ All of them speak Spanish. (pronoun)</i>

Use **todo** when the noun is unspecified. Notice its meanings: *everything, all*. The context of the situation will clarify the meaning of these kinds of expressions.

Todo está aquí.	<i>Everything is here.</i>
El niño se come todo .	<i>The boy eats everything.</i>



¡Atención!

More about the Prepositions POR and PARA

In Lesson 6 we learned that the prepositions **por** and **para**, generally translated into English as *for*, have other meanings. We learned that **por** is used when you mean *in exchange for* and that **para** is used when you mean *intended for*. In this lesson we will learn other meanings and uses of these prepositions and you will be given some additional information on future uses of **por** and **para** in this course.

Use POR when you mean	Use PARA when you mean
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>manner or by means of:</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>purpose, in order to:</i>
<p>Voy a llamarlo <i>I am going to call</i> por teléfono. <i>him on the phone.</i> Mandamos la carta <i>We send the letter</i> por correo aéreo. <i>by air mail.</i></p>	<p>El buzón es para <i>The mailbox is for</i> echar cartas. <i>mailing letters.</i> Ud. necesita sellos <i>You need stamps</i> para mandar una <i>(in order) to mail a</i> postal. <i>postcard.</i></p>

Voy a hablar con mi madre **por** teléfono **para** saludarla.
I am going to talk to my mother on the phone in order to say hello to her.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: here are other uses of **por** and **para**. These uses will be introduced later in the course. Notice that **por** has a wider range of uses than **para**.

Use POR when you mean	Use PARA when you mean
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>through, along, by, via</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>destination (a may also be used)</i>
<p>El avión va por Miami. <i>The plane goes via Miami.</i></p>	<p>El avión para Cuba <i>The plane for Cuba sale a las ocho. leaves at eight.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a length of time</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a certain deadline in the future</i>
<p>Ustedes están aquí por seis meses. <i>You are here for six months.</i></p>	<p>Necesito el dinero para hoy a las tres. <i>I need the money by three today.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>on behalf of, in place of</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>for a specific person, thing, organization</i>
<p>María trabaja hoy por su padre, él está enfermo. <i>María works today in place of her father. He is ill.</i></p>	<p>María trabaja para su padre, él es su jefe. <i>María works for her father. He is her boss.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>because of, for the sake of</i> 	
<p>El está triste por las noticias. <i>He is sad because of the news.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>units of measures</i> 	
<p>El banco me da sólo dos por ciento de interés. <i>The bank gives me only two percent interest.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>cause or agent of an action</i> 	
<p>El cheque fue cambiado por él. <i>The check was cashed by him.</i></p>	



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>venir</i> (to come)			
singular		plural	
yo	vengo	nosotros/as	venimos
tú	vienes	vosotros/as	venís
Ud.	viene	Uds.	vienen
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

NOTE: Remember that, as we learned in Lesson 7, **venir** is irregular in the future indicative.

The verbs <i>regresar</i>, <i>volver</i> and <i>devolver</i> (to return)

Regresar and **volver** mean *to return from somewhere, to come back*.

Los alumnos **regresan** del cuartel.
Los alumnos **vuelven** del cuartel.

The students return from the barracks.
The students return from the barracks.

When **volver** is followed by the preposition **a** and a verb in the infinitive, it means *to do something again, to repeat the action (of the infinitive)*.

El cabo **vuelve a llamar** por teléfono.

The corporal calls on the phone again.

Devolver means *to return something, to take back something*.

Los alumnos **devuelven** los exámenes.

The students return the exams.

The verbs *creer* and *pensar* (to think)

- These verbs are not interchangeable and their differences are made clear in context.

Creer means *to think* or *to believe*.

Los estudiantes **creen** que es viernes. *The students think (that) it is Friday.*
Ellos **creen** en el gobierno. *They believe in the government.*

Notice that in Spanish, the preposition **en** is used for the English *in*.

When the verb **creer** is followed by **que**, it means *to think that . . .* :

Yo **creo** que él va a venir hoy. *I think that he is going to come today.*

To express these ideas, **que** has to follow **creer**. It cannot be omitted.

In Spanish, **creo que sí** means *I think so*, and **creo que no** means *I don't think so*.

Pensar means *to think*.

La capitana **piensa** en sus vacaciones. *The captain thinks of/about her vacation.*

Notice that in Spanish, the preposition **en** is used for the English *of* or *about*.

When **pensar** is followed by a verb in the infinitive, it means *to intend*,
to plan (to do something):

Pensamos ir al banco. *We intend/plan to go to the bank.*



¡Atención!

Quisiera, the imperfect subjunctive form of the verb **querer**, is used in Spanish to express "*I would like . . .*" in a very polite way. It is used instead of the conditional form of the verb, **querría**, which literally means *I would like . . .*

Quisiera diez estampillas de cincuenta centavos, por favor.
I would like ten fifty-cent stamps, please.

Por favor, **quisiéramos** cambiar un cheque.
Please, we would like to cash a check.

LECCION 11



¡Atención!

Expressions with *tener*

- In Spanish, the verb **tener** + noun is used in many idiomatic expressions where English uses *to be* + adjective. You have already learned **tener . . . años** in Lesson 2. The following expressions are introduced in this lesson:

tener calor	<i>to be hot</i>
tener frío	<i>to be cold</i>
tener hambre	<i>to be hungry</i>
tener miedo (a/de)	<i>to be afraid (of)</i>
tener prisa	<i>to be in a hurry</i>
tener sed	<i>to be thirsty</i>
tener sueño	<i>to be sleepy</i>

- To indicate *very*, use **mucho** or **mucha**, according to the gender of the noun:

Ellas tienen mucho frío.	<i>They are very cold.</i>
El tiene mucha hambre.*	<i>He is very hungry.</i>

* One says **mucha hambre** because **el hambre** is a feminine noun but in the singular form it takes the masculine article.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: here are some other expressions with **tener**:

tener razón	<i>to be correct/right</i>	tener suerte	<i>to be lucky</i>
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¡Atención!

Prepositional Pronouns

Prepositional pronouns are pronouns that follow a preposition.

singular		plural	
mí	<i>me</i>	nosotros/as	<i>us</i>
ti	<i>you (familiar)</i>		
Ud.	<i>you (formal)</i>	Uds.	<i>you</i>
él	<i>him</i>	ellos	<i>them (masc.)</i>
ella	<i>her</i>	ellas	<i>them (fem.)</i>

- Prepositional pronouns have the same forms as the subject pronouns, except the first and second persons singular **mí** and **ti**.

El cocina algo especial **para mí**.

He cooks something special for me.

No quiero ir a la fiesta **sin ti**.

I don't want to go to the party without you.

- When used with the preposition **con**, the first and second persons singular forms become **conmigo** and **contigo**:

¿Vas **conmigo** al restaurante?

Are you going to the restaurant with me?

No, no voy **contigo**. Voy con ella.

No, I'm not going with you. I'm going with her.

NOTE: While the pronoun *it* is generally used in English, it works differently in Spanish. In Spanish, a noun referring to an animal or thing is not generally replaced by a pronoun when it is a subject or an object of a preposition, as is the case with the English *it*, *they*, and *them*.

For example, to say "*The glasses are on the table*" replaced by pronouns, "They are on it", in Spanish, one would either say the whole sentence:

"**Los vasos están sobre la mesa**", or omit the entire subject:

"**Están sobre la mesa.**"



¡Atención!

Direct Objects

- A direct object is a noun or pronoun that directly receives the action of a verb and answers the question *what?* or *whom?*
- When using direct object pronouns one avoids repeating nouns and makes for smooth, quicker communication.

Ella toma café con leche.

She drinks coffee with milk.

What does she drink?

She drinks coffee with milk.

El café, the coffee, is the direct object noun of the verb. It is a masculine singular noun, so it is replaced by the pronoun **lo**.

Ella **lo** toma con leche.

She drinks it with milk.

El invita a sus amigas al cine.

He invites his friends to the movies.

Whom does he invite to the movies?

He invites his friends to the movies.

Sus amigas, his friends, is the direct object noun of the verb. It is a feminine plural noun, so it is replaced by the pronoun **las**.

El **las** invita al cine.

He invites them to the movies.

Direct Object Pronouns

The direct object pronoun replaces the direct object noun.

Subject pronouns	Direct Object Pronouns	
yo	me	<i>me</i>
tú	te	<i>you (familiar)</i>
Ud.	lo	<i>you (masc., formal)</i>
Ud.	la	<i>you (fem., formal)</i>
él	lo	<i>him/it</i>
ella	la	<i>her/it</i>
nosotros/as	nos	<i>us</i>
Uds.	los	<i>you (masc., pl.)</i>
Uds.	las	<i>you (fem., pl.)</i>
ellos	los	<i>them (masc.)</i>
ellas	las	<i>them (fem.)</i>

NOTE : In some areas of Spain and Latin America, **le** and **les** are used instead of **lo** and **los** as the direct object pronoun to refer to male individuals.

Yo invito a Carlos. ⇒ Yo **lo** invito. ⇒ Yo **le** invito. *I invite him.*



¡Atención!

The personal *a*

* In Spanish, when the direct object of a verb refers to a specific person, animal, or anything that is given personal or human characteristics, it is preceded by the preposition *a*. This is called the *Personal a*. There is no English translation or equivalent for the Spanish *a*.

Visito **a Roberto**.

I visit Roberto.

Invitamos **al sargento**.

We invite the sergeant.

Ella cuida **a sus gatos**.

She looks after her cats.

The *personal a* is not used when the direct object of the verb is not specific:

Necesita **un buen cocinero**.

He needs a good cook.

The *personal a* is not generally used with the verb **tener**:

Tengo una cocinera excelente.

I have an excellent cook.

El tiene tres hermanas.

He has three sisters.



¡Atención!

The position of direct object pronouns in relation to the verbs

- The direct object pronouns follow the same position rules in relation to the verbs as the reflexive pronouns.

- The direct object pronoun is placed before the conjugated verb:

Ellos preparan la ensalada.

They prepare the salad.

Ellos **la** preparan.

They prepare it.

- In constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, direct object pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb or attached to the infinitive:

Tú vas a comprar las frutas.

You are going to buy the fruits.

Tú **las** vas a comprar.

or

You are going to buy them.

Tú vas a **comprarlas**.

- To make negative sentences, place **no** in front of the direct object pronoun:

Yo no hago el café en casa.

I do not make (the) coffee at home.

Yo **no lo** hago.

I do not make it.

- In progressive constructions, direct object pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb **estar** or attached to the **-ing** form of the main verb:

Tú estás preparando la comida.

You are preparing the meal.

Tú **la** estás preparando.

or

You are preparing it.

Tú estás **preparándola**.*

* In these cases, an accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.

- In negative constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, **no** can be placed in front of the direct object pronoun or it can be placed in front of the conjugated verb if the direct object pronoun is attached to the infinitive verb:

Ellos **no me** tienen que invitar.

or

They do not have to invite me.

Ellos **no** tienen que **invitarme**.



¡Atención!

Indirect Objects

- An indirect object is a noun or pronoun that indirectly receives the action of a verb and answers the question *to whom?* or *for whom?*
- Indirect object pronouns have the same forms as the direct object pronouns except in the third persons, **le** and **les**.

El le sirve café a su esposa.
To whom does he serve coffee?

He serves his wife coffee. (to her)
 He serves *his wife* coffee. (to her)

Su esposa, his wife, is the indirect object noun of the verb. It is a singular indirect object noun, so the pronoun **le** is used.

El le sirve café.

He serves her coffee. (to her)

Le and **les** may need clarification, although in context or conversation, one will usually know to whom they refer. Clarification is oftentimes made by using the preposition **a** + the prepositional pronoun or the indirect object noun.

El le sirve café (a ella/a su esposa).

He serves her coffee. (to his wife)

The phrases in parentheses may be omitted from the sentence or may be used for clarification or emphasis. The indirect object pronouns are used even if the prepositional pronouns or the indirect object nouns are included in the sentences.

Indirect Object Pronouns

The indirect object pronoun replaces the indirect object noun.

Subject pronouns

Indirect Object Pronouns

yo	me	<i>to/for me</i>
tú	te	<i>to/for you (familiar)</i>
Ud.	le	<i>to/for you (masc. and fem., formal)</i>
él	le	<i>to/for him</i>
ella	le	<i>to/for her</i>
nosotros/as	nos	<i>to/for us</i>
Uds.	les	<i>to/for you (masc. and fem., plural)</i>
ellos	les	<i>to/for them (masc.)</i>
ellas	les	<i>to/for them (fem.)</i>

NOTE: With indirect objects, the English word *to* is expressed by *a* in Spanish.
Ramón le escribe una carta a Rosa. *Ramon writes Rosa a letter. (to Rosa)*

Remember that a direct object pronoun answers the question *what?* or *whom?*
and that an indirect object pronoun answers the question *to whom?* or *for whom?*



¡Atención!

The position of indirect object pronouns in relation to the verbs

The indirect object pronouns follow the same position rules in relation to the verbs as the reflexive pronouns and the direct object pronouns.

- The indirect object pronoun is placed before the conjugated verb:

El **me compra** un helado. *He buys me an ice cream.*

- In constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, indirect object pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb or attached to the infinitive:

Ella **te va a hacer** un sándwich.

or

She is going to make you a sandwich.

Ella va a **hacerte** un sándwich.

- In progressive constructions, indirect object pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb *estar* or attached to the *-ing* form of the main verb:

El **nos está haciendo** un postre.

or

He is making us a dessert.

El está **haciéndonos** un postre.*

- * In these cases, an accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.

- To make negative sentences, place **no** in front of the indirect object pronoun:

El **no me compra** un helado.

He does not buy me an ice cream.

- In negative constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, **no** can be placed in front of the indirect object pronoun or it can be placed in front of the conjugated verb, if the indirect object pronoun is attached to the infinitive verb:

Ella **no me va a hacer** un sándwich.

or

She is not going to make me a sandwich.

Ella **no va a hacerme** un sándwich.



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>dar</i> (to give)			
singular		plural	
yo	doy	nosotros/as	damos
tú	das	vosotros/as	dais
Ud.	} da	Uds.	} dan
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

NOTE: the verb **dar** is generally used with indirect object pronouns:

El te da la cuenta. *He gives you the bill. (to you)*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: **dar** is an all-purpose verb in Spanish. It is used in many idiomatic expressions. Here are some:

dar una fiesta	<i>to give a party</i>
dar una película	<i>to show a movie</i>
dar un paseo	<i>to take a stroll</i>
dar la mano	<i>to shake hands</i>
dar de beber	<i>to give something to drink (to a person or an animal)</i>
dar de comer	<i>to feed (a person or an animal)</i>



¡Atención!

The verb *gustar*: (to be pleasing, to please, to like)

In Spanish, the verb **gustar** is used to express likes, dislikes, and preferences. While you are learning how to use **gustar**, it may be better for you to translate **gustar** as "*to be pleasing to*" rather than "*to like*" since this verb is accompanied by an indirect object pronoun.

The subject of the verb **gustar** is whatever is doing the pleasing. **Gustar** agrees in person and number with the subject of the sentence. The indirect object pronoun indicates who is being pleased.

- To say that one or many people like one thing, use this structure:
indirect object pronoun + **gusta** + singular noun

Me gusta el pan.

(Bread is pleasing to me.)/I like bread.

Les gusta el pollo.

(Chicken is pleasing to them.)/They like chicken.

- To say that one or more people like more than one thing, use this structure:
indirect object pronoun + **gustan** + plural noun

Le gustan los postres.

(Desserts are pleasing to him.)/He likes desserts.

Nos gustan las uvas.

(Grapes are pleasing to us.)/We like grapes.

- To negate the above sentences, add **no** before the indirect object pronoun:
No me gusta el pan. *I do not like bread.*

NOTE: **Gustar** can be followed by an infinitive verb to express the idea that one likes *to do something*. The singular form of **gustar**, **gusta**, is used, regardless of how many things one likes to do.

Les gusta ir al mercado.

They like to go to the market.

Le gusta cocinar, comer y beber.

He likes to cook, eat and drink.



¡Atención!

More about the verb *gustar*

For clarification or emphasis, the preposition **a** + prepositional pronoun or indirect object noun can be used in addition to the indirect object pronouns.

Al capitán le gusta comprar comida.

The captain likes to buy food.

A mí me gusta el pan.

I like bread.

A los alumnos les gusta la pizza.

The students like pizza.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Here are some other verbs that follow the grammatical pattern of *gustar*:

encantar	<i>to love/delight</i>	Me encanta la comida china.	<i>I love Chinese food.</i>
faltar	<i>to lack</i>	Les falta dinero.	<i>They lack money.</i>
interesar	<i>to interest</i>	Le interesa la receta.	<i>He is interested in the recipe.</i>
molestar	<i>to bother</i>	Te molesta cocinar.	<i>Cooking bothers you.</i>
parecer	<i>to seem</i>	Nos parece buena la cena.	<i>Dinner seems good to us.</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: There are several ways to express liking someone in Spanish. Here are examples of what to say in these different situations:

- use **gustar** to express the idea that you are *attracted to a person*:
Me gusta Rocío. *I like Rocío.*
- use **gustar** when referring to *qualities or defects of a person*:
No nos gusta su actitud. *We do not like his attitude.*
- use **caer bien** or **caer mal** to say that you *like/dislike someone, in a general sense*:
Nos cae bien el profesor. *We like the teacher.*
A Jorge le cae mal esa señora. *Jorge does not like that lady.*

LECCION 12



¡Atención!

Suffixes *-ero/a* and *-ería*

A suffix is a particle attached at the end of a word.

In Spanish, the suffix *-ero/a* indicates many trades or professions.

barbero

barber

panadero

baker

peluquero/a

hairdresser

In Spanish, the suffix *-ería* indicates many specialty stores' names or the main product for sale in the store. There is an accent mark on the *í*, except in **farmacia**, *pharmacy*.

barbería

barbershop

panadería

bakery

peluquería

beauty shop



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>traer</i> (to bring)			
singular		plural	
yo	traigo	nosotros/as	traemos
tú	traes	vosotros/as	traéis
Ud.	trae	Uds.	traen
él			
ella			

NOTE: In English, the verbs *to bring* and *to take* are oftentimes informally or colloquially used interchangeably. In Spanish, their difference is very clear: use **traer** when you mean *to bring something from there to here*. Use **llevar** when you mean *to take something from here to there*.



¡Atención!

Double object pronouns: indirect and direct object pronouns used together

- When both an indirect object pronoun and a direct object pronoun are used together, the indirect object pronoun **always precedes** the direct object pronoun:

Ellas *me* (indirect object) dan *el libro* (direct object). *They give the book to me.*
 Ellas *me* (indirect object) *lo* (direct object) dan. *They give it to me.*

- The indirect object pronouns **le** and **les** change to **se** when placed immediately before the direct object pronouns **lo**, **la**, **los**, and **las**.

Indirect Object Pronouns			Direct Object Pronouns		
	me	<i>to/for me</i>	me		<i>me</i>
	te	<i>to/for you (familiar)</i>	te		<i>you (familiar)</i>
se {	le	<i>to/for you (formal)</i>	lo		<i>you (masc., formal)</i>
	le	<i>to/for him</i>	la		<i>you (fem., formal)</i>
	le	<i>to/for her</i>	lo		<i>him/it</i>
			la		<i>her/it</i>
	nos	<i>to/for us</i>	nos		<i>us</i>
se {	les	<i>to/for you (pl.)</i>	los		<i>you (masc., pl.)</i>
	les	<i>to/for them (masc.)</i>	las		<i>you (fem., pl.)</i>
	les	<i>to/for them (fem.)</i>	los		<i>them (masc.)</i>
			las		<i>them (fem.)</i>

NOTE: For clarification or emphasis, it is usually necessary to specify the person(s) to whom the pronoun **se** refers by using a phrase consisting of **a** + prepositional pronoun or indirect object noun. The subject pronouns may be used or omitted.

Cabo, ¿a quién *le* lleva Ud. *el libro*? *Corporal, to whom do you take the book?*
 Cabo, ¿a quién *se lo* lleva Ud.? *Corporal, to whom do you take it?*

(Yo) *se lo* llevo *a Ud.*

I take it to you.

(Yo) *se lo* llevo *a él* (al soldado).

I take it to him (to the soldier).

(Yo) *se lo* llevo *a ella* (a Mariana).

I take it to her (to Mariana).

(Yo) *se lo* llevo *a Uds.*

I take it to you (plural).

(Yo) *se lo* llevo *a ellos* (a los señores).

I take it to them (to the gentlemen).

(Yo) *se lo* llevo *a ellas* (a las señoras).

I take it to them (to the ladies).



¡Atención!

Position of double object pronouns in relation to the verbs

- The double object pronouns follow the same position rules in relation to the verbs as the reflexive pronouns, the direct object pronouns, and the indirect object pronouns.

The double object pronouns are placed before the conjugated verb:

Yo le pido el menú al camarero. *I ask the waiter for the menu.*
Yo se lo pido. *I ask him for it.*

- In constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, double object pronouns can be placed before the conjugated verb or attached to the infinitive:

¿Me va a dar la cuenta? *Are you going to give me the bill?*
¿Me la va a dar?
or
¿Va a dármela?* *Are you going to give it to me?*

- In progressive constructions, double object pronouns may be placed before the conjugated verb *estar* or attached to the *-ing* form of the main verb:

Ella te está preparando la cena. *She is preparing dinner for you.*
Ella te la está preparando.
or
Ella está preparándotela.* *She is preparing it for you.*

* In these cases, an accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.

- To make negative sentences, place **no** in front of the double object pronouns:

Yo no le doy el dinero a Juan. *I do not give Juan the money.*
Yo no se lo doy. *I do not give it to him.*

- In negative constructions consisting of a conjugated verb and an infinitive, **no** can be placed in front of the double object pronouns or it can be placed in front of the conjugated verb, if the double object pronouns are attached to the infinitive verb:

El no nos va a preparar la cena. *He is not going to prepare dinner for us.*

El no nos la va a preparar.

or

He is not going to prepare it for us.

El no va a preparárnosla.*

* In these cases, an accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.



¡Atención!

Adjectives *otro, otra, otros, and otras*

- When **otro, otra, otros, and otras** are used as adjectives, they agree in gender and number with the noun they qualify.
- The singular forms **otro** and **otra** correspond to the English *another*.

¿Me puede dar **otro jugo**?

Can you give me another juice?

Queremos **otra mesa**.

We want another table.

- The plural forms **otros** and **otras** correspond to the English *other*.

Quisiera **otros postres**.

I would like other desserts.

Ellos pagan **otras cuentas**.

They pay other bills.

- When used with the definite article, **el otro, la otra, los otros, and las otras** correspond to the English *the other*.

¿Me puede dar **el otro jugo**?

Can you give me the other juice?

Queremos **la otra mesa**.

We want the other table.

Quisiera **los otros postres**.

I would like the other desserts.

Ellos pagan **las otras cuentas**.

They pay the other bills.

Pronouns *otro, otra, otros, and otras*

- When **otro, otra, otros** and **otras** are used as pronouns, they agree in gender and number with the noun they replace. The noun they replace is understood through context.
- The singular forms **otro** and **otra** correspond to the English *another one*.

¿Me puede dar otro jugo ? (adjetivo)	<i>Can you give me another juice? (adjective)</i>
¿Me puede dar otro ? (pronombre)	<i>Can you give me another one? (pronoun)</i>
Queremos otra mesa . (adjetivo)	<i>We want another table. (adjective)</i>
Queremos otra . (pronombre)	<i>We want another one. (pronoun)</i>

- The plural forms **otros** and **otras** correspond to the English *some others*

Quisiera otros postres . (adjetivo)	<i>I would like other desserts. (adjective)</i>
Quisiera otros . (pronombre)	<i>I would like some others. (pronoun)</i>
Ellos pagan otras cuentas . (adjetivo)	<i>They pay other bills. (adjective)</i>
Ellos pagan otras . (pronombre)	<i>They pay some others. (pronoun)</i>

- When used with the definite article, **el otro, la otra, los otros, and las otras** correspond to the English *the other one(s)*.

¿Me puede dar el otro jugo ? (adjetivo)	<i>Can you give me the other juice? (adjective)</i>
¿Me puede dar el otro ? (pronombre)	<i>Can you give me the other one? (pronoun)</i>
Queremos la otra mesa . (adjetivo)	<i>We want the other table. (adjective)</i>
Queremos la otra . (pronombre)	<i>We want the other one. (pronoun)</i>
Quisiera los otros postres . (adjetivo)	<i>I would like the other desserts. (adjective)</i>
Quisiera los otros . (pronombre)	<i>I would like the other ones. (pronoun)</i>
Ellos pagan las otras cuentas . (adjetivo)	<i>They pay the other bills. (adjective)</i>
Ellos pagan las otras . (pronombre)	<i>They pay the other ones. (pronoun)</i>



¡Atención!

Adjectives *mucho, mucha, muchos, and muchas*

- When **mucho, mucha, muchos, and muchas** are used as adjectives, they agree in gender and number with the noun they qualify.
- The singular forms **mucho** and **mucha** correspond to the English *a lot of*. In expressions with the verb **tener**, they correspond to the English *very*. They are used with *mass nouns*, nouns that cannot be counted individually.

Ella bebe **mucho** café.

She drinks a lot of coffee.

El toma **mucha** leche.

He drinks a lot of milk.

Tenemos **mucho** frío.

We are very cold.

Tengo **mucha** sed.

I am very thirsty.

- The plural forms **muchos** and **muchas** correspond to the English *a lot of* or *many*, and are used with *count nouns*, nouns that can be counted individually.

El come **muchos** vegetales.

He eats a lot of/many vegetables.

Ella toma **muchas** vitaminas.

She takes a lot of/many vitamins.

Pronouns *muchos and muchas*

- When **muchos** and **muchas** are used as pronouns, they agree in gender and number with the noun they replace. The noun they replace is understood through context.
- The pronouns **muchos** and **muchas** correspond to the English *many*.

Muchos alumnos comen aquí. (adjetivo)

Many students eat here. (adjective)

Muchos comen aquí. (pronombre)

Many eat here. (pronoun)

Muchas alumnas cenan solas. (adjetivo)

Many students eat dinner alone. (adjective)

Muchas cenan solas. (pronombre)

Many eat dinner alone. (pronoun)

Adverb *mucho*

- The adverb **mucho** corresponds to the English *a lot, much*.

Ellas comen **mucho**.

They eat a lot.



¡Atención!

Adjectives *poco, poca, pocos, and pocas*

- When **poco, poca, pocos, and pocas** are used as adjectives, they agree in gender and number with the noun they qualify.
- The singular forms **poco** and **poca** correspond to the English *little* and are used with *mass nouns*.

Ella bebe **poco** café.

She drinks little coffee.

El toma **poca** leche.

He drinks little milk.

- The plural forms **pocos** and **pocas** correspond to the English *few* or *not many*, and are used with *count nouns*.

El come **pocos** vegetales.

He eats few vegetables.

Ella toma **pocas** vitaminas.

She takes few vitamins.

Pronouns *pocos* and *pocas*

- When **pocos** and **pocas** are used as pronouns, they agree in gender and number with the noun they replace. The noun they replace is understood through context.
- The pronouns **pocos** and **pocas** correspond to the English *few*.

Pocos alumnos comen aquí. (adjetivo)

Few students eat here. (adjective)

Pocos comen aquí. (pronombre)

Few eat here. (pronoun)

Pocas alumnas cenan solas. (adjetivo)

Few students eat dinner alone. (adjective)

Pocas cenan solas. (pronombre)

Few eat dinner alone. (pronoun)

Adverb *poco*

- The adverb **poco** corresponds to the English *little, not much*.

Ellas comen **poco**.

They eat little.



¡Atención!

Affirmative and negative expressions

- In Spanish, as in English, affirmative and negative words exist as *antonyms* (pairs of opposites). You have already learned these:

siempre	<i>always</i>	nunca	<i>never</i>
también	<i>also, too</i>	tampoco	<i>neither, not . . . either</i>

In this lesson you will learn the following affirmative and negative expressions:

algo	<i>something, anything</i>	nada	<i>nothing, not anything</i>
o . . . o	<i>either . . . or</i>	ni . . . ni	<i>neither . . . nor</i>

- Algo** usually follows the verb.

El soldado **cocina algo** en su cuarto. *The soldier cooks something in his room.*

- Nada** usually follows **no** and the verb.

La mayor **no come nada** en la cena. *The major does not eat anything for dinner.*

- When answering a question, **nada** follows **No, no** and the verb.

¿Quiere Ud. tomar algo? *Do you want to drink something/anything?*

No, no quiero tomar nada. *No, I don't want to drink anything.*

- O . . . o** usually follows the verb.

Quiero o agua o jugo. *I want either water or juice.*

- Ni . . . ni** usually follows **no** and the verb.

No tomo ni vino ni cerveza. *I drink neither wine nor beer.*

- When answering a question, **ni . . . ni** follows **No, no** and the verb.

¿Quiere Ud. pollo o pescado? *Do you want chicken or fish?*

No, no quiero ni pollo ni pescado. *No, I don't want either chicken or fish.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: here are other affirmative and negative expressions that will be introduced in future lessons:

alguien *anybody, anyone,
someone, somebody*

algún
alguno/a (s) *any, some*

nadie *nobody, no one
not anyone, not anybody*

ningún
ninguno/a (s) *no, none, not any*

LECCION 13



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>salir</i> (to leave, to go out)			
singular		plural	
yo	salgo	nosotros/as	salimos
tú	sales	vosotros/as	salís
Ud. }	sale	Uds. }	salen
él }		ellos }	
ella }		ellas }	

NOTE: As mentioned in Lesson 7, **salir** is irregular in the future indicative, its stem changes to **saldr-**.

The Present Tense of <i>oír</i> (to hear)			
singular		plural	
yo	oigo	nosotros/as	oímos
tú	oyes	vosotros/as	oís
Ud. }	oye	Uds. }	oyen
él }		ellos }	
ella }		ellas }	



¡Atención!

The verb *quedar*

The verb **quedar** is an all-purpose verb in Spanish. It has many different meanings.

To indicate location of places, the verb **quedar** is used interchangeably with **estar**. In this sense, **quedar** is conjugated in the third person singular and plural.

¿Dónde **queda** (está) Veracruz?
Veracruz **queda** (está) en México.

*Where is Veracruz?
Veracruz is in Mexico.*

¿Dónde **están** los muelles?

Where are the piers?

Los muelles **quedan a** dos cuadras de aquí.*

The piers are two blocks from here.

* In Spanish, the preposition **a** must follow any verb being used when expressing distances between two points. There is no English translation or equivalent for the Spanish **a**.

Yo **vivo a** diez minutos de la escuela.
Reno **está a** varias horas de aquí.

*I live ten minutes away from school.
Reno is several hours from here.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: here are other meanings of **quedar**.

To remain, to be left
¿Cuánto dinero te queda?
Me quedan diez soles.

*How much money do you have left?
I have ten soles left.*

To fit (as with clothes)
La camisa le queda bien.

The shirt fits him well.

To come out, to turn out
La fiesta va a quedar bien.

The party is going to turn out well.

The reflexive verb **quedarse** means to stay or to remain.
Ellos se quedarán ocho horas en la ciudad.

They will stay in the city for eight hours.



¡Atención!

Commands

Commands are the verb forms used to give instructions or to tell others to do something. In Spanish, there are formal and informal commands. Formal commands are used with people you address as **usted** or **ustedes**. Informal commands, which are used when you address someone as **tú**, will be introduced in the next lesson.

Formal commands

- To form the formal commands of **-ar** verbs, drop the ending **-o** of the **yo** form of the present tense and add **-e** for **usted** and **-en** for **ustedes**.
- To form the formal commands of **-er** and **-ir** verbs, drop the ending **-o** of the **yo** form of the present tense and add **-a** for **usted** and **-an** for **ustedes**.

		Formal commands		
		usted (singular)	ustedes (plural)	
caminar	yo camino	camine	caminen	walk
leer	yo leo	lea	lean	read
escribir	yo escribo	escriba	escriban	write

¡**Camine** (usted) rápido!

(You, sing.) walk fast!

Por favor, **lean** (ustedes) los folletos.

(You, plural) Please, read the brochures.

Escriba (usted) la información, por favor.

(You, sing.) Write down the information, please.

The words **usted** or **ustedes** may be used for emphasis or clarification, or may be omitted. When used, they normally follow the command form. It is always a good idea to say **por favor** when giving a command. In written materials, to emphasize or strengthen the order, commands may be placed between exclamation points.

- Negative commands are formed by placing **no** in front of the command form.

No camine mucho.

Don't walk too much.

Por favor, **no hablen** inglés en clase.

Please, don't speak English in class.

- Verbs that have stem changes in the present tense maintain the same stem changes in the command form.

		Formal commands		
		usted (singular)	ustedes (plural)	
pensar	yo pienso	piense	piensen	<i>think</i>
volver	yo vuelvo	vuelva	vuelvan	<i>come back</i>
pedir	yo pido	pida	pidan	<i>ask/order</i>
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: verbs ending in -cer and -cir, which have a z in the yo form of the present tense, also maintain the z in the command.				
conocer	yo conozco	conozca	conozcan	<i>know/meet</i>
traducir	yo traduzco	traduzca	traduzcan	<i>translate</i>

- Verbs that are irregular in the yo form of the present tense maintain the same change in the command form.

		Formal commands		
		usted (singular)	ustedes (plural)	
decir	yo digo	diga	digan	<i>say</i>
hacer	yo hago	haga	hagan	<i>do/make</i>
oir	yo oigo	oiga	oigan	<i>hear</i>
poner	yo pongo	ponga	pongan	<i>put</i>
salir	yo salgo	salga	salgan	<i>leave/go out</i>
tener	yo tengo	tenga	tengan	<i>have</i>
traer	yo traigo	traiga	traigan	<i>bring</i>
venir	yo vengo	venga	vengan	<i>come</i>

- Verbs ending in **-car, -gar, -ger, -guir, and -zar**, have spelling changes in the command form.

	Formal commands		
	usted (singular)	ustedes (plural)	
sacar	saque	saquen	<i>take out</i>
pagar	pague	paguen	<i>pay</i>
recoger *	recoja	recojan	<i>pick up</i>
seguir	siga	sigan	<i>follow/continue</i>
cruzar	cruce	crucen	<i>cross</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: verbs ending in **-gir** and **-guar** also have spelling changes.

dirigir	dirija	dirijan	<i>direct/lead</i>
averiguar	averigüe	averigüen	<i>investigate</i>

* In the present tense, the verb **recoger** has a spelling change in the first person singular conjugation. **Yo recojo.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: the following verbs have the same spelling change as **recoger** in the first person singular.

coger	<i>to take/catch/grab/seize/grasp (vulgar in some Latin American countries)</i>
escoger	<i>to choose/select</i>

- The verbs **dar** and **ir** have irregular command forms.

	Formal commands		
	usted (singular)	ustedes (plural)	
dar	dé	den	<i>give</i>
ir	vaya	vayan	<i>go</i>

NOTE: The **usted** command of **dar**, **dé**, takes a written accent mark to differentiate it from the preposition **de** (*from, of*).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: the verbs **ser, estar, and saber** (*to know*) also have irregular formal command forms.

ser	sea	sean	<i>be</i>
estar	esté	estén	<i>be</i>
saber	sepa	sepan	<i>know</i>

NOTE: In Spanish, written commands are commonly found in anything that requires giving orders or instructions, such as traffic signs, cooking recipes, clothing item care labels, etc. Aside from the command forms you have learned, the infinitive form of the verbs or the *se + verb* constructions (to be introduced later) are also used to give commands.

NOTE: In Spanish, as in English, people use *fill words* known as *fillers*, **muletillas**, when thinking or hesitating while speaking. Some common fillers in Spanish are **aaah . . .**, **eeeh . . .**, **bueno . . .**, **este . . .**, **entonces . . .**, **pues . . .**, **o sea . . .** Fillers are good tools for speakers, but should be used only when needed.



¡Atención!

The position of reflexive pronouns, direct and indirect object pronouns in command forms

- When attaching a pronoun to an affirmative command, a written accent mark must be placed on the syllable where the stress normally falls on the command.

Aféitese.	<i>Shave (yourself).</i>
Cómprelo.	<i>Buy it.</i>
Cómpreselo.	<i>Buy it for him.</i>
Hábleles.	<i>Talk to them.</i>

- When used with negative commands, reflexive pronouns, direct and indirect object pronouns are placed between **no** and the command form. The accent mark is dropped.

No se afeite.	<i>Don't shave (yourself).</i>
No lo compre.	<i>Don't buy it.</i>
No se lo compre.	<i>Don't buy it for him.</i>
No les hable.	<i>Don't talk to them.</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: it is important to point out that when you learn the subjunctive later on in the course, it will be very easy to work with it if you know the command forms of the verbs.

Example:

Command:	Vaya Ud. al mostrador.	<i>(You,) go to the counter.</i>
Subjunctive:	Yo quiero que Ud. vaya al mostrador.	<i>I want you to go to the counter.</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Spanish also has a command form for **nosotros**, formed by using the ending **-emos** for **-ar** verbs and **-amos** for **-er** and **-ir** verbs. These forms will be used in the subjunctive later on in the course.

Example:

Command:	Hablemos de eso mañana.	<i>Let's talk about that tomorrow.</i>
Subjunctive:	El profesor quiere que hablemos de eso mañana.	<i>The teacher wants us to talk about that tomorrow.</i>



¡Atención!

More about the Prepositions POR and PARA

In Lessons 6 and 9 you learned about the prepositions **por** and **para**.
In this lesson you will learn other meanings and uses of these prepositions.

Use POR when you mean	Use PARA when you mean
• <i>through, along, by, via</i>	• <i>destination (a may also be used)</i>
El avión va por Los Angeles. <i>The plane goes via Los Angeles.</i>	El avión para Chile sale a las diez. <i>The plane for Chile leaves at ten.</i>

El tren que pasa **por** Linares sale **para** Santiago a las ocho.
The train that goes by Linares leaves for Santiago at eight.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: here are other uses of **por** and **para**.
 These uses will be introduced later in the course. Notice that **por** has a wider range of uses than **para**.

Use POR when you mean	Use PARA when you mean
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a length of time</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>a certain deadline in the future</i>
<p>Ustedes están aquí por seis meses. <i>You are here for six months.</i></p>	<p>Necesito el dinero para hoy a las tres. <i>I need the money by three today.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>on behalf of, in place of</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>for a specific person, thing, organization</i>
<p>María trabaja hoy por su padre, él está enfermo. <i>María works today in place of her father. He is ill.</i></p>	<p>María trabaja para su padre, él es su jefe. <i>María works for her father. He is her boss.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>because of, for the sake of</i> 	
<p>El está triste por las malas noticias. <i>He is sad because of the bad news.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>units of measures</i> 	
<p>El banco me da sólo dos por ciento de interés. <i>The bank gives me only two percent interest.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>cause or agent of an action</i> 	
<p>El cheque fue cambiado por él. <i>The check was cashed by him.</i></p>	

LECCION 14



¡Atención!

The Present Tense of <i>ver</i> (to see)			
singular		plural	
yo	veo	nosotros/as	vemos
tú	ves	vosotros/as	veis
Ud.	} ve	Uds.	} ven
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

NOTE: As in English, the verb *ver* is used in some Spanish idiomatic expressions:

¡A ver!

Let's see!

¡Vamos a ver!

Let's see!

¡Nos vemos!

See you!

¡Ya veremos!

We'll see!

¡Ya ves!

You see!



¡Atención!

Commands

In Lesson 13 we learned the formal commands, also known as polite commands. In this lesson we will learn the singular informal commands, also known as familiar commands, used when you address a person as **tú**. In the plural, to informally address a group of people, the **ustedes** form of the command is used.

NOTA CULTURAL: As we learned in Lesson 1, use **tú** when addressing someone you know well, a close friend, somebody your age, or a child. Traditionally, a parent addresses his/her child as **tú** and the child addresses his/her father or mother as **usted**. Nowadays one can frequently find that the child addresses his/her father or mother as **tú**.

Informal commands

There are different rules to be followed in order to form the affirmative and the negative singular informal commands.

- The **affirmative** informal command of **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ir** verbs has the same form as the third person singular (**Ud.**, **él**, **ella**) of the present.

	Third person singular (Ud., él, ella)	Affirmative informal commands	
		tú	
caminar	camina	camina	<i>Walk!</i>
leer	lee	lee	<i>Read!</i>
escribir	escribe	escribe	<i>Write!</i>

¡**Camina** tú hasta esa esquina, por favor!

(You, informal) Walk to the corner, please!

Por favor Juan, **lee** los folletos.

Please Juan, read the brochures.

Escribe la información.

(You, informal) Write down the information.

The word **tú** may be used for emphasis or clarification, or may be omitted. When used, it normally follows the command form. It is always a good idea to say **por favor** when giving a command. In written materials, to emphasize or strengthen the order, commands may be placed between exclamation points.

- Verbs that have stem changes in the present tense maintain the same stem changes in the command form.

Third person singular (Ud., él, ella)		Affirmative informal commands	
		tú	
pensar	piensa	piensa	<i>Think!</i>
volver	vuelve	vuelve	<i>Come back!</i>
pedir	pide	pide	<i>Ask/order!</i>

- The following verbs have irregular forms for the affirmative informal commands. They are obtained from the **usted** command form, dropping the **-ga** ending.

Formal commands		Affirmative informal commands	
		tú	
decir	diga	di	<i>Say!</i>
poner	ponga	pon	<i>Put!</i>
salir	salga	sal	<i>Leave/go out!</i>
tener	tenga	ten	<i>Have/be!</i>
venir	venga	ven	<i>Come!</i>

- The verbs **hacer**, **ir**, and **oír** also have irregular forms for the affirmative informal command.

	Affirmative informal commands	
hacer	tú	
ir	haz	<i>Do/make!</i>
oír	ve	<i>Go!</i>
	oye	<i>Hear!</i>
<p>NOTE: The affirmative informal command of the verbs ir and ver is the same: ve. Context will clarify which verb is being used in a given situation.</p> <p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: the verb ser is also irregular in the affirmative informal command form.</p>		
ser	sé	<i>Be!</i>

- The **negative** informal command of **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ir** verbs is formed by adding **-s** to the **usted** command form and placing **no** before it.

Formal commands		Negative informal commands	
		tú	
caminar	camine	no camines	<i>Don't walk!</i>
leer	lea	no leas	<i>Don't read!</i>
escribir	escriba	no escribas	<i>Don't write!</i>

No camines mucho.

Do not walk too much.

Por favor, **no hables** inglés en clase.

Please, don't speak English in class.

NOTE: The negative informal command of the verb **dar** is formed by dropping the accent mark from the **usted** command form, adding **-s**, and placing **no** before the command form:

dar

dé

no des

Don't give!

- Since the negative informal command of **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ir** verbs is formed by adding **-s** to the **usted** command form and placing **no** before the command form, the negative informal command of the following verbs is as follows:

Formal commands		Negative informal commands	
		tú	
decir	diga	no digas	<i>Don't say!</i>
hacer	haga	no hagas	<i>Don't do/make!</i>
ir	vaya	no vayas	<i>Don't go!</i>
oír	oiga	no oigas	<i>Don't hear!</i>
poner	ponga	no pongas	<i>Don't put!</i>
salir	salga	no salgas	<i>Don't leave/go out!</i>
tener	tenga	no tengas	<i>Don't have/be!</i>
traer	traiga	no traigas	<i>Don't bring!</i>
venir	venga	no vengas	<i>Don't come!</i>

- Since the negative informal command form of **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ir** verbs is formed by adding **-s** to the **usted** command form and placing **no** before the command form, the negative informal command of verbs ending in **-car**, **-gar**, **-ger**, **-guir**, and **-zar**, which have spelling changes in the formal command, maintain those changes in the negative informal command forms.

Formal commands		Negative informal commands	
		tú	
sacar	saque	no saques	<i>Don't take out!</i>
pagar	pague	no pagues	<i>Don't pay!</i>
recoger	recoja	no recojas	<i>Don't pick up!</i>
seguir	siga	no sigas	<i>Don't follow/ continue!</i>
cruzar	cruce	no cruces	<i>Don't cross!</i>
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: verbs ending in -gir and -guar also have spelling changes.			
dirigir	dirija	no dirijas	<i>Don't direct/ lead!</i>
averiguar	averigüe	no averigües	<i>Don't investigate!</i>



¡Atención!

The position of reflexive pronouns, direct and indirect object pronouns in command forms

- When used with affirmative commands, reflexive pronouns and direct and indirect object pronouns follow the command form and are attached to it. When these pronouns are added, if the command form has more than two syllables, a written accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.

Hable.	<i>(stressed, without an accent mark)</i>	Talk.
Hábleme.	<i>(accent mark added)</i>	Talk to me.
Compre.	<i>(stressed, without an accent mark)</i>	Buy.
Cómprenoslo.	<i>(accent mark added)</i>	Buy it for us.

- When used with negative commands, reflexive pronouns and direct and indirect object pronouns are placed between **no** and the command form.

No me hable.	<i>Don't talk to me.</i>
No nos lo compre.	<i>Don't buy it for us.</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: it is important to point out that when you learn the subjunctive in future lessons, it will be very easy to work with if you remember the command forms of the verbs. The familiar form of the subjunctive is formed from the **usted** command plus **-s**.

Command:	Escriba Ud. una carta.	<i>You, write a letter.</i>
Subjunctive:	Yo quiero que tú escribas una carta.	<i>I want you to write a letter.</i>



¡Atención!

Impersonal and passive constructions with *se* + verb

- In Spanish, the pronoun *se* + *the third-person singular form of a verb* is used as an impersonal construction. This construction is used to convey an indefinite, unspecified subject, as is the case with the indefinite English subjects *one*, *they*, or *people*, or to express *It is said that . . .*

Se habla español aquí.

One/they/people speak(s) Spanish here.

Se dice que el español es muy útil.

It is said that Spanish is very useful.

- In Spanish, the pronoun *se* + *the third-person singular or plural form of a verb* is used as a passive construction. This construction is used when the person or doer of an action is not expressed. Since there is a specified grammatical subject (whatever is done, sold, rented, etc.), the verb is singular or plural, depending on the subject. You will learn more about passive constructions in future lessons.

Se venden autos usados.

Used cars sold.

Se vende moto en buenas condiciones.

Motorcycle in good condition for sale.

NOTE: Constructions with *se* + verb are widely used in Spanish in ads, instructions, or directions. Cooking recipes are generally given in commands, in constructions with *se* + verb, or in the infinitive form of the verbs.



¡Atención!

Ordinal numbers

primero/a	<i>first</i>	sexto/a	<i>sixth</i>
segundo/a	<i>second</i>	séptimo/a	<i>seventh</i>
tercero/a	<i>third</i>	octavo/a	<i>eighth</i>
cuarto/a	<i>fourth</i>	noveno/a	<i>ninth</i>
quinto/a	<i>fifth</i>	décimo/a	<i>tenth</i>

- Ordinal numbers can be used with or without nouns but they always agree in gender and number with the nouns they modify.

el quinto vuelo *the fifth flight* **los primeros (vuelos)** *the first ones (flights)*
la quinta (hora) *the fifth one (hour)* **las primeras horas** *the first hours*

- The definite article and the ordinal number usually precede the noun.

La oficina queda en **el segundo piso**. *The office is on the second floor.*

- The ordinal numbers **primero** and **tercero** are shortened to **primer** and **tercer** before a masculine singular noun. If the masculine singular noun is not present, **primero** and **tercero** are used.

Su oficina está en el **primer / tercer piso**. *His office is on the first / third floor.*
Su oficina está en el **primero / tercero**. *His office is on the first / third.*

- In some cases, the ordinal number follows the noun(s) and is not preceded by the definite article.

La **Reina Isabel Segunda** vive en Londres. *Queen Elizabeth the Second lives in London.*

- In Spanish, ordinal numbers are used for dates only for *the first day of the month*:

El viajará el **primero** de enero. *He will travel the first of January.*

- In Spanish, ordinal numbers beyond *tenth* are seldom used.

Vivo en el piso **once**. *I work on the eleventh floor.*

NOTA CULTURAL: En los países hispanos, la **planta baja** o el **piso bajo** (*ground floor*) de un edificio equivale al **primer piso** en los EE. UU. y el **primer piso** en los países hispanos equivale al **segundo piso** en los EE. UU.



¡Atención!

More about the Prepositions POR and PARA

In Lessons 6, 9, and 13 you learned about the prepositions **por** and **para**. In this lesson you will learn other meanings and uses of these prepositions.

Use POR when you mean	Use PARA when you mean
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>a length of time</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>a certain deadline in the future</i>
Ustedes están aquí por seis meses. <i>You are here for six months.</i>	Necesito el dinero para hoy a las tres. <i>I need the money by three today.</i>

Necesito reservar un auto **para** mañana a las seis **por** una semana.
I need to reserve a car by tomorrow at six for a week.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: here are other uses of **por** and **para**.
 These uses will be introduced later in the course. Notice that **por** has a wider range of uses than **para**.

Use POR when you mean	Use PARA when you mean
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>on behalf of, in place of</i> <p>María trabaja hoy por su padre, él está enfermo. <i>María works today in place of her father. He is ill.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>for a specific person, thing, organization</i> <p>María trabaja para su padre, él es su jefe. <i>María works for her father. He is her boss.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>because of, for the sake of</i> <p>El está triste por las malas noticias. <i>He is sad because of the bad news.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>units of measures</i> <p>El banco me da sólo el dos por ciento de interés. <i>The bank gives me only two percent interest.</i></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>cause or agent of an action</i> <p>El cheque fue cambiado por él. <i>The check was cashed by him.</i></p>	

LECCION 16



¡Atención!

Talking about the past

There are two simple past tenses in Spanish: the *preterite* and the *imperfect*. Each tense has its specific uses, and they are not interchangeable. Their differences are based on the ways these tenses look at past events. There are regular and irregular verbs in both tenses. In this lesson and in Lesson 17 we will deal with the preterite tense of regular and irregular verbs. We will deal with the imperfect tense of regular and irregular verbs in Lesson 18. We will learn more about when to use each tense in Lesson 19. The following is general information as to what each tense is used for:

- The *preterite* answers the question *What happened?* and is used to describe an action, condition, or event seen as completed in the past, regardless of its duration, repetition, or the length of time involved.

El soldado estudió español el año pasado. *The soldier studied Spanish last year.*

- The *imperfect* answers the question *What was happening?* and is also used to describe an action, condition, or event that *used to happen*, seen as *habitual* or *repeated* in the past. In English, it can be translated in several ways, depending on the context.

El soldado estudiaba español todos los días. *The soldier studied Spanish every day.*
The soldier used to study Spanish every day.
The soldier was studying Spanish every day.

NOTE: In English, when *would* is used to describe a *repeated action in the past*, it corresponds to the Spanish *imperfect tense*.

Cuando Mario vivía en el Perú, *When Mario was living/lived in Peru,*
iba a pescar todos los domingos. *he would go fishing every Sunday.*

The preterite tense

- The *preterite* answers the question *What happened?* and is used to describe an action, condition, or event seen as completed in the past, regardless of its duration or the length of time involved.

El soldado estudió español el año pasado. *The soldier studied Spanish last year.*

Regular verbs

- The preterite of regular **-ar** verbs is formed by dropping the **-ar** ending and adding **-é, -aste, -ó, -amos, -asteis, -aron.**
- The preterite endings of regular **-er** and **-ir** verbs are identical. The preterite of regular **-er** and **-ir** verbs is formed by dropping the **-er** and **-ir** endings and adding **-í, -iste, -ió, -imos, -isteis, -ieron.**

	-ar verbs	-er verbs	-ir verbs
	trabajar	nacer (to be born)*	vivir
yo	trabajé	nací	viví
tú	trabajaste	naciste	viviste
Ud. } él } ella }	trabajó	nació	vivió
nosotros/as	trabajamos **	nacimos	vivimos **
vosotros/as	trabajasteis	nacisteis	vivisteis
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	trabajaron	nacieron	vivieron

* The Spanish equivalent of *to be born* is **nacer**.
To say *I was born in . . .* you only need to say **(Yo) Nací en . . .**

** The **nosotros** forms of regular **-ar** and **-ir** verbs are identical in the preterite and in the present. Context clarifies the meaning.

Ayer trabajamos allí y hoy trabajamos aquí.
We worked there yesterday and today we work here.

Verbs with orthographic changes

- Verbs ending in **-car**, **-gar**, and **-zar** have spelling changes in the first person singular of the preterite.

-car c → qu		-gar g → gu		-zar z → c	
buscar	yo busqué	entregar	yo entregué	almorzar	yo almorcé
pescar	yo pesqué	jugar	yo jugué	comenzar	yo comencé
sacar	yo saqué	llegar	yo llegué	cruzar	yo crucé
secar	yo sequé	pagar	yo pagué	empezar	yo empecé
tocar	yo toqué				

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The following verb also follows the c → qu pattern:

indicar *to indicate* **indiqué**

- Verbs ending in **-guar** also have a spelling change in the first person singular of the preterite: u → ü.

averiguar *to investigate* **averigüé**

- Some **-er** and **-ir** verbs, which have stems ending in a vowel, are irregular in the third person singular and plural of the preterite. They change **i** to **y** in the third person singular and plural endings. The third person singular ending is **-yó** and the third person plural ending is **-yeron**.

	caer	creer	leer	oír
Ud. él ella	cayó	creyó	leyó	oyó
Uds. ellos ellas	cayeron	creyeron	leyeron	oyeron

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: verbs ending in **-uir** also follow the same pattern as above in the preterite. When conjugated in the present tense, these verbs take a **y** in all subjects except for **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as**.

construir	<i>to construct</i>	construyó	construyeron
destruir	<i>to destroy</i>	destruyó	destruyeron
huir	<i>to escape/flee</i>	huyó	huyeron
incluir	<i>to include</i>	incluyó	incluyeron

Verbs with stem-changes

- Stem-changing **-ar** and **-er** verbs that change **e** to **ie** and **o** to **ue** in the present tense (with all subject pronouns except **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as**) are regular in the preterite. They have no stem changes.

Hoy yo pienso en mi familia pero ayer pensé en mi trabajo.
Today I think of my family but yesterday I thought of my job.

Los hijos vuelven a casa hoy pero los padres volvieron ayer.
The children are returning home today but the parents returned yesterday.

- Stem-changing **-ir** verbs that change **o** to **ue** in the present tense (with all subject pronouns except **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as**) are regular in the preterite, where they keep their original stem, except for the third person singular and plural where they change **o** to **u**. Verbs that follow this pattern are **dormir** and **morir**.

dormir	
Ud. él ella } Uds. ellos ellas }	durmió durmieron

morir	
él ella } ellos ellas }	murió murieron

- Stem-changing **-ir** verbs that change **e** to **i** in the present tense (with all subject pronouns except **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as**) are regular in the preterite since they keep their original stem, except for the third person singular and plural where they change **e** to **i**. Verbs that follow this pattern are **freír**, **pedir**, **seguir**, **servir**, and **vestir**.

	freír	pedir	seguir	servir	vestir
Ud. él } ella }	frió	pidió	siguió	sirvió	vistió
Uds. ellos } ellas }	frieron	pidieron	siguieron	servieron	vistieron

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: These verbs follow the same pattern as above. The letter in **bold** indicates the **e** that changes to **i** in the third person singular and plural in the preterite.

conseguir	<i>to obtain</i>	perseguir	<i>to chase</i>
despedirse	<i>to say good-bye</i>	preferir	<i>to prefer</i>
desvestirse	<i>to undress</i>	reír	<i>to laugh</i>
divertirse	<i>to have a good time</i>	repetir	<i>to repeat</i>
impedir	<i>to impede/hinder</i>	sentir	<i>to feel</i>
medir	<i>to measure</i>	sonreír	<i>to smile</i>
mentir	<i>to lie</i>	sugerir	<i>to suggest</i>

Irregular verbs

Many common verbs are irregular in the preterite tense. **Ir** and **ser** have the same preterite forms. Context clarifies the meaning. The preterite of the impersonal form of **haber**, **hay**, is **hubo** (there was/there were). Other irregular verbs share some common irregularity in the preterite stem. In the following chart they are grouped together by irregularity.

	yo	tú	Ud. él ella	nosotros/ nosotras	Uds. ellos ellas
ir	fui	fuiste	fue	fuimos	fueron
ser	fui	fuiste	fue	fuimos	fueron
estar	estuve	estuviste	estuvo	estuvimos	estuvieron
tener	tuve	tuviste	tuvo	tuvimos	tuvieron
poder	pude	podiste	pudo	podimos	podieron
poner	puse	pusiste	puso	pusimos	pusieron
saber	supe	supiste	supo	supimos	supieron
decir	dije	dijiste	dijo	dijimos	dijeron
traer	traje	trajiste	trajo	trajimos	trajeron
traducir	traduje	tradujiste	tradujo	tradujimos	tradujeron
dar	di	diste	dio	dimos	dieron
ver	vi	viste	vio	vimos	vieron
hacer	hice	hiciste	hizo	hicimos	hicieron
venir	vine	viniste	vino	vinimos	vinieron
querer	quise	quisiste	quiso	quisimos	quisieron

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The verbs **andar** (*to go, ride, move, walk, go about*) and **caber** (*to fit*) are also irregular in the preterite. **Andar** follows the pattern of **tener** and **estar**. **Caber** follows the pattern of **poder**, **poner**, and **saber**. **Caber** is also irregular in the first person of the present tense: yo **quepo**.

andar	anduve	anduviste	anduvo	anduvimos	anduvieron
caber	cupe	cupiste	cupo	cupimos	cupieron

LECCION 17



¡Atención!

Idiomatic uses of *hace* with time expressions: how long . . . versus how long ago . . .

- To express *how long you have already been doing something (duration)*, use the following formula:

Question

¿Cuánto/a/s + length of time + **hace** + **que** + present tense of verb + other components?

Answer

Hace + length of time + **que** + present tense of verb + other components.

Example:

¿Cuánto tiempo **hace que estudia**
Ud. español?

How long have you been studying Spanish?

Hace dos meses que estudio español.

I have been studying Spanish for two months.

- To express *how long ago (when/at what point in time you did something)*, use the following formula:

Question

¿Cuánto/a/s + length of time + **hace** + **que** + preterite tense of verb + other components?

Answer

Hace + length of time + **que** + preterite tense of verb + other components.

or

Hace + length of time.

or

Preterite tense of verb + other components + **hace** + length of time.

Example:

¿Cuánto tiempo **hace que llegó** Ud. aquí? *How long ago was it that you arrived here?*

Hace dos semanas que llegué aquí. *I arrived here two weeks ago.*

Hace dos semanas. *Two weeks ago.*

Llegué aquí hace dos semanas. *I arrived here two weeks ago.*

NOTE: *Desde (since)* can also be used with time expressions. The present tense is used.

¿**Desde cuándo está** Ud. en la marina? *Since when have you been in the navy? (lit.)*
For how long have you been in the navy?

Estoy en la marina **desde** mayo. *I have been in the navy since May.*

or

Estoy en la marina **desde** hace un mes. *I have been in the navy for one month.*



¡Atención!

The Spanish verbs **conocer** and **saber** mean *to know*.
They are not interchangeable and their differences are made clear in context.

- **Conocer** means *to know* in the sense of being acquainted with a person, a place, or a thing:

¿Conoce Ud. al capitán Escobedo?
No, no lo **conozco**.*

Do you know Captain Escobedo?
No, I don't know him.

*When conjugated in the first person singular of the present tense, the verb **conocer** is irregular: **Yo conozco**.

When used in the preterite tense, **conocer** means *met* in the sense of first becoming acquainted with someone:

¿Conoce Ud. al capitán Escobedo?
Sí, lo **conocí** ayer.

Do you know Captain Escobedo?
Yes, I met him yesterday.

- **Saber** means *to know a fact, to know something thoroughly, to know how to do something*:

¿Sabe Ud. hablar italiano?
No, no **sé** hablar italiano.* *

Do you know how to speak Italian?
No, I don't know how to speak Italian.

* *When conjugated in the first person singular of the present tense, the verb **saber** is irregular: **Yo sé**.

Saber is irregular in the preterite tense. You may want to refer to the table in Lesson 16. When used in the preterite tense, **saber** means *found out, learned about something*:

¿Saben los resultados del examen?
Sí, los **supimos** hace una hora.

Do you know the test results?
Yes, we found out about them (got them) an hour ago.



¡Atención!

More about passive constructions: introduction to the passive voice

In Lesson 14 you learned about impersonal and passive constructions with *se + verb*. In this lesson you will learn some uses of the Spanish passive voice. It will be reviewed more in depth in future lessons. In a passive construction, the subject is the recipient of an action performed by somebody else. The passive voice is less commonly used in Spanish than in English. In Spanish, it is frequently encountered in news articles, such as those found in newspapers and magazines. It is also referred to as **Estilo periodístico**, *Journalistic Style*.

As in English, the Spanish passive voice is formed with

any tense of the verb **ser** (to be) + the past participle of the main verb.

More about the past participles will be introduced in future lessons. The past participle agrees in number and gender with the subject of the sentence. The passive voice is most commonly encountered using the verb **ser** in the preterite tense.

• **Formation of the past participle**

Spanish past participles are formed by dropping the infinitive ending and adding **-ado** to **-ar** verbs and **-ido** to **-er** and **-ir** verbs:

asesinar	asesinado
detener	detenido
destruir	destruido

El presidente fue asesinado ayer.

The president was assassinated yesterday.

Los criminales fueron detenidos.

The criminals were detained.

Las casas fueron destruidas.

The houses were destroyed.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The following verbs have irregular past participles. **Romper** (to break) and these irregular participles will be introduced in future lessons:

abrir	abierto	poner	puesto
escribir	escrito	volver	vuelto
romper	roto	decir	dicho
ver	visto	hacer	hecho
morir	muerto		

LECCION 18



¡Atención!

The imperfect tense

- The *imperfect* answers the question *What was happening?* and is also used to describe an action, condition, or event that *used to happen*, seen as *habitual* or *repeated* in the past. In English, it can be translated in several ways, depending on the context.

El soldado estudiaba español todos los días.

The soldier studied Spanish every day.

The soldier used to study Spanish every day.

The soldier was studying Spanish every day.

NOTE: In English, when *would* is used to describe a *repeated action in the past*, it corresponds to the Spanish *imperfect tense*.

Cuando Mario vivía en el Perú, iba a pescar todos los domingos.

When Mario was living/lived in Peru, he would go fishing every Sunday.

The imperfect is also used to state the time of day in the past.

Eran las cuatro cuando ella llegó.

It was four o'clock when she arrived.

Regular verbs

Most verbs are regular in the imperfect. There are only three irregular verbs: **ir, ser, and ver.**

- The imperfect of regular **-ar** verbs is formed by dropping the **-ar** ending and adding **-aba, -abas, -aba, -ábamos, -ábais, -aban.**
- The imperfect endings of regular **-er** and **-ir** verbs are identical. The imperfect of regular **-er** and **-ir** verbs is formed by dropping the **-er** and **-ir** endings and adding **-ía, -ías, -ía, -íamos, -íais, -ían.**

	-ar verbs	-er verbs	-ir verbs
	hablar	comer	escribir
yo	hablaba	comía	escribía
tú	hablabas	comías	escribías
Ud. } él } ella }	hablaba	comía	escribía
nosotros/as	hablábamos	comíamos	escribíamos
vosotros/as	hablábais	comíais	escribíais
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	hablaban	comían	escribían

Irregular verbs

As you have already learned, most verbs are regular in the imperfect tense. The only three irregular verbs are **ir**, **ser**, and **ver**.

	ir	ser	ver
yo	iba	era	veía
tú	ibas	eras	veías
Ud. } él } ella }	iba	era	veía
nosotros/as	íbamos	éramos	veíamos
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	iban	eran	veían



¡Atención!

Adjectives *tanto, tanta, tantos, and tantas*

The adjectives **tanto, tanta, tantos, and tantas** agree in number and gender with the nouns they qualify.

- The singular forms **tanto** and **tanta** correspond to the English *so much*. They are used with *mass nouns*, nouns that cannot be counted individually.

No bebas **tanto** café por la noche.
El comió **tanta** carne en la cena
que se enfermó.

*Don't drink so much coffee at night.
He ate so much meat for dinner
that he got sick.*

- The plural forms **tantos** and **tantas** correspond to the English *so many*. They are used with *count nouns*, nouns that can be counted individually.

¿Porqué fuman ellos **tantos** cigarrillos?
Ella tomaba **tantas** vitaminas,
que no se enfermaba nunca.

*Why do they smoke so many cigarettes?
She used to take so many vitamins
that she never got sick.*

Adverb *tanto*

- The adverb **tanto** is equivalent to the English *so much*.

¡No comas **tanto**!

Don't eat so much!

- **Tanto** is shortened to **tan** before an adjective. It is equivalent to the English *so*.

¡El es **tan** simpático!

He is so nice!



¡Atención!

In Lesson 4 you learned some comparisons of inequality: **más/menos que**, **más/menos de**. In this lesson you will learn the comparisons of equality, more about comparisons of inequality, and the superlatives.

Comparisons: Equality

Adjectives:	tanto/a + mass nouns + como	<i>as much . . . as</i>
	tantos/as + count nouns + como	<i>as many . . . as</i>
Adverbs:	activities + tanto como	<i>. . . as much as</i>
	tan + adjectives/adverbs + como	<i>as . . . as</i>

- Use **tanto/a . . . como** to express equal comparisons with mass nouns.

Hace años, Juan bebía **tanto café y tanta cerveza** como Rosa.
Years ago, Juan used to drink as much coffee and as much beer as Rosa.

- Use **tantos/as . . . como** to express equal comparisons with count nouns.

Juan fumó **tantos cigarrillos** y tomó **tantas cervezas** como Rosa.
Juan smoked as many cigarettes and drank as many (bottles of) beers as Rosa.

- Use **tanto como** to express equal comparisons of activities.

Anoche en la fiesta, Juan **fumó, cantó y bailó tanto como** Rosa.
At the party last night, Juan smoked, sang, and danced as much as Rosa.

- Use **tan . . . como** to express equal comparisons with adjectives and adverbs.

Juan es **tan simpático como** Rosa y trabaja **tan bien como** ella.
Juan is as nice as Rosa and he works as well as she.



¡Atención!

More about comparisons: Inequality

- The adjectives **bueno** and **malo** have irregular forms for comparisons of inequality: **mejor** and **peor**. **Bueno** and **malo** agree in number and gender with the noun they qualify. **Mejor** and **peor** agree in number with the noun they qualify and are followed by **que**.

bueno/a/s *good* → **mejor/es que** *better than*

Este libro es **bueno**, pero el que leí ayer es **mejor que** éste.
This book is good, but the one that I read yesterday is better (than this one).

malo/a/s *bad* → **peor/es que** *worse than*

Las películas que daban antes eran **malas**, pero las que dan hoy día son **peores**.
The movies that they used to show before were bad, but the ones that they show today are worse.

- The adverbs **bien**, **mal**, **mucho**, and **poco** have irregular forms for comparisons of inequality: **mejor**, **peor**, **más**, and **menos**. They are followed by **que**.

bien *well* → **mejor que** *better than*

José canta **bien**, pero Rosa canta **mejor que** él.
Jose sings well, but Rosa sings better (than he).

mal *badly* → **peor que** *worse than*

Anoche en la fiesta, José cantó **mal**, pero Rosa cantó **peor que** él.
At the party last night, Jose sang badly, but Rosa sang worse (than he).

mucho *a lot* → **más que** *more than*

José canta **mucho**, pero Rosa canta **más que** él.
Jose sings a lot, but Rosa sings more (than he).

poco *little* → **menos que** *less than*

Antes, José cantaba **poco**, pero Rosa cantaba **menos que** él.
Before, Jose used to sing little, but Rosa used to sing less (than he).



¡Atención!

Comparisons: Superlatives

- To express the superlative degree:

other components + appropriate definite article + noun + **más/menos**
+ adjective* + **de**** + other components.

El cabo es el alumno más alto de la clase.

The corporal is the tallest student in the class.

- * The adjectives agree in number and gender with the nouns they qualify.

If the context is clear, the sentence can be shortened as follows:

(El) **Es el (alumno) más alto de la clase.**

He is the tallest (student) in the class.

- ** **De** can be omitted when the sentence is shortened as follows:

El es el más alto.

He is the tallest.

- The adjectives **bueno** and **malo** have irregular superlative forms: **mejor** and **peor**. **Bueno** and **malo** agree in number and gender with the noun they qualify. The appropriate definite article must precede **mejor** and **peor**, which agree in number with the noun they qualify.

bueno/a/s *good* → **el/la/los/las mejor/es** *the best*

Estos libros son **buenos**, pero el que* me diste tú es **el mejor** (libro) de todos.

These books are good, but the one that you gave me is the best (book) of all.

malo/a/s *bad* → **el/la/los/las peor/es** *the worst*

Esta película es **mala**, pero **las que*** vi la semana pasada eran **peores**.

This movie is bad, but the ones that I saw last week were worse.

* In Spanish, to express *the one/s that/which* . . . the noun between the article and **que** is dropped. Context clarifies the meaning.

- Superlatives and the neuter pronoun **lo**

In using superlatives, when expressing an idea or concept, the neuter pronoun **lo** is used, as in the following examples:

Lo más difícil fue hablar con él. *The most difficult (thing) was talking to him.*

Lo mejor es que Ud. le habló. *The best (thing) is that you spoke to him.*

Lo peor es que no me escuchó. *The worst (thing) is that he didn't listen to me.*

NOTE: Lo que means *that which/what*.

Lo que dijo es verdad. *What he said is true.*

- Absolute superlatives

The endings indicated below are used to express the *absolute superlative degree*, the idea of *very* or *extremely*.

With adjectives, add the absolute superlative endings **-ísimo**, **-ísima**, **-ísimos**, or **-ísimas** to the adjective. The adjectives agree in number and gender with the nouns they qualify. If the adjective ends in a consonant, add the absolute superlative endings directly to the singular form of the adjective. If the adjective ends in a vowel, drop the vowel and add the absolute superlative endings to the singular form of the adjective.

fácil	La lección fue facil ísima .*	<i>The lesson was very/extremely easy.</i>
bueno	Ese libro es buen ísimo .*	<i>That book is very/extremely good.</i>
mucho	Much ísimas gracias.*	<i>Thank you very, very much.</i>
poco	Hay poqu ísimos alumnos aquí.**	<i>There are very few students here.</i>
largo	Esa lección es largu ísima **	<i>That lesson is extremely long.</i>

With adverbs, use the ending **-ísimo** attached to the adverb. If the adverb ends in a vowel, drop the vowel and add **-ísimo**.

Ellos trabajan much ísimo .*	<i>They work extremely hard.</i>
Ellos trabajan poqu ísimo **	<i>They work very, very little.</i>

* The accent mark is added to the stressed vowel of the verb.

** The following orthographic changes occur when forming the absolute superlative of **poco** and **largo**:

poco	→	c	→	qu	poqu ísimo
largo	→	g	→	gu	largu ísimo



¡Atención!

Roman Numerals

- Roman numerals (**los números romanos**) are commonly encountered in Spanish in written material referring to dates, centuries, or historic figures. When read, ordinal numbers are used for values from ten and below. Cardinal numbers are used for values from eleven and above, as in the example below:

El chocolate se puso de moda en Francia en el siglo XVII, cuando se sirvió en la boda de Luis XIII, rey de ese país, y la hija del rey Felipe III de España.

The above sentence is read as: *El chocolate se puso de moda en Francia en el siglo diecisiete, cuando se sirvió en la boda de Luis Trece, rey de ese país, y la hija del rey Felipe Tercero de España.*

LECCION 19



¡Atención!

The following table summarizes the uses of the preterite and the imperfect.

Preterite	Imperfect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports, narrates, and records an action, condition, or event seen as completed in the past. Simón Bolívar nació en Caracas. <i>Simon Bolivar was born in Caracas.</i> • Sums up a past event or condition seen as a whole. Bolívar luchó por la independencia de algunas naciones latinoamericanas. <i>Bolivar fought for the independence of several Latin American nations.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describes a physical, mental, or emotional state or condition in the past. A los 47 años de edad, Bolívar estaba muy cansado y enfermo. <i>At age 47 Bolivar was very tired and sick.</i> • Describes an action in progress in the past. Bolívar vivía en España cuando conoció a su futura esposa. <i>Bolivar was living/lived in Spain when he met his future wife.</i> • Indicates a habitual action. Bolívar viajaba a Europa frecuentemente. <i>Bolivar frequently used to/would travel to Europe.</i> • States the time of day in the past. Era la una cuando Bolívar murió. <i>It was one o'clock when Bolivar died.</i>

Choosing between preterite and imperfect

You have already learned the basic uses of the preterite and imperfect tenses. In this lesson we will learn when to choose one tense over the other when both of them are needed to express past events. The choice depends on the meaning the speaker wishes to convey.

- Some *time expressions* that often accompany the preterite are: **ayer, una vez, la semana pasada, de repente, en ese momento**, and other expressions that indicate completed events in the past, regardless of the length of time involved or how many times the events were repeated.

La semana pasada leí un libro de historia de Venezuela.
Last week I read a Venezuelan history book.

NOTE: Some of these time expressions can also be used with the imperfect, depending on the context.

- Some *time expressions* that often accompany the imperfect are: **mientras, siempre, frecuentemente, generalmente, a veces, todos los días**, and other expressions that indicate ongoing, unfinished, or repeated events in the past, without reference to the beginning or end of the event described. When using the imperfect, the speaker transfers him/herself mentally to a point in time in the past, viewing the event as if it were happening before him/her, as in story-telling.

En la escuela, yo **generalmente** leía libros de historia.
At school, I generally read/used to read history books.

NOTE: Some of these time expressions can also be used with the preterite, depending on the context.

- When expressing more than one event in the same sentence, in order to determine the tense to be used for each verb, it is helpful to think of a theatrical stage. Any action that is carried out by the performers on the stage is the preterite. Anything that is scenery or that takes place in the background is expressed by the imperfect. Normally, there is a point in time that requires a switch to the preterite.

Ya **existían** en América muchas civilizaciones nativas cuando Colón **llegó**.
Many native civilizations already existed in America when Columbus arrived.



¡Atención!

Verbs that change meaning when used in the preterite

Because of the different way the preterite and the imperfect look at past events, some Spanish verbs change their meaning when used in the preterite. In Lesson 17 you learned these changes about the verbs **conocer** and **saber**. Here is a reminder of these changes.

Verb	Preterite	Imperfect
conocer	Ayer conocí a Rosa. <i>I met Rosa yesterday.</i>	¿No conocías a Rosa ya? <i>Didn't you already know Rosa?</i>
saber	Hoy yo supe que él llegó ayer. <i>I found out today that he arrived yesterday.</i>	¿Tú ya sabías que él llegó ayer? <i>Did you already know that he arrived yesterday?</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Here are other Spanish verbs that change their meaning when used in the preterite.

Verb	Preterite	Imperfect
poder	Ayer pude ir al cine. <i>Yesterday I managed to go to the movies. (I accomplished it)</i>	Cuando era más joven, siempre podía ir al cine. <i>When I was younger, I was always able to go to the movies.</i>
no poder	No pude ir al cine ayer. <i>I couldn't go to the movies yesterday. (I tried and failed)</i>	Antes, no podía ir al cine los viernes. <i>Before, I wasn't able to go to the movies on Fridays.</i>
querer	Quise ir, pero no tuve tiempo. <i>I wanted to go but I didn't have time. (I meant/I tried)</i>	Queríamos ir, pero no tuvimos tiempo. <i>We wanted to go, but we didn't have time.</i>
no querer	El no quiso estudiar. <i>He refused to study.</i>	El no quería estudiar, pero al fin, lo hizo. <i>He didn't want to study, but he finally did it.</i>
tener que + infinitive	Ayer tuvimos que trabajar mucho. <i>Yesterday we had to work a lot.</i>	Ayer teníamos que trabajar mucho pero no lo hicimos. <i>We were supposed to work a lot yesterday but we didn't do it.</i>



¡Atención!

**The preterite progressive and the imperfect progressive:
expressing actions in progress in the past**

In Lesson 7 you learned about the uses and formation of the present progressive tense. In this lesson you will learn to describe an action that was taking place in the past. Spanish uses a verb phrase composed of the verb *estar* conjugated in the preterite or the imperfect tenses and a present participle (*-ing form*) of any other verb.

- The preterite progressive is used to indicate that an action was in progress in the past, focusing on it as a completed event.

Todo el día de ayer Juan estuvo leyendo un libro de historia.

Juan was reading a history book the entire day yesterday.

- The imperfect progressive is used to indicate that an action was in progress in the past, focusing on it as an ongoing event, without reference or implication of its completion.

Juan estaba leyendo un libro de historia cuando yo entré a su cuarto.

Juan was reading a history book when I entered his room.

NOTE: In Lesson 7 you learned that these verbs have irregular present participles: **decir** ⇒ *diciendo*, **leer** ⇒ *leyendo*, and **pedir** ⇒ *pidiendo*. The following verbs also have irregular present participles:

dormir ⇒ *durmiendo*
morir ⇒ *muriendo*
divertirse ⇒ *divirtiéndose*
freír ⇒ *friendo*
preferir ⇒ *prefiriendo*
seguir ⇒ *siguiendo*
servir ⇒ *sirviendo*
venir ⇒ *viniendo*

vestirse ⇒ *vistiéndose*
poder ⇒ *pudiendo*
caer ⇒ *cayendo*
construir ⇒ *construyendo*
ir ⇒ *yendo*
oír ⇒ *oyendo*
traer ⇒ *trayendo*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The following verbs also have irregular present participles: **medir** ⇒ *midiendo*, **mentir** ⇒ *mintiendo*, **conseguir** ⇒ *consiguiendo*, **despedir** ⇒ *despidiendo*, **repetir** ⇒ *repitiendo*.

LECCION 21



¡Atención!

More about affirmative and negative expressions

In Lessons 7 and 12 you learned the following affirmative and negative words:
siempre ⇒ **nunca**, **también** ⇒ **tampoco**, **algo** ⇒ **nada**, **o . . . o** ⇒ **ni . . . ni**.

In this lesson you will learn the following affirmative and negative expressions:

alguien	<i>anybody, anyone, someone, somebody</i>	nadie	<i>nobody, no one, not anyone, not anybody</i>
algún		ningún	
alguno		ninguno	
algunos	<i>a, any, some</i>		<i>no, none, not any</i>
alguna		ninguna	
algunas			

- **Alguien** and **nadie** are pronouns. They refer only to people.

In statements, **alguien** and **nadie** usually precede the verb.

Alguien de Perú **visitó** nuestra clase ayer, pero **nadie** le **preguntó** nada sobre su país.
Somebody/someone from Peru visited our class yesterday, but nobody/no one asked him/her anything about his/her country.

In questions, **alguien** can be placed either before or after the verb. **Nadie** may be placed between **no**, and the verb, or it may follow **no, no** and the verb.

¿**Habló alguien** de la geografía de Perú? *Did anybody/anyone/somebody/someone*
¿**Alguien habló** de la geografía de Perú? *talk about Peru's geography?*

No, **nadie** **habló** de eso. *No, nobody/no one talked about that.*
No, **no** **habló** **nadie** de eso.

When **alguien** or **nadie** introduce a direct object, they are preceded by the personal **a**.

¿Conoces **a alguien** de Perú? *Do you know anybody/anyone/somebody/
someone from Peru?*
No, no conozco **a nadie** de Perú. *No, I don't know anybody/anyone from Peru.*

- **Alguno, alguna, algunos, algunas, ninguno, and ninguna** may be used as adjectives or as pronouns. They may refer to people or things. When they introduce a direct object referring to people, they are preceded by the personal **a**. The negative forms may be placed between **no**, and the verb, or they may follow **no**, **no** and the verb.

Adjectives *alguno, alguna, algunos, algunas, ninguno, ninguna*

- When used as adjectives, the above words agree in gender and number with the noun they qualify.

¿Hay **algunos recursos** naturales importantes y **algunas industrias** grandes en ese país?
Are there any important natural resources and any large industries in that country?

Sí, hay **algunos recursos** naturales importantes, pero no hay **ninguna industria** grande en ese país.

Yes, there are some important natural resources, but there aren't any large industries in that country.

- The singular masculine forms **alguno** and **ninguno** lose the final **-o** before a masculine singular noun. They are shortened to **algún** and **ningún**. An accent mark is added on the **u**.

Cuando Ud. fue a Perú, ¿fue a **algún museo**?

When you went to Peru, did you go to a/any museum?

No, sólo pasé dos días allí y no tuve tiempo de conocer **ningún museo**.

No, I only spent two days there and I didn't have time to go to a/any museum.

Pronouns *alguno, alguna, algunos, algunas, ninguno, ninguna*

- When used as pronouns, the above words agree in gender and number with the noun they replace, which is understood through context.

Dígame, ¿hay **volcanes** importantes en ese país?

Tell me, are there any important volcanoes in that country?

Sí, hay **algunos** importantes en ese país.

Yes, there are some important ones in that country.

No, no hay **ninguno**.

No, there aren't any.



¡Atención!

Adjectives with shortened forms

You have already learned that some Spanish adjectives lose their **-o** ending and have shortened forms when they precede a masculine singular noun. In Lesson 14 you learned that **primero** becomes **primer**, and **tercero** becomes **tercer**. In this lesson you learned that **alguno** becomes **algún**, and **ninguno** becomes **ningún**.

- Other adjectives that follow this pattern are **bueno** ⇒ **buen**, and **malo** ⇒ **mal**. **Buen** and **mal** emphasize or intensify the meanings *good* and *bad*.

Este fue un **año bueno** para las cosechas y fue un **buen año** para las exportaciones.
This was a good year for crops, and it was a (very) good year for exports.

El año anterior, en cambio, fue un **año malo**. Fue un **mal año** para las exportaciones.
Last year, on the other hand, was a bad year. It was a (very) bad year for exports.

- The adjective **grande** (big, large) becomes **gran** when preceding a singular noun, regardless of the gender of the noun. **Gran** means *grand, great*.

La Argentina es un **país grande**. Su capital, Buenos Aires, es una **gran ciudad**.
Argentina is a big/large country. Its capital, Buenos Aires, is a grand/great city.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

Here are some Spanish names and idiomatic expressions with **grande**.

el Río Grande	<i>the Río Grande river</i>
los Grandes Lagos	<i>the Great Lakes</i>
pasarle en grande	<i>to have a fabulous time</i>
quedarle grande (la camisa)	<i>(the shirt is) too big, too large for you</i>
vivir a lo grande	<i>to live on a grand scale</i>

Here are some Spanish names and idiomatic expressions with **gran**.

la Gran Bretaña	<i>Great Britain</i>
el Gran Lago Salado	<i>the Great Salt Lake</i>
el Gran Cañón	<i>the Grand Canyon</i>
un gran amor	<i>a great love</i>
un gran hombre	<i>a great man</i>
una gran idea	<i>a great idea</i>
a gran velocidad	<i>at high speed</i>
¡Sería una gran cosa!	<i>That would be great!</i>

LECCION 22



¡Atención!

More about past participles

You have already learned about past participles in Lesson 17. In this lesson you will learn more about them.

- **Formation of the past participle**

In Lesson 17 you learned that the regular past participles are formed by dropping the infinitive ending and adding **-ado** to **-ar** verbs and **-ido** to **-er** and **-ir** verbs.

causar	causado
proteger	protegido
destruir	destruido

NOTE: The past participle of the verb **ir** is **ido**.

If the verb stem of **-er** and **-ir** verbs ends in **a**, **e**, or **o**, the ending **-ido** requires a written accent mark.

traer	traído
leer	leído
oír	oído

NOTE: The following verbs have irregular past participles.

abrir	abierto
decir	dicho
descubrir	descubierto
escribir	escrito
hacer	hecho
morir	muerto
poner	puesto
resolver	resuelto
romper	roto
ver	visto
volver	vuelto

- **Functions of the past participle**

1. The past participle is used with the verb **ser** to form the passive voice, as you have already learned in Lesson 17.

Unas cien **casas fueron** totalmente **destruidas** por el terremoto de ayer.*
About one hundred houses were totally destroyed by yesterday's earthquake.

In this lesson you will learn other functions of the past participle.

2. The past participle is used with the verb **estar** to express a condition or state resulting from a previous action.

El terremoto derrumbó muchos edificios. Todos esos **edificios están** completamente **destruidos**.*
The earthquake knocked down many buildings. All those buildings are completely destroyed.

3. The past participle is used as an adjective to modify nouns.

Las **casas destruidas** eran de gente muy pobre.*
The destroyed houses belonged to very poor people.

4. The past participle is used with the verb **haber** to form the perfect tenses, also known as compound tenses. In these cases, the past participle is invariable: it ends in **-o**. You will learn more about the perfect tenses and past participles on the following pages.

El terremoto **ha derrumbado** muchos edificios. También **ha destruido** muchas casas.
The earthquake has knocked down many buildings. It has also destroyed many homes.

* You will note that in all of the above examples, the past participle agrees in number and gender with the subject of the sentence.



¡Atención!

The verb *haber*

- In Lesson 1 you learned the impersonal form of the verb **haber** (*to be*), **hay** (*there is, there are*). In Lesson 3 you learned the impersonal construction **hay que + infinitive** (*one has to/we have to/it is necessary to do something*). Throughout the course, you have learned the different forms of **hay**: **va a haber**, **habrá**, **hubo**, **había**. You will learn other forms of **hay** later in the course.
- In this lesson you will learn that in Spanish, as in English, the verb **haber** is an *auxiliary verb* or *helping verb*, meaning *to have* when it functions in perfect tenses. (In other instances, *to have* is **tener**).
All perfect tenses are formed by using the appropriate tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** with the past participle of the main verb. In these cases, the past participle is invariable; it ends in **-o**. The verb **haber** and the past participle are inseparable; when using reflexive and object pronouns, the pronouns precede the conjugated form of the verb **haber**.
In this lesson you will learn the present perfect and the past perfect. Other perfect tenses will be introduced in future lessons.



¡Atención!

The present perfect

- The present perfect is formed by using the present tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb. In Spanish, as in English, the present perfect is used to refer to a past action or event that continues into the present or relates closely to the present.

The Present Tense of <i>haber</i> (to have)			
singular		plural	
yo	he	nosotros/as	hemos
tú	has		
Ud.	} ha	Uds.	} han
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

He hablado con mi tío y me **ha dicho** que **ha habido*** un terremoto en el norte del país y que **ha sido*** muy fuerte. También me **ha informado** que algunos funcionarios del gobierno ya **han estado*** en la región afectada y que les **han ofrecido** ayuda a los habitantes de la zona.

I have talked with my uncle and he has told me that there has been an earthquake in the north of the country and that it has been very strong. He has also informed me that some government officials have already been in the affected region and that they have offered assistance to the inhabitants of the zone.

* The past participles of **haber (habido)**, **ser (sido)**, and **estar (estado)**, are used with the auxiliary verb **haber** in the perfect tenses. They are equivalent to the English *been*.



¡Atención!

The past perfect

- The past perfect, also known as pluperfect, is formed by using the imperfect tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb. In Spanish, as in English, the past perfect is used to refer to a past action or event that took place prior to another past action or event.

The Imperfect Tense of <i>haber</i> (to have)			
singular		plural	
yo	había	nosotros/as	habíamos
tú	habías		
Ud.	} había	Uds.	} habían
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

Cuando hablé con mi tío me dijo que él **había oído** que los funcionarios del gobierno ya les **habían ofrecido** ayuda a los habitantes de la región afectada por el terremoto.
When I talked with my uncle, he told me that he had heard that the government officials had already offered assistance to the inhabitants of the region that was affected by the earthquake.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Aside from the present perfect and the past perfect, other perfect tenses are used in Spanish. They will be introduced in future lessons.

Present perfect subjunctive:

Espero que ya lo hayan solucionado.

I hope that they have already solved it.

Past perfect subjunctive:

Yo no creía que ellos lo hubieran solucionado.

I didn't think that they had solved it.

Future perfect:

Ya habrán solucionado el problema para mañana.

They will have solved the problem by tomorrow.

Conditional perfect:

Yo lo habría solucionado rápidamente.

I would have solved it quickly.



¡Atención!

Adverbs *ya* and *todavía*

- As you read the following exchanges, you will learn how to use *ya* (*already*), *ya no* (*not anymore, no longer*), *todavía* (*still*), and *todavía no* (*not yet*).

¿Ya leyó Ud. el periódico?

Did you already read the newspaper?

Sí, **ya** lo leí.

Yes, I already read it.

No, **todavía no** lo leo.

No, I haven't read it yet.

¿Ya ha leído Ud. el periódico?

Have you already read the newspaper?

Sí, **ya** lo he leído.

Yes, I have already read it.

No, **todavía no** lo he leído.

No, I haven't read it yet.

¿Ya **no** lee Ud. el periódico?

Don't you read the newspaper anymore?

No, **ya no** tengo tiempo para leerlo.

No, I no longer have time to read it.

¿**Todavía** está Ud. leyendo el periódico?

Are you still reading the newspaper?

Sí, **todavía** estoy leyéndolo.

Yes, I am still reading it.

No, **ya no**. **Ya** lo terminé.

No, not anymore. I already finished it.

¿**Todavía no** ha leído Ud. el periódico?

You haven't read the newspaper yet?

Sí, **ya** lo leí hace horas.

Yes, I read it hours ago.

No, **todavía no**.

No, not yet.

No, **todavía no** lo he leído.

No, I haven't read it yet.

No, **ya no** leo ningún periódico.

No, I no longer read any newspapers.

NOTE: *Since*, in the sense of *because*, can be expressed in Spanish by **ya que** or **como**.

Ya que tengo tiempo, leeré el periódico.

Since I have time, I will read the newspaper.

Como tengo tiempo, leeré el periódico.

Since I have time, I will read the newspaper.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In Spanish, *ya* is frequently used in idiomatic expressions. In Lesson 14 you learned *¡Ya veremos!* and *¡Ya ves!* Here are some more.

¡Hágalo ya!

Ya es muy tarde.

¡Ya lo creo!

Ya, ya, está bien.

¡Ya voy!

Ya me voy.

Ya veo . . .

¡Ya era hora!

Do it right now/at once!

It is too late now.

Of course!/You bet!/I can well believe it!

Yes, yes, it's OK.

I'm coming!/I'll be there in a minute!

I'm leaving./I'm off now.

I see . . .

It was about time!

LECCION 23



¡Atención!

More about the Prepositions POR and PARA

In Lessons 6, 9, 13, and 14 you learned about the prepositions **por** and **para**. In this lesson you will learn other meanings and uses of these prepositions.

Use **POR** when you mean

- *on behalf of, in place of*

María trabaja hoy *María works today*
por su padre; él *in place of her*
está enfermo. *father. He is ill.*

- *because of, for the sake of*

El está triste **por** las *He is sad because*
noticias. *of the news.*

- *units of measures*

El banco me da sólo *The bank gives me*
el dos **por** ciento de *only two percent*
interés. *interest.*

- *cause or agent of an action,
as in the passive voice*

El cheque fue *The check was*
cambiado **por** él. *cashd by him.*

Use **PARA** when you mean

- *for a specific person, thing,
organization*

María trabaja **para** *María works for*
su padre; él es su *her father. He is*
jefe. *her boss.*

LECCION 24



¡Atención!

Verbs that follow the grammatical pattern of *gustar*

- In Lesson 11 you learned that the verb **gustar** is preceded by the indirect object pronoun (**me, te, le, nos, les**). These verbs follow the grammatical pattern of **gustar**:

doler Me duele la cabeza.	<i>to ache/hurt</i> <i>My head aches.</i>
encantar ¡A ti te encanta ir al médico!	<i>to love/delight in/take pleasure in</i> <i>You love to go to the doctor!</i>
faltar Nos falta una receta.	<i>to lack/miss/need</i> <i>We are lacking/missing a prescription.</i>
parecer* A mí me parece que estás enfermo.	<i>to seem/appear</i> <i>It seems to me that you are ill.</i>
quedar Me quedan todavía tres tabletas.	<i>to be left</i> <i>I still have three tablets left.</i>

* The reflexive verb **parecerse** means *to look alike, to resemble each other*.

Yo me parezco a mi padre. *I look like my father.*

- In impersonalized statements, these verbs are used without an indirect object pronoun.

Falta una receta.	<i>A prescription is missing.</i>
Parece que él está enfermo.	<i>It seems that he is ill.</i>
¿Quedan algunas tabletas?	<i>Are there any tablets left?</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: These verbs also follow the grammatical pattern of *gustar*.

agradar	<i>to please</i>	interesar	<i>to interest</i>
disgustar	<i>to disgust</i>	molestar	<i>to bother</i>
enojar	<i>to anger</i>	ofender	<i>to offend</i>
fascinar	<i>to fascinate</i>	preocupar	<i>to worry</i>
importar	<i>to matter</i>	sorprender	<i>to surprise</i>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In Spanish, *faltar* is frequently used in idiomatic expressions.

Here are some.

falta poco	<i>to be almost time</i>
faltar a clase	<i>to cut class</i>
faltar a su palabra	<i>to break one's word .</i>
faltarle a uno un tornillo	<i>to have little common sense/to have a screw loose</i>
hacer falta	<i>to be necessary</i>
¡No faltaba más!	<i>That's the limit!/That's the very last straw!/The very idea!</i>
sin falta	<i>without fail</i>



¡Atención!

The reflexive verb *sentirse*

Sentirse means *to feel* . . . It is a reflexive verb in Spanish.

¿Cómo se **siente** Ud. hoy, señora García? *How do you feel today, Mrs. Garcia?*
Mejor, doctor, ya **me siento** mejor, gracias. *Better, doctor, I feel better, thanks.*



¡Atención!

The verb *acabar*

- **Acabar** means *to finish, to end*, and it is synonymous with **terminar**.

¿Acabaste tu tarea?

Did you finish your homework?

No, creo que la **acabaré** en media hora.

No, I think I'll finish it in half an hour.

- **Acabar de + infinitive** is used in Spanish to express actions and events that *have just happened*. This construction is equivalent to the English *to have just + past participle*. In Spanish, this construction is used in the present and in the imperfect.

Acabo de hablar con el doctor.

I have just spoken to the doctor.

Juan **acababa de volver** cuando llamaste.

Juan had just returned when you called.

- **Acabarse** means *to finish, to end, to come to an end, to run out of*. You'll learn more about **acabarse** in the explanation that follows.



¡Atención!

More about constructions with *se* + verb: unplanned events

- In Spanish, a construction consisting of **se + third-person singular or plural form of a verb + subject** is used to express an event that results from an unknown agent or a natural phenomenon.

Se acabó el jarabe para la tos.

*(The cough syrup is finished/ran out.)/
There is no more cough syrup.*

- In Spanish, a construction consisting of **se + indirect object + third-person singular or plural form of a verb + subject** is used to express an event for which the agent would rather not claim responsibility. The indirect object pronoun (**me, te, le, nos, les**) indicates the agent to whom the event happens, and is placed between **se** and the verb. The prepositional pronouns can be used for clarification or emphasis.

A mí se me acabaron las tabletas.

I ran out of tablets.

NOTE: In both of these constructions, the verb can be in any tense, according to the time of the event. These constructions emphasize the event rather than the agent. They may occur with many different verbs, such as **acabarse**, **caerse**, **descomponerse**, **irse**, **olvidarse**, **perderser**, **quedarse**, **romperse** and **terminarse**. There are different ways of translating the Spanish expressions into English.

LECCION 26



¡Atención!

The Subjunctive

Just like English, Spanish has categories or moods of verbs such as the *indicative* and the *subjunctive*. Within each of these moods, there are various tenses. The Spanish verb tenses you have learned so far belong to the indicative mood, which describes an action or event considered to be definite or factual, that has taken or definitely will take place. If there exists the possibility that the action or event described has not or may not take place, it is necessary to use the subjunctive mood. The subjunctive mood refers to something that is possible, but is not yet a fact. It is much more frequently used in Spanish than in English.

The subjunctive may occur in independent clauses but it generally occurs in dependent or subordinate clauses, usually introduced by the word **que**. The subjunctive verb in the dependent clause is not treated as an isolated fact or idea, but in terms of its dependent relationship to the main clause of the sentence.

main clause (verb: indicative)	+	que	+	dependent clause (verb: subjunctive)
(Yo) Sugiero <i>I suggest</i>		que <i>that</i>		(él) lea este libro. <i>he read this book.</i>

The subjunctive does exist in the English language, but the verbs in English do not have a special ending showing that the subjunctive is being used. Examples of the English subjunctive are the phrases *Tell him to be here tomorrow*, *Long live the King!* or *God bless you*.

In Lessons 26 to 29 you will learn about the **present subjunctive** and that it is used in Spanish in dependent clauses when the verb in the main clause is a **non-past verb** (present, present perfect, future, or command). You will also learn its usage in independent clauses.

NOTE: When used with the subjunctive, direct and indirect object pronouns, double object pronouns, and reflexive pronouns are placed before the subjunctive form of the verb.

Quiero que **me lo lea**.
Tal vez no **se afeite** hoy.

I want you to read it to me.
Maybe he won't shave today.



¡Atención!

The present subjunctive

- In Lessons 13 and 14 you learned the formal and informal commands. To form the present subjunctive of all persons except **tú** and **nosotros**, use the formal command forms. To form the present subjunctive of **tú**, use the negative familiar command forms. To form the present subjunctive of **nosotros/as**, use the ending **-emos** for **-ar** verbs and **-amos** for **-er** and **-ir** verbs.

Infinitive	Command	Present subjunctive	
cantar	cante no cantes	... que yo cante ... que tú cantes ... que Ud. cante ... que él cante ... que ella cante	... que nosotros/as cantemos ... que Uds. canten ... que ellos canten ... que ellas canten

Quiero **que Ud. cante** una canción mexicana. *I want you to sing a Mexican song.*

Infinitive	Command	Present subjunctive	
leer	lea no leas	... que yo lea ... que tú leas ... que Ud. lea ... que él lea ... que ella lea	... que nosotros/as leamos ... que Uds. lean ... que ellos lean ... que ellas lean
escribir	escriba no escribas	... que yo escriba ... que tú escribas ... que Ud. escriba ... que él escriba ... que ella escriba	... que nosotros/as escribamos ... que Uds. escriban ... que ellos escriban ... que ellas escriban

Le pido **que lea** esta historia y **que escriba** un resumen en español.

I ask/am asking you to read this story and to write a summary in Spanish.

- Verbs that have irregularities in the present tense or in the command forms maintain the same irregularities in the present subjunctive. As examples, in the following chart you will find some of those verbs conjugated in the present subjunctive with different pronouns.

Infinitive	Command	Present subjunctive	
conocer	conozca	... que yo	conozca
cruzar	cruce	... que tú	cruces
pagar	pague	... que Ud.	pague
recoger	recoja	... que él	recoja
sacar	saque	... que ella	saque
traducir	traduzca	... que nosotros/as	traduzcamos
		... que Uds.	crucen
		... que ellos	paguen
		... que ellas	recojan

Quiero **que ellos paguen** lo que deben. *I want them to pay what they owe.*

- In Lessons 6 and 7 you learned about stem-changing verbs. Those verbs that change their stem from **-e** to **-ie** and from **-o** to **-ue** keep their original stem in **nosotros/as** in the present subjunctive. The verb **dormir** keeps only a **-u** in **nosotros/as**. Verbs that change their stem from **-e** to **-i** also change their stem in **nosotros/as** in the present subjunctive.

Infinitive	Command	Present subjunctive	
pensar	piense	... que yo piense	... que nosotros/as pensemos
volver	vuelva	... que yo vuelva	... que nosotros/as volvamos
dormir	duerma	... que yo duerma	... que nosotros/as durmamos
pedir	pida	... que yo pida	... que nosotros/as pidamos
seguir	siga	... que yo siga	... que nosotros/as sigamos

Quiero que ellos vuelvan temprano.

I want them to come back early.

- Verbs that are irregular in the **yo** form of the present tense and in the command form maintain the same irregularity in the present subjunctive. As examples, in the following chart you will find some of those verbs conjugated in the present subjunctive with different pronouns.

Infinitive	Command	Present subjunctive	
decir	diga	... que yo	diga
hacer	haga	... que tú	hagas
oír	oiga	... que Ud.	oiga
poner	ponga	... que él	ponga
salir	salga	... que ella	salga
tener	tenga	... que nosotros/as	tengamos
traer	traiga	... que Uds.	traigan
venir	venga	... que ellos	vengan

Por favor dígame a José que traiga el libro. *Please tell Jose to bring the book.*

- The irregular command forms of the verbs **dar**, **ir**, **ser**, **estar**, and **saber** are used in the subjunctive. As examples, in the following chart you will find some of those verbs conjugated in the present subjunctive with different pronouns. The **nosotros/as** forms of the verbs **dar** and **estar** are **demos** and **estemos**.

Infinitive	Command	Present subjunctive	
dar	dé	... que yo	dé
ir	vaya	... que tú	vayas
ser	sea	... que Ud.	sea
estar	esté	... que él	esté
saber	sepa	... que ella	sepa
		... que nosotros/as	demos
		... que Uds.	vayan
		... que ellos	sean

Quiero **que esté** aquí mañana.

I want you to be here tomorrow.

NOTE: The present subjunctive of **hay**, the impersonal form of **haber**, is **haya**.

No **hay** muchos libros de historia aquí; *There aren't many history books here;*
 es posible que **haya** más en la biblioteca. *it's possible that there are more in the library.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Aside from the present subjunctive, other subjunctive tenses are used in Spanish. They will be introduced in future lessons.

Imperfect (past) subjunctive:

Yo quería que él **viniera** a la fiesta.

I wanted him to come to the party.

Present perfect subjunctive:

Espero que ya lo **hayan invitado**.

I hope that they have already invited him.

Past perfect subjunctive:

Yo no creía que ellos lo **hubieran invitado**.

I didn't believe that they had invited him.



¡Atención!

Uses of the present subjunctive: with verbs of volition

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in dependent clauses when the verb in the main clause is a verb of volition, which indicates a cause-and-effect relationship. By using verbs of volition in the main clause there is an attempt to influence the action of the verb in the dependent clause. Some verbs of volition are: **aconsejar** (to advise), **decir** (to say), **desear** (to desire/want/wish), **esperar** (to hope/expect), **insistir** (to insist), **mandar** (to order/command), **necesitar** (to need), **ordenar** (to order/command), **pedir** (to ask/request), **preferir** (to prefer), **prohibir** (to prohibit), **querer** (to want/wish), **recomendar** (to recommend), and **sugerir** (to suggest). The word **que** follows these verbs. If two or more subjects are mentioned, the subjunctive mood is required.

(Yo) **Quiero que Ud. lea** este libro.

I want you to read this book.

NOTE: If there is only one subject mentioned, the subjunctive mood is not required. The second verb is in the infinitive form.

(El) **Prefiere leer** ese libro.

He prefers to read that book.



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with indirect commands

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in dependent clauses to express an indirect command when the verb in the main clause is a command. A person tells or asks another person to pass on a message to someone else. The word **que** precedes the present subjunctive form of the verb.

Sargento, **dígale** al cabo **que estudie** más. *Sergeant, tell the corporal to study more.*

LECCION 27



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with impersonal expressions

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in dependent clauses when the main clause contains impersonal expressions that denote an element of subjectivity, possibility, probability, importance, or other value judgements. Some impersonal expressions are: **es bueno** (*it is good*), **es difícil** (*it is difficult*), **es importante** (*it is important*), **es imposible** (*it is impossible*), **es mejor** (*it is better*), **es necesario** (*it is necessary*), **es posible** (*it is possible*), **es preciso** (*it is necessary*), **es probable** (*it is possible/likely/probable*), and **es una lástima** (*it is a pity*). The word **que** follows the impersonal expressions.

NOTE: The subjunctive mood is generally required with impersonal expressions when the subordinate clause has an implicit or explicit subject.

Es importante que (tú) estudies español. *It's important that you study Spanish.*
Es importante que (yo) estudie español. *It's important that I study Spanish.*

NOTE: Impersonal expressions are followed by an infinitive when no subject is mentioned at all.

Es importante estudiar español. *It's important to study Spanish.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with *tal vez*, *quizá(s)*, *ojalá*, and *puede que*

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in independent clauses after the expressions **tal vez** and **quizá(s)** (*perhaps, maybe*) depending on the level of subjectivity or doubt implied. The word **que** is not used with **tal vez** and **quizá(s)**.

Tal vez María esté en casa.

Maybe Maria is at home.

Quizás (yo) trabaje con ella mañana.

Perhaps I'll work with her tomorrow.

The indicative may be used if there is some certainty implied.

Su auto está en el estacionamiento;
tal vez él ya está aquí.

*His car is in the parking lot;
maybe he is already here.*

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in independent clauses after the expression **ojalá**, (*I hope so/Let's hope so/God willing*) which comes from the Arabic, *May Allah grant that . . .* The use of the word **que** is optional after **ojalá**.

Ojalá (que) llegues temprano.

I hope you (will) arrive early.

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in independent clauses after the expression **puede que** (*it may be that . . . , it is possible that . . .*).

Puede que él llegue tarde.

It is possible that he will/may arrive late.

NOTE: With the above expressions, the subjunctive mood is generally required regardless of the subject(s) mentioned.

Quizás (yo) vaya a Panamá en enero.

Perhaps I'll go to Panama in January.



¡Atención!

Another expression with *tener*

In Spanish, to say that somebody feels like doing something, use the appropriate conjugation of the verb **tener** + **ganas de** + *infinitive verb*:

Mis amigos **tienen ganas de ir** al cine. *My friends feel like going to the movies.*

To say that somebody does not feel like doing something, use **no** + the appropriate conjugation of the verb **tener** + **ganas de** + *infinitive verb*:

No **tenemos ganas de hacer** nada hoy. *We don't feel like doing anything today.*

NOTE: To say that you feel like someone else should do something, use the appropriate conjugation of the verb **tener** + **ganas de que** + *subjunctive*.

Tengo ganas de que vengas a mi casa. *I feel like having you come over to my house.*

LECCION 28



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with expressions of doubt and denial

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in dependent clauses when in the main clause there are expressions of doubt and denial that view an action or event with uncertainty or disbelief, or as a negated fact. Some expressions of doubt and denial are: **dudar que** (to doubt that), **negar que** (to deny that), **no creer que** (not to think/believe that), **ser dudoso que** (to be doubtful that), **no ser cierto que** (not to be true that), and **no ser verdad que** (not to be true that).

El **duda que** la situación económica mejore pronto.

He doubts that the economical situation will improve soon.

NOTE: The subjunctive mood is generally required with expressions of doubt and denial regardless of the subject(s) mentioned.

Yo **no creo que** (yo) pueda votar en las próximas elecciones.

I don't think/believe that I will be able to vote in the coming elections.

NOTE: When used in questions, **creer que** (to think/believe that) may or may not imply doubt on the part of the speaker.

When doubt is strongly implied on the part of the speaker, **creer que** is followed by the subjunctive.

¿**Cree Ud. que** con el nuevo gobierno cambie la situación actual del país?

Do you think that the country's current situation will change with the new government?

When no doubt is implied on the part of the speaker, **creer que** is followed by the indicative.

¿**Cree Ud. que** con el nuevo gobierno cambiará la situación económica?

Do you think that the country's economical situation will change with the new government?



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with *cuando*

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in a dependent clause introduced by the adverb **cuando** (*when*) when the verb in the main clause refers to something that could take place in the future. The word **que** is not used with **cuando**.

Las cosas cambiarán **cuando** él sea presidente.

Things will change when he becomes president.

Ella quiere ayudar a sus padres **cuando** (ella) **tenga** dinero.

She wants to help her parents when she has money.

NOTE: The indicative is used with **cuando** depending on when the action or event being described occurs.

The present or past indicative is used with **cuando** when expressing a fact, referring to a routine, habitual or completed action or event.

Siempre voto **cuando** **hay** elecciones.

I always vote when there are elections.

Había un gobierno militar en el país **cuando** yo **tenía** diez años.

There was a military government in the country when I was ten years old.

Todo cambió **cuando** él **fue** presidente.

Everything changed when he was the president.

The future is used when **cuando** functions as an interrogative word.

¿**Cuándo** cambiarán las cosas en el país? *When will things change in the country?*

LECCION 29



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with verbs that express emotion

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in dependent clauses when the verb in the main clause expresses an emotion such as happiness or fear. Some verbs in this category are: **alegrarse (de)** (*to be happy/glad*), **sentir** (*to regret/be sorry*), **temer** (*to fear/be afraid*), and **tener miedo (de)** (*to be afraid of*). The word **que** follows these verbs.

Temen que los guerrilleros ataquen
otra vez.

*They fear that the guerrillas will attack
again.*

NOTE: If there is only one subject mentioned, the subjunctive mood is not required. The second verb is in the infinitive form.

Nosotros tenemos miedo de ir a esa
región; hay muchos terroristas.

*We are afraid of going to that region;
there are many terrorists.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with adverbial clauses

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in *adverbial clauses*, which are a type of dependent clause. Adverbial clauses are connected to the main clause by *adverbial conjunctions*. Adverbial clauses function as adjectives, telling the manner, purpose, or time of the action expressed in the main clause. Some adverbial conjunctions always require the subjunctive; others require the indicative (when the main clause expresses a fact) or the present subjunctive (when the main clause expresses futurity).

The subjunctive is always used with the following adverbial conjunctions: **a menos que** (*unless*), **a no ser que** (*unless*), **antes (de) que** (*before*), **con tal (de) que** (*provided that*), **para que** (*so that*), and **sin que** (*without*).

Los terroristas seguirán atacando
a menos que los soldados los capturen.

*The terrorists will continue attacking
unless the soldiers capture them.*

The indicative or the subjunctive may be used with the following adverbial conjunctions, depending on the verb in the main clause: **después (de) que** (*after*), **en cuanto** (*as soon as*), **hasta que** (*until*), and **tan pronto como** (*as soon as*).

The indicative is used in the following example because a fact is expressed.

Metieron en la cárcel al líder
en cuanto lo encontraron.

*They put the leader in jail as soon as they
found him.*

The subjunctive is used in the following example because futurity is expressed.

Meterán en la cárcel a los guerrilleros
en cuanto los encuentren.

*They will put the guerrilla fighters in jail
as soon as they find them.*

The indicative or the subjunctive may be used with the adverbial conjunctions **aunque**, **cuanto antes**, and **mientras (que)**. Each one of these conjunctions has two different meanings and may express either a fact or futurity/uncertainty. This determines whether the indicative or the subjunctive is needed.

When **aunque** means *although/even though*, the indicative is used. In the example that follows, it is an established fact that there is a curfew.

El saldrá **aunque** hay toque de queda. *He will go out although/even though there is a curfew.*

When **aunque** means *although/even if*, the subjunctive is used. In the example that follows, it is not definite whether there will be a curfew or not.

El saldrá **aunque** haya toque de queda. *He will go out although/even if there is a curfew.*

When **cuanto antes** follows a verb, it means *as soon as possible*.

Quieren **capturarlo** **cuanto antes**. *They want to capture him as soon as possible.*

When **cuanto antes** precedes a verb, it means *the sooner . . .* and is followed by the subjunctive.

Cuanto antes lo capturen, mejor. *The sooner they capture him, the better.*

When **mientras (que)** means *while*, the indicative is used.

Mientras (que) él fue presidente, todo mejoró. *While he was president, everything improved.*

When **mientras (que)** means *as long as*, the subjunctive is used.

No volverán a su país **mientras (que)** él sea presidente. *They won't return to their country as long as he is president.*

NOTE: The word **que** is dropped from the adverbial conjunctions **antes de**, **después de**, and **hasta** if there is only one subject mentioned. The subjunctive mood is not required. The second verb is in the infinitive form.

Los rebeldes atacaron **después de aceptar** el acuerdo de paz.

The rebels attacked after accepting the peace agreement.



¡Atención!

More uses of the present subjunctive: with adjectival clauses

- The present subjunctive is used in Spanish in *adjectival clauses*, which are a type of dependent clause. Adjectival clauses function as adverbs, modifying a pronoun or a noun in the main clause called an *antecedent*. The antecedent may be a person, a thing, or a place. Adjectival clauses require the subjunctive when the antecedent is nonexistent or its existence is indefinite. They require the indicative when the antecedent exists or is definite. The word **que** precedes the present subjunctive form of the verb.

With a nonexistent antecedent, the following negative expressions are used: **no hay nada** (*there isn't anything*), **no hay nadie** (*there isn't anyone*), **no hay ningún . . .** (*there isn't any . . .*), and **no hay ninguno/a** (*there isn't any*).

Aquí **no hay nadie que hable** quechua. *There isn't anyone here who speaks Quechua.*

With an indefinite antecedent, if the antecedent is a person, the *personal a* is omitted.

Capturaron a un rebelde que habla sólo quechua. Necesitan un intérprete **que sepa** esa lengua. ¿Hay alguien aquí **que hable** quechua?

They captured a rebel who only speaks Quechua. They need an interpreter who knows that language. Is there anyone here who speaks Quechua?



¡Atención!

Diminutives and Augmentatives

In Spanish, suffixes indicating diminutives and augmentatives are frequently used not only to indicate size, but also to express attitudes toward a person or an object. They are often used in proper names or in nicknames and carry emotional messages such as an endearment. Generally speaking, diminutives are used much more frequently than augmentatives.

Diminutives (smaller size or lesser amount of what a word such as a noun, adjective, or adverb normally expresses), may be indicated by adding the suffixes **-ito/-ita**, **-illo/-illa**, and **-(e)cito/-(e)cita** to the original form of the word if it ends in a consonant. If the word ends in a vowel, the vowel is dropped before adding the suffix. Diminutive suffixes generally indicate smallness or affection, but sometimes they carry a pejorative meaning.

Los rebeldes le dicen a su líder **jefecito**. *The rebels call their leader Little Boss.*

Su esposa es **bajita y gordita**. *His wife is somewhat short and plump.*

Ella siempre llega a casa **tardecito**. *She always arrives home a little late.*

NOTE: When **-ito/-ita** is used, there are orthographic changes in the noun or adjective: poco ⇒ **poquito**, trago ⇒ **traguito**, lengua ⇒ **lengüita**, taza ⇒ **tacita**.

- Augmentatives (increased size or greater amount of what a word such as a noun or adjective normally expresses), may be indicated by adding the suffixes **-ote/-ota** to the original form of the noun or adjective if it ends in a consonant. If the noun or adjective ends in a vowel, the vowel is dropped before adding the suffix. Augmentative suffixes generally indicate size, but sometimes they carry a pejorative meaning.

Los rebeldes usan **palabrotas** cada vez que dicen algo. *The rebels use swear words every time they say something.*

El líder tiene un perro **grandote** que va con él a todas partes. *The leader has a huge dog that goes with him everywhere.*

LECCION 31



¡Atención!

The imperfect subjunctive

In Lessons 26 to 29 you learned about the present subjunctive and its uses in Spanish. In this lesson and in Lesson 32 you will learn about the **imperfect (past) subjunctive** and its uses in Spanish. You will learn that the imperfect subjunctive is generally required in the same situations as the present subjunctive, but is used in dependent clauses when the verb in the main clause is a **past verb** (preterite, imperfect, past perfect) even though at times it may express futurity. You will also learn its usage in independent clauses. In Lesson 32 you will learn that the imperfect subjunctive is also used in *hypothetical* or *contrary-to-fact situations*, along with the **conditional**.

Just as the present subjunctive, the past subjunctive also exists in the English language, but the verbs in English do not have a special ending showing that the past subjunctive is being used. The exact English equivalent of the Spanish imperfect subjunctive depends on the context in which it is used.

main clause (verb: indicative)	+	que	+	dependent clause (verb: subjunctive)
(Yo) Sugerí <i>I suggested</i>		que <i>that</i>		(él) viniera a clase. <i>he come to class.</i>

NOTE: When used with the imperfect subjunctive, direct and indirect object pronouns, double object pronouns, and reflexive pronouns are placed before the subjunctive form of the verb.

(Yo) Quería que **me lo leyera**.

I wanted you to read it to me.

(El) Le había dicho a Ud. que **se afeitara**.

He had told you to shave.



¡Atención!

The imperfect subjunctive

- In Lessons 16 and 17 you learned the preterite tense. To form the imperfect subjunctive of -ar, -er, and -ir regular and irregular verbs, drop the -ron ending from the third-person plural (Uds., ellos, ellas) preterite form and add the endings -ra, -ras, -ra, -ramos, and -ran. For this reason, the forms of the imperfect subjunctive reflect the irregularities of the preterite stems. Note the written accent mark on the nosotros/as forms.

Infinitive	Preterite Uds., ellos/as	Imperfect subjunctive		
cantar	cantaron	... que yo cantara	... que nosotros/as cantáramos	cantaran
		... que tú cantarás	... que Uds.	
		... que Ud. cantara	... que ellos	
		... que él cantara	... que ellas	
		... que ella cantara		
leer	leyeron	... que yo leyera	... que nosotros/as leyéramos	leyeran
		... que tú leyeras	... que Uds.	
		... que Ud. leyera	... que ellos	
		... que él leyera	... que ellas	
		... que ella leyera		
escribir	escribieron	... que yo escribiera	... que nosotros/as escribiéramos	escribieran
		... que tú escribieras	... que Uds.	
		... que Ud. escribiera	... que ellos	
		... que él escribiera	... que ellas	
		... que ella escribiera		

El me dijo que cantara el himno nacional y nos pidió que leyéramos su historia y que escribiéramos un resumen en español.

He told me to sing the national anthem and asked us to read its history and to write a summary in Spanish.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: There is an alternate set of imperfect subjunctive endings in Spanish: -se, -ses, -se, -semos, and -sen. These endings are also added after dropping -ron.

NOTE: The imperfect subjunctive of **hay**, the impersonal form of **haber**, is **hubiera**.

El esperaba que no **hubiera** problemas. *He hoped that there wouldn't be any problems.*

NOTE: In Lesson 9 you learned that the imperfect subjunctive form of **querer**, **quisiera**, is used as a polite form of request instead of the conditional form, **querría**.

Quisiera pedirle un favor. *I would like to ask you for a favor.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Aside from the present and imperfect subjunctive, other subjunctive tenses are used in Spanish. They will be introduced in Lesson 33.

Present perfect subjunctive:

Espero que ya lo **hayan** invitado.

I hope that they have already invited him.

Past perfect subjunctive:

Yo no creía que ellos lo **hubieran** invitado.

I didn't believe that they had invited him.



¡Atención!

Uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with verbs of volition

- In Lesson 26 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish with the following verbs of volition: **aconsejar, decir, desear, esperar, insistir, mandar, necesitar, ordenar, pedir, preferir, prohibir, querer, recomendar, and sugerir.** You learned that the present subjunctive follows *non-past* verbs of volition. The imperfect subjunctive follows *past* verbs of volition. The word **que** follows these verbs. If two or more subjects are mentioned, the subjunctive mood is required.

Present subjunctive:

(Yo) **Quiero que** Ud. **lea** este libro. *I want you to read this book.*

Imperfect subjunctive:

(Yo) **Quería que** Ud. **leyera** este libro. *I wanted you to read this book.*

NOTE: If there is only one subject mentioned, the subjunctive mood is not required. The second verb is in the infinitive form.

(El) **Prefirió leer** ese libro. *He preferred to read that book.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with impersonal expressions

- In Lesson 27 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish with the following impersonal expressions: **es bueno, es difícil, es importante, es imposible, es mejor, es necesario, es posible, es preciso, es probable, and es una lástima.** You learned that the present subjunctive follows impersonal expressions with *non-past* verbs. The imperfect subjunctive follows impersonal expressions with *past* verbs. The word **que** follows the impersonal expressions.

Present subjunctive:

Es importante que estudies historia. *It is important that you study history.*

Imperfect subjunctive:

Era importante que estudiaras historia. *It was important that you study history.*

NOTE: The subjunctive mood is generally required with impersonal expressions when the subordinate clause has an implicit or explicit subject.

Fue importante que (él) estudiara historia. *It was important that he study history.*

NOTE: Impersonal expressions are followed by an infinitive when no subject is mentioned at all.

Fue importante estudiar historia. *It was important to study history.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with expressions of doubt and denial

- In Lesson 28 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish with the following expressions of doubt and denial: **dudar que, negar que, no creer que, ser dudoso que, no ser cierto que, and no ser verdad que.** You learned that the present subjunctive follows expressions of doubt and denial with *non-past* verbs. The imperfect subjunctive follows expressions of doubt and denial with *past* verbs. The word **que** follows these expressions.

Present subjunctive:

El **duda que** la situación económica mejore pronto.

He doubts that the economical situation will improve soon.

Imperfect subjunctive:

El **dudaba que** la situación económica mejorara pronto.

He doubted that the economical situation would improve soon.

NOTE: The subjunctive mood is generally required with expressions of doubt and denial regardless of the subject(s) mentioned.

Ella **negó que** (ella) trabajara con esos políticos.

She denied that she worked with those politicians.



¡Atención!

More uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with *cuando*

- In Lesson 28 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish with **cuando**. You learned that the present subjunctive is used when the verb in the main clause refers to something that could take place in the future. The imperfect subjunctive is used when the verb in the main clause is a *past* verb. The word **que** is not used with **cuando**.

Present subjunctive:

Ella dice que quiere ayudar a sus padres **cuando** (ella) **tenga** dinero.

She says that she wants to help her parents when she has money.

Imperfect subjunctive:

Ella dijo que quería ayudar a sus padres **cuando** (ella) **tuviera** dinero.

She said that she wanted to help her parents when she had money.



¡Atención!

More uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with verbs that express emotion

- In Lesson 29 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish with the following verbs that express emotion: **alegrarse (de)**, **sentir**, **temer**, and **tener miedo (de)**. You learned that the present subjunctive follows *non-past* verbs that express emotion. The imperfect subjunctive follows *past* verbs that express emotion, implying that something *would happen*. The word **que** follows these verbs.

Present subjunctive:

Temen que los rebeldes ataquen
otra vez.

*They fear that the rebels will attack
again.*

Imperfect subjunctive:

Temían que los rebeldes atacaran
otra vez.

*They feared that the rebels would attack
again.*

NOTE: If there is only one subject mentioned, the subjunctive mood is not required. The second verb is in the infinitive form.

Ellos tenían miedo de ir a esa región.

They were afraid of going to that region.



¡Atención!

More uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with adverbial clauses

- In Lesson 29 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish in adverbial clauses. You learned that some adverbial conjunctions always require the subjunctive; others require the indicative or the subjunctive. The imperfect subjunctive is required in the same situations as the present subjunctive, but when the main verb is a *past* verb (or a *conditional*, as you will learn in Lesson 32).

The imperfect subjunctive is always used with the following adverbial conjunctions when the main verb is a *past* verb: **a menos que, a no ser que, antes (de) que, con tal (de) que, para que, and sin que.**

Present subjunctive:

Los rebeldes atacarán
antes de que los soldados lleguen.

*The rebels will attack
before the soldiers arrive.*

Imperfect subjunctive:

Los rebeldes atacaron
antes de que los soldados llegaran.

*The rebels attacked
before the soldiers arrived.*

Adverbial clauses introduced by the adverbial conjunctions **aunque, cuanto antes, después (de) que, en cuanto, hasta que, mientras (que), and tan pronto como,** function according to the timing implied in the main clause. In the same way that the present subjunctive is used when the main clause implies futurity with respect to the present, the imperfect subjunctive is used when the main clause implies *futurity* with respect to a *past* moment.

Present subjunctive:

Dijo que saldrá **aunque** haya
toque de queda.

*He will go out although/even if there is a
curfew.*

Imperfect subjunctive:

Dijo que iba a salir **aunque** hubiera
toque de queda.

*He said that he was going to go out
although/even if there were a curfew.*

Present subjunctive:

Meterán en la cárcel a los rebeldes
en cuanto los encuentren.

*They will put the rebels in jail
as soon as they find them.*

Imperfect subjunctive:

Dijo que iban a meter en la cárcel a
los rebeldes en cuanto los encontraran.

*He said that they were going to put the
rebels in jail as soon as they found them.*

The indicative is used when the described event has actually happened.

Dijo que metieron en la cárcel a
los rebeldes en cuanto los encontraron.

*He said that they put the
rebels in jail as soon as they found them.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the imperfect subjunctive: with adjectival clauses

In Lesson 29 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish in adjectival clauses with a nonexistent or indefinite antecedent, with the following negative expressions: **no hay nada**, **no hay nadie**, **no hay ningún . . .**, and **no hay ninguno/a**. The imperfect subjunctive is required in the same situations as the present subjunctive, but when the main verb is a *past* verb (or a *conditional*, as you will learn in Lesson 32). The word **que** precedes the imperfect subjunctive form of the verb. If the antecedent exists, or is definite, the indicative is used.

Present subjunctive:

Aquí **no hay nadie que hable** aimara.

There isn't anyone who speaks Aymara here.

Imperfect subjunctive:

Aquí **no había nadie que hablara**
aimara.

*There wasn't anyone who spoke Aymara
here.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: In Lesson 27 you learned how to use the present subjunctive in Spanish in independent clauses after the expressions **tal vez**, **quizá(s)**, **ojalá**, and **puede que**. The imperfect subjunctive can also be used after these expressions. The word **que** is not used with **tal vez** and **quizá(s)**, and it is optional after **ojalá**.

Present subjunctive:

Tal vez ellos trabajen hoy.

Maybe they(will) work today.

Present subjunctive:

Quizás (ellos) estén enfermos.

Perhaps they are ill.

Present subjunctive:

Ojalá (que) llegues a tiempo.

I hope you (will) arrive on time.

Present subjunctive:

Puede que él venga tarde.

It is possible that he will/may come late.

Imperfect subjunctive:

Tal vez ellos trabajaran hoy.

Maybe they worked today.

Imperfect subjunctive:

Quizás (ellos) estuvieran enfermos.

Perhaps they were ill.

Imperfect subjunctive:

Ojalá (que) llegaras a tiempo.

I hope you (would) arrive on time.

Imperfect subjunctive:

Puede que él viniera tarde.

It is possible that he came late.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The imperfect subjunctive is always used in Spanish in dependent clauses after the expression **como si (as if)**. The verb in the main clause does not have to be a *past* verb.

Ellos hablan como si lo supieran todo.

They speak as if they knew everything.

LECCION 32



¡Atención!

The conditional

The *conditional* in Spanish is used generally in the same situations as in English. In this lesson you will learn how to form and use the conditional of regular and irregular verbs by comparing the process to the way the future tense is formed. The future tense was presented in Lesson 7. In English, the future tense is formed with the word *will* and the conditional with *would* * : *I will vote, I would vote*. In Spanish, the future tense and the conditional consist of a one-word verb form: *Votaré, votaría*.

Regular verbs

- Just as with the future tense, to form the conditional of regular **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ir** verbs, a set of endings is added to the infinitive. The conditional endings are identical to those used to form the imperfect tense of **-er** and **-ir** verbs: **-ía**, **-ías**, **-ía**, **-íamos**, and **-ían**. Note the written accent mark on the **í** on all the endings.

	caminar	correr	vivir
yo	caminaría	correría	viviría
tú	caminarías	correrías	vivirías
Ud. } él } ella }	caminaría	correría	viviría
nosotros/as	caminaríamos	correríamos	viviríamos
Uds. } ellos } ellas }	caminarían	correrían	vivirían

Ella dijo que **caminaría** hasta el lugar de votación y que después de votar, **correría** por un rato . . . ¡ella no **viviría** en ningún otro lugar!

She said that she would walk to the voting place and that after voting, she would run for a while . . . she wouldn't live in any other place!

* In Lesson 18 you learned that when *would* describes a *repeated action in the past*, it corresponds to the Spanish imperfect tense.

Cuando yo vivía allá, **votaba** siempre.

When I lived there, I would always vote.

Irregular verbs

- The same twelve verbs that are irregular in the future tense are irregular in the conditional. To form the conditional of irregular verbs, add the same endings as for the regular verbs (-ía, -ías, -ía, -íamos, and -ían) to the stem changes of the irregular verbs. In the following examples you will find these irregular verbs conjugated in the conditional with different pronouns.

decir	dir-	(yo)	diría
hacer	har-	(tú)	harías
querer	querr-	(Ud.)	querría
caber	cabr-	(él)	cabría
haber	habr-	(ella)	habría
saber	sabr-	(nosotros/as)	sabríamos
poder	podr-	(Uds.)	podrían
poner	pondr-	(ellos)	pondrían
salir	saldr-	(ellas)	saldrían
tener	tendr-	(yo)	tendría
valer	valdr-	(tú)	valdría
venir	vendr-	(Ud.)	vendría

El dijo que **podría** * votar.

He said that he could/would be able to vote.

¿**Podría** * Ud. decirme algo sobre ese candidato?

Could you tell me something about that candidate?

* The conditional of **poder** is equivalent to the English *could* or *would be able (to)*.

NOTE: The verb **caber** (*to fit*) is irregular in the first person singular of the present tense (**yo quepo**). It is irregular in all persons in the preterite tense, following the pattern of **poder**, **poner**, and **saber**, which you learned in Lesson 16: **yo cupe, tú cupiste, Ud./él/ella cupo, nosotros/as cupimos, Uds./ellos/ellas cupieron.**

NOTE: In Lesson 28 you learned that the verb **deber**, *to owe*, also means *must/ought to*. The conditional of **deber** is equivalent to the English *should*, in the sense of obligation.

El **debería** firmar el acuerdo de paz. *He should sign the peace agreement.*



¡Atención!

Uses of the conditional: to express what would or could happen

- The conditional is used in Spanish to express what would or could happen in a particular situation, given a particular set of circumstances.

Yo **votaría**, pero no soy ciudadano de los EE.UU. *I would vote, but I am not a U.S. citizen.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the conditional: to express a projected event

- As with the future, the conditional is used in Spanish to express the idea of a projected event, one that happens later.

The future is used when the main clause is in the present.

Dicen que el presidente **llegará** pronto. *They say that the president will arrive soon.*

The conditional is used when the main clause is in the past.

Dijeron que él **llegaría** a las dos. *They said that he would arrive at two.*



¡Atención!

More uses of the conditional: to express curiosity

- As with the future, the conditional is used in Spanish to express curiosity.

The future is used to express curiosity in relation to a time frame in the present.

¿Cuántos años **tendrá** ese candidato?

How old can that candidate be?/

I wonder how old that candidate is.

The conditional is used to express curiosity in relation to a time frame in the past.

¿Cuántos años **tendría** cuando murió?

How old could he have been when he died?/

I wonder how old he was when he died.



¡Atención!

More uses of the conditional: to express hypothetical situations

- In Lesson 31 you learned some uses of the imperfect subjunctive in Spanish. Just as in English, in Spanish the imperfect subjunctive is also used along with the conditional in clauses that express hypothetical or contrary-to-fact situations, which exist only in the imagination, are unreal, or are unlikely to happen. In English, the imperfect subjunctive uses the same form as the simple past tense in the indicative mood; the imperfect subjunctive of *be* is *were* for all persons. The dependent clause starts with the word *si* (*if*) with the verb in the imperfect subjunctive expressing a condition or speculation. It is followed by a main clause with the verb in the conditional expressing a conclusion or result. The *if* or dependent clause can also follow the main clause rather than precede it.

Si yo **fuera** presidente,
construiría más escuelas.

*If I were the president,
 I would build more schools.*

Yo también **aumentaría** los sueldos,
si pudiera.*

*I would also increase salaries,
 if I could/were able to.**

- * The imperfect subjunctive of **pod**er is equivalent to the English *could* or *were able to*.

Just as in English, in Spanish the indicative is used in clauses that express facts. The dependent clause starts with the word *si* with the verb in the indicative. It is followed by a main clause with the verb also in the indicative. The *if* or dependent clause can also follow the main clause rather than precede it.

Si **puedo**, voto.

If I can, I vote.

Yo voto, **si tengo** tiempo.

I vote, if I have time.

Si Ud. ya **votó**, no **podrá** votar
 otra vez.

*If you already voted, you cannot vote
 again.*

Just as in English, in Spanish the present indicative is used along with a form of the future in clauses that express future, possible events. The dependent clause starts with the word *si* with the verb in the present indicative, expressing a condition. It is followed by a main clause with the verb in a form of the future, expressing a conclusion or result. The *if* or dependent clause can also follow the main clause rather than precede it.

Si **hay** elecciones, yo **votaré** por él.

If there are elections, I will vote for him.

Todo va a **cambiar**, si él **gana**.

Everything will change, if he wins.

LECCION 33

In Lesson 22 you learned two Spanish perfect tenses: the present perfect and the past perfect. You learned that all perfect tenses are formed by using the appropriate tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** (*to have*) and the past participle of the main verb. You learned that the past participles of **haber** (**habido**), **ser** (**sido**), and **estar** (**estado**) are equivalent to the English *been*. In this lesson you will learn other perfect tenses used in Spanish: the present perfect subjunctive, the past perfect subjunctive, the future perfect, and the conditional perfect.



¡Atención!

The present perfect subjunctive

- In Lesson 22 you learned that the present perfect is formed by using the present tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb. The present perfect subjunctive is formed by using the present subjunctive of the auxiliary verb **haber**, and the past participle of the main verb. It is used in dependent clauses when the main clause requires the present subjunctive.

The Present subjunctive of <i>haber</i>			
singular		plural	
... que yo	haya	... que nosotros/as	hayamos
... que tú	hayas	... que Uds.	} hayan
... que Ud.	} haya	... que ellos	
... que él		... que ellas	
... que ella			

Present perfect:

La escuela **ha comprado** computadoras nuevas para los alumnos.

The school has bought new computers for the students.

Present perfect subjunctive:

Espero que ya las hayan instalado.

I hope that they have already installed them.



¡Atención!

The past perfect subjunctive

- In Lesson 22 you learned that the past perfect, also known as pluperfect, is formed by using the imperfect tense of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb. The past perfect subjunctive, also known as pluperfect subjunctive, is formed by using the imperfect subjunctive of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb. It is used in dependent clauses when the main clause requires the imperfect subjunctive.

The Imperfect subjunctive of <i>haber</i>			
singular		plural	
... que yo	hubiera	... que nosotros/as	hubiéramos
... que tú	hubieras		
... que Ud.	} hubiera	... que Uds.	} hubieran
... que él		... que ellos	
... que ella		... que ellas	

Past perfect:

Ayer algunos alumnos ya **habían usado** las computadoras nuevas.

Yesterday some students had already used the new computers.

Past perfect subjunctive:

Yo **no creía** que ellos ya las **hubieran usado**.

I didn't think that they had already used them.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Like the imperfect subjunctive, the past perfect subjunctive is also used in Spanish in dependent clauses after the expression **como si** (*as if*). The verb in the main clause does not have to be a *past* verb.

Ud. habla de Chile **como si hubiera vivido** allí. *You talk about Chile as if you had lived there.*



¡Atención!

The future perfect

- In Lesson 7 you learned the future tense. The auxiliary verb **haber** is irregular in the future tense, and it is formed by adding the future endings to the stem change. The future perfect is formed by using the future of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb.

The Future Tense of <i>haber</i>			
singular		plural	
yo	habré	nosotros/as	habremos
tú	habrás		
Ud.	} habrá	Uds.	} habrán
él			
ella			

Creen que para mañana a esta hora los alumnos **habrán instalado** todas las computadoras nuevas.

They believe that by this time tomorrow the students will have installed all the new computers.



¡Atención!

The conditional perfect

- In Lesson 32 you learned the conditional. The auxiliary verb **haber** is irregular in the conditional, and it is formed by adding the conditional ending to the stem change. The conditional perfect is formed by using the conditional of the auxiliary verb **haber** and the past participle of the main verb.

The Conditional of <i>haber</i>			
singular		plural	
yo	habría	nosotros/as	habríamos
tú	habría		
Ud.	} habría	Uds.	} habrían
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

Los técnicos **habrían instalado** las computadoras más rápidamente que los alumnos.

The technicians would have installed the computers faster than the students.



¡Atención!

Using the past perfect subjunctive and the conditional perfect to express hypothetical situations

- In Lesson 32 you learned to use the imperfect subjunctive along with the conditional in clauses which express hypothetical or contrary-to-fact situations. Just as in English, Spanish uses the past perfect subjunctive along with the conditional perfect in hypothetical or contrary-to-fact situations. In English, the past perfect subjunctive uses the form *had* and the past participle of the main verb. The dependent clause starts with the word *si* (*if*) with the auxiliary verb **haber** in the imperfect subjunctive and the past participle of the verb expressing a condition or speculation. It is followed by a main clause with the auxiliary verb **haber** in the conditional and the past participle of the main verb expressing a conclusion or result. The *if* or dependent clause can also follow the main clause, rather than precede it.

**Si yo hubiera podido,
habría comprado una computadora.**

*If I had been able to,
I would have bought a computer.*

**Ellos habrían comprado computadoras,
si hubieran tenido dinero.**

*They would have bought computers,
if they had had money.*

LECCION 34



¡Atención!

Other verbs that change meaning when used in the preterite

In Lessons 17 and 19 you learned that because of the different way the preterite and the imperfect look at past events, some Spanish verbs, such as **conocer** and **saber**, change their meaning when used in the preterite. Here are other Spanish verbs that change their meaning when used in the preterite.

Verb	Preterite	Imperfect
poder	Ayer pude ir al cine.	<i>Yesterday I managed to go to the movies. (I accomplished it)</i>
no poder	No pude ir al cine ayer.	<i>I couldn't go to the movies yesterday. (I tried and failed)</i>
querer	Quise ir, pero no tuve tiempo.	<i>I wanted to go, but I didn't have time. (I meant/ I tried)</i>
no querer	El no quiso estudiar.	<i>He refused to study.</i>
tener que + infinitive	Ayer tuvimos que trabajar mucho.	<i>Yesterday we had to work a lot.</i>
		<p>Cuando era más joven, siempre podía ir al cine.</p> <p><i>When I was younger, I was always able to go to the movies.</i></p> <p>Antes, no podía ir al cine los viernes.</p> <p><i>Before, I wasn't able to go to the movies on Fridays.</i></p> <p>Queríamos ir, pero no tuvimos tiempo.</p> <p><i>We wanted to go, but we didn't have time.</i></p> <p>El no quería estudiar, pero al fin lo hizo.</p> <p><i>He didn't want to study, but he finally did it.</i></p> <p>Ayer teníamos que trabajar mucho pero no lo hicimos.</p> <p><i>We were supposed to work a lot yesterday, but we didn't do it.</i></p>



¡Atención!

Using the expression *como si...* (as if...)

In Lesson 31 you learned the imperfect subjunctive. The imperfect subjunctive is also used in Spanish in dependent clauses after the expression **como si** (*as if*). The verb in the main clause does not have to be a *past* verb.

Ellos hablan **como si lo supieran** todo. *They speak as if they knew everything.*
Ellas hablaban de él **como si lo conocieran**. *They spoke about him as if they knew him.*

In Lesson 33 you learned the past perfect subjunctive. The past perfect subjunctive is also used in Spanish in dependent clauses after **como si**. The verb in the main clause does not have to be a *past* verb.

Ud. habla **como si hubiera vivido** en Chile. *You talk as if you had lived in Chile.*
El habló **como si hubiera estado** allí. *He spoke as if he had been there.*



¡Atención!

Using *haber* + the past participle of *estar* + present participle of main verb

Use the present tense of **haber** + the past participle of **estar** + the present participle of the main verb to express ideas such as the following.

El soldado **ha estado trabajando** todo el día. *The soldier has been working the whole day.*

Use the imperfect tense of **haber** + the past participle of **estar** + the present participle of the main verb to express ideas such as the following.

El soldado ya **había estado trabajando** por tres horas cuando lo vi. *The soldier had already been working for three hours when I saw him.*



¡Atención!

The present participle of the verbs *haber*, *ser*, and *estar*

In Lessons 7 and 19 you learned the present participles. The present participles of **haber (habiendo)**, **ser (siendo)**, and **estar (estando)** are equivalent to the English *being*.

Habiendo una guerra en ese país,
él debería aplazar su viaje.

*Being that (since) there is a war in that
country, he should postpone his trip.*

En Costa Rica hay unos cuatro millones
de habitantes, **siendo** el 90 por ciento
de origen europeo.

*There are about four million inhabitants
in Costa Rica, 90 percent being of
European origin.*

Hace unos años, **estando** de vacaciones
en Costa Rica, él conoció a su esposa.

*Some years ago, while (being) on vacation
in Costa Rica, he met his wife.*

If the present participle of **haber (habiendo)** is used with the past participle of the main verb, it is equivalent to the English *having*.

Habiendo comprado su boleto,
él canceló su viaje.

*Having bought his ticket,
he canceled his trip.*



¡Atención!

Sequence of tenses using the present subjunctive and the imperfect subjunctive

Main verb (Subject 1)		Dependent verb (Subject 2)	
NON-PAST	Present indicative	El sargento ordena	el soldado estudie.
	Future indicative	El sargento ordenará	el soldado estudie.
	Periphrastic future	El sargento va a ordenar	el soldado estudie.
	Present perfect	El sargento ha ordenado	el soldado estudie.
	Command	¡Ordene/ ¡Ordena	el soldado estudie!
que			
PAST	Preterite	El sargento ordenó	el soldado estudiara.
	Imperfect	El sargento ordenaba	el soldado estudiara.
	Conditional	El sargento ordenaría	el soldado estudiara.
	Past Perfect	El sargento había ordenado	el soldado estudiara.
que			
		PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE	IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE