SPANISH VERB REVIEW

GENERAL INFORMATION A verb is a word that shows action or a state of being. Every complete sentence must have a verb. Spanish verbs are based in the infinitive. Spanish infinitives are divided into three groups or conjugations:

1st conjugation -ar verbs
2nd conjugation -er verbs
3rd conjugation -ir verbs

Spanish infinitives and verb forms can be divided into two component parts: the stem—the part that remains after removing the infinitive ending—and the ending—the part that is attached to the stem. Both of these parts communicate vital information. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>stem</th>
<th>ending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>habl</td>
<td>ar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

what? -- meaning (speak)
who? -- person (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
how many? -- number (singular/plural)
when? -- tense (past/present/future)
how? -- mood (indicative, etc.)

The meaning of the verb is self-explanatory. In the example above habl means "speak, talk". Person tells who is speaking or who is being spoken to or about. First person is the speaker, "I" in English, "yo" in Spanish. Second person is the person(s) being spoken to, "you" in English, "tú, vosotros, usted, ustedes" in Spanish. Third person refers to the person(s) or thing(s) being spoken about, "he, she, it, they" in English, "él, ella, ellos, ellas" in Spanish. Number is simply singular or plural. For example, first person singular is "I" in English, "yo" in Spanish, while first person plural is "we" in English and "nosotros, nosotras" in Spanish. Tense is simply another word for time. It can only be past, present or future. Finally, mood indicates the tone or circumstances of the sentence. For example, the indicative mood is used to indicate, state or ask information. The subjunctive mood is used to express doubt, denial or uncertainty. The imperative mood is used for commands. The conditional mood expresses the English equivalent of "would."

There is another verb feature called aspect. The perfect is used in compound tenses, formed by the auxiliary verb haber and the past participle of the main verb, as in the verb phrase "I have studied", "(yo) he comido" in Spanish. The imperfect is used to express past action that is ongoing, habitual or continuous. Finally, a verb can be non-progressive--"hablo", or progressive--"estoy hablando."

It is the combination of these four factors--person, number, tense, mood that result in the more than fifty forms each Spanish verb has. But, keep in mind the important role played by patterns in learning these many verb forms. The key to mastering Spanish verbs is becoming familiar with the small number of fairly consistent patterns, and not trying to memorize all forms of all verbs.

Another important characteristic that makes Spanish different from English is that Spanish verbs are synthetic, whereas their English counterparts are paraphrastic. What this means is that Spanish condenses or synthesizes information (often) into a single verb form that requires a verb phrase in English. For example, "hablo" can mean "I speak, I do speak, I am speaking", depending on one's intention or interpretation.
THE PRESENT INDICATIVE  This tense is used to express or ask about action taking place in the present, or action which takes place in general. There are five groups or patterns in this tense.

1. Regular Verbs. Remove the infinitive ending (-ar, -er, -ir) and attach one of the following endings to the stem:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>-ar verbs</th>
<th>-er verbs</th>
<th>-ir verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-o</td>
<td>-o</td>
<td>-o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-amos</td>
<td>-emos</td>
<td>-imos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-as</td>
<td>-es</td>
<td>-es</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-áis</td>
<td>-éis</td>
<td>-és</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-an</td>
<td>-en</td>
<td>-en</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-o</td>
<td>-amines</td>
<td>-o</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-as</td>
<td>-és</td>
<td>-es</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-a</td>
<td>-e</td>
<td>-e</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Irregular Verbs. Since there is no predictable pattern for these verbs’ forms, they are generally memorized:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ser - to be</th>
<th>estar - to be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>soy</td>
<td>estoy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>somos</td>
<td>estamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eres</td>
<td>estás</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sois</td>
<td>están</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>es</td>
<td>está</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>son</td>
<td>están</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ir - to go</td>
<td>haber - to have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>voy</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vamos</td>
<td>hemos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vas</td>
<td>has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vais</td>
<td>habéis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>va</td>
<td>ha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>van</td>
<td>han</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Irregular First Person Singular Only (Yo Form) Verbs. All of the verbs in this group have an inexplicably irregular "yo" form. All other forms of these verbs are regular. Note that verbs marked with an asterisk (*) belong to more than one group:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>infinitive</th>
<th>meaning</th>
<th>yo form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caber</td>
<td>to fit, be contained</td>
<td>quepo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caer</td>
<td>to fall</td>
<td>caigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-cer</td>
<td>conocer, merecer, etc.</td>
<td>-zco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dar</td>
<td>to give</td>
<td>doy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decir*</td>
<td>to say, tell</td>
<td>digo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ducir</td>
<td>conducir, traducir, etc.</td>
<td>-duzco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hacer</td>
<td>to do, make</td>
<td>hago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oír*</td>
<td>to hear</td>
<td>oigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poner</td>
<td>to put, place, set</td>
<td>pongo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saber</td>
<td>to know</td>
<td>sé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salir</td>
<td>to leave, go out</td>
<td>salgo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tener*</td>
<td>to have, possess</td>
<td>tengo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>traer</td>
<td>to bring</td>
<td>traigo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>venir*</td>
<td>to come</td>
<td>vengo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ver</td>
<td>to see</td>
<td>veo</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Stem-change (shoe) Verbs. These verbs make predictable internal changes as noted below, but still use the regular endings. For example:

**cerrar (ie) - to close**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>yo</th>
<th>we</th>
<th>all</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cierro</td>
<td>cerramos</td>
<td>ciernas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cierra</td>
<td>cerráis</td>
<td>cierren</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **o - ue**
  - contar - to count
  - costar - to cost
  - dormir - to sleep
  - encontrar - to find, meet
  - llover - to rain
  - mostrar - to show
  - poder - to be able
  - probar - to test, try
  - recordar - to remember
  - volver - to return

- **e - ie**
  - comenzar - to begin, start
  - empezar - to begin, start
  - entender - to understand
  - extender - to extend
  - nevar - to snow
  - pensar - to think, plan
  - perder - to lose
  - preferir - to prefer
  - querer - to want, wish, love
  - sentir - to feel
  - tener* - to have
  - venir* - to come

- **e - i**
  - decir* - to say, tell
  - elegir* - to elect
  - freír* - to fry
  - pedir - to request, ask for
  - reír* - to laugh
  - repetir - to repeat
  - seguir* - to follow, continue
  - servir - to serve
  - sonreír* - to smile

- **u - ue**
  - jugar - to play

5. Spelling-change Verbs. These verbs make somewhat predictable spelling changes, but still use regular endings:

**A. Verbs ending in -GER and -GIR:** Change G to J to maintain the "soft g" sound in the *yo* form only. Examples include:

- coger - to get, catch  
  - cojo
- corregir* - to correct  
  - corrijo
- dirigir - to direct  
  - dirijo
- elegir* - to elect, choose  
  - elijo
- escoger - to select, pick, choose  
  - escojo
- exigir - to demand  
  - exijo
- recoger - to pick up, collect  
  - recojo
B. **Verbs ending in -GUIR:** Drop the silent U to maintain the "hard G" sound in the *yo* form only. Examples include:

- **conseguir*** - to obtain, get  
  consigo
- **distinguir** - to distinguish  
  distingo
- **extinguir** - to extinguish  
  extingo
- **seguir*** - to continue, follow  
  sigo

C. **Verbs ending in -UIR (but not -GUIR or -QUIR), and OÍR***: Change I to Y in the "shoe" forms. Examples include:

- **construir** - to construct  
  construyo  
  construimos
- **contribuir** - to contribute  
  construyes  
  construís
- **destruir** - to destroy  
  destruye  
  destruyen
- **distribuir** - to distribute  
  distribuye  
  distribuimos
- **huir** - to flee, run away  
  huye  
  huéis
- **influir** - to influence  
  influye  
  influyen
- **oír*** - to hear  
  oí  
  oímos

D. **Verbs ending in -IAR, -UAR, and REUNIR**: Accent I or U in the "shoe" forms. Examples include:

- **confiar** - to trust, confide  
  confío  
  confiamos
- **continuar** - to continue  
  continuamos
- **enviar** - to send  
  enviamos
- **fiar** - to trust  
  fiámos
- **guiar** - to guide, lead  
  guía  
  guíamos
- **reunir** - to gather, meet  
  reunimos

E. **Verbs ending in -ÉÍR**: Accent i in all forms. Examples include:

- **freír*** - to fry  
  frío  
  freímos
- **refreír*** - to reheat, saute  
  refreímos
- **reír*** - to laugh  
  ríes  
  ríen
- **sonreír*** - to smile  
  sonríe  
  sonríen

THE PRETERIT (past indicative) The preterit is used to express simple, completed action in the past, often associated with a "point" in time and translated as "-ed" in English. Words or time expressions often calling for the preterit are *ayer, anoche, anteanoche, esta mañana, el/la ... pasado/a, hace ... días*, etc.

1. **Regular Verbs.**

   - **-ar**
     
     - **-é**
     - **-amos**
     - **-í**
     - **-imos**

   - **-er, -ir**
     
     - **-aste**
     - **-asteis**
     - **-iste**
     - **-isteis**

    - **-ó**
    - **-aron**
    - **-ió**
    - **-ieron**
2. **Irregular Verbs.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>-ir</strong></th>
<th><strong>-ser</strong></th>
<th><strong>-dar</strong></th>
<th><strong>-ver</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fui</td>
<td>fuimos</td>
<td>di</td>
<td>dimos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fuiste</td>
<td>fuisteis</td>
<td>diste</td>
<td>disteis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fue</td>
<td>fueron</td>
<td>dio</td>
<td>dieron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi</td>
<td>vimos</td>
<td>viste</td>
<td>visteis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **New-stem Verbs.** These verbs form a totally new stem and all take the following endings:

- **-e** -imos
- **-iste** -isteis
- **-o** -ieron (-eron after J)

New-stem verbs fall into the following three categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>-a stem</strong></th>
<th><strong>-i stem</strong></th>
<th><strong>-u stem</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>traer</td>
<td>decir</td>
<td>andar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hacer</td>
<td>hic-</td>
<td>caber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(hizo)</td>
<td>estar</td>
<td>hub-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>querer</td>
<td>quis-</td>
<td>poder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>satisfacer</td>
<td>satisfic-</td>
<td>poner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(satisfizo)</td>
<td></td>
<td>sup-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>venir</td>
<td>vin-</td>
<td>tener</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-ducir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-duj-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Stem-change (loafer) Verbs.** Most stem-change verbs are regular in the preterit. That is, their stem vowel does **not** change. However, **-ir stem-change verbs** change O - U or E - I in third persons only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>dormir (ue,u) - to sleep</th>
<th>pedir (i,i) - to request</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dormí</td>
<td>pedí</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dormiste</td>
<td>pediste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>durmió</td>
<td>pidió</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>durmieron</td>
<td>pidieron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples: *mentir (ie,i), morir (ue,u), preferir (ie,i), repetir (i,i), sentir (ie,i), servir (i,i), vestirse (i,i)*

5. **Spelling-change Verbs.** Endings are regular, stems go through changes.

   **A. Verbs in -ZAR:** change Z to C in the first person singular only.
   
   Examples: *almorzar, avergonzar, empezar*
   
   almorcé, avergoncé, empecé
B. **Verbs in -GAR**: change G to GU in the first person singular only.
   Examples: *jugar, llegar, colgar, rogar*
   jugué, llegué, colgué, rogué

C. **Verbs in -CAR**: change C to QU in the first person singular only.
   Examples: *buscar, colocar, indicar, tocar*
   busqué, coloqué, indiqué, toqué

D. **Verbs in -GUAR**: place dieresis (ü) over U in the first person singular only.
   Examples: *averiguar, apaciguar, amortiguar*
   averigüé, apacigüé, amortigüé

E. **Verbs in -EER, -EÍR (I, I), -UIR, CAER, and OÍR**: accent I in all forms (-EÍR verbs do not accent I in -IERON); and change I to Y in third person singular and plural (except -EÍR).
   Examples: *caer, creer, leer, construir, huir, freír, reír, sonreír.*
   caí, caíste, cayó, caímos, caísteis, cayeron
   creí, creíste, creyó, creímos, creísteis, creyeron
   huí, huíste, huyó, huímos, huísteis, huyeron

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**THE IMPERFECT** The imperfect is used to: (1) express repeated, customary or habitual action in the past (English "used to"); (2) express mental activity in the past; (3) describe in the past with no direct action taking place (to set the scene); and (4) express a continued (ongoing) past action which is interrupted by some other action (English "was" or "were" "-ing"); the latter verb will be in the preterite.

1. **Regular Verbs.**

   **-ar**
   -aba -ábamos -ía -íamos
   -abas -abais -ías -íais
   -aba -aban -ía -ían

   **-er, -ir**
   -iba íbamos -era éramos -eía -eíamos
   -ibas -ibais -eras -erais
   -iba -iban -era -eran

2. **Irregular Verbs.**

   **ir - to go**
   iba íbamos era éramos veía veíamos
   ibas ibais eras erais veías veíais
   iba iban era eran veía veían

   **ser - to be**
   - iba íbamos era éramos veía veíamos
   - ibas ibais eras erais veías veíais
   - iba iban era eran veía veían

   **ver - to see**
   - iba íbamos era éramos veía veíamos
   - ibas ibais eras erais veías veíais
   - iba iban era eran veía veían

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**THE PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE** This tense is used to imply subjectivity. That is, there exists the possibility that the action may or may not take place, usually expressed as a question, negative, feeling, or command. Note the following examples:

- Espero que *vayan* pronto. (I hope they leave soon.)
- ¿Es posible que *llueva*? (Is it possibly going to rain?)
- No creen que yo *pueda* hacerlo. (They don't think I can do it.)
- ¡*Hablen* Uds. en voz baja! (Speak in a quiet voice!)
Most expressions calling for the subjunctive in Spanish have two subjects and two verbs, whose clauses are separated by que, as in the first three examples above. However, if the subjects are the same, the infinitive replaces the subjunctive:

Espero salir pronto. (I hope to leave soon.)
¿Es posible comer ahora? (Is it possible to eat now?)

1. **Regular Verbs.** Remove the infinitive ending and use the opposite endings: -er endings for -ar verbs and -ar endings for -er and -ir verbs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>-ar verbs</th>
<th>-er, -ir verbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-e</td>
<td>-a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-es</td>
<td>-as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-e</td>
<td>-a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. **Irregular Verbs.** There are only six unpredictable verbs in the present subjunctive:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ir - to go</th>
<th>ser - to be</th>
<th>dar - to give</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vaya</td>
<td>sea</td>
<td>dé</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vayas</td>
<td>seas</td>
<td>des</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vaya</td>
<td>sea</td>
<td>dé</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>haber - to have</th>
<th>saber - to know</th>
<th>estar - to be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>haya</td>
<td>sepa</td>
<td>esté</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hayas</td>
<td>sepas</td>
<td>estés</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haya</td>
<td>sepa</td>
<td>esté</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. **Stem-change (shoe) Verbs.** All "shoe" verbs use the above endings and go through the same stem-changes (U-UE, O-UE, E-I,EIE) as in the present indicative. However, "shoe" verbs ending in -ir make additional changes of O-U and E-I in nosotros and vosotros (shoe verbs with "laces"). For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>dormir (ue, u)</th>
<th>sentir (ie, i)</th>
<th>repetir (i, i)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>duerma</td>
<td>sienta</td>
<td>repita</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duermamos</td>
<td>sintamos</td>
<td>repitamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duermás</td>
<td>sintáis</td>
<td>repitéais</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>duerma</td>
<td>sienta</td>
<td>repita</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Yo Form Verbs.** You will recognize these verbs as having an irregular yo form in the present indicative. In the present subjunctive, that same yo form is used as the stem, to which the subjunctive endings are added. For example caber - to fit, has the irregular yo form quepo. Simply drop the final -O and add the opposite endings: quepa, quepas, quepa, quepamos, quepáis, quepan.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Infinitive</th>
<th>Yo Form</th>
<th>Subjunctive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caber</td>
<td>quepo</td>
<td>quepa, quepas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caer</td>
<td>caigo</td>
<td>caiga, caigas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-cer</td>
<td>-zco</td>
<td>-zca, -zcas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decir</td>
<td>digo</td>
<td>diga, digas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-ducir</td>
<td>-duzco</td>
<td>-duzca, -duzcas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hacer</td>
<td>hago</td>
<td>haga, hagas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oír</td>
<td>oigo</td>
<td>oiga, oigas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poner</td>
<td>pongo</td>
<td>ponga, pongas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>salir</td>
<td>salgo</td>
<td>salga, salgas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tener</td>
<td>tengo</td>
<td>tenga, tengas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>traer</td>
<td>traigo</td>
<td>traiga, traigas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>valer</td>
<td>valgo</td>
<td>valga, valgas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>venir</td>
<td>vengo</td>
<td>venga, vengas, ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ver</td>
<td>veo</td>
<td>vea, veas, ...</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Spelling-change Verbs.** The forms of these verbs in the present subjunctive are similar to their indicative counterparts, except that opposite endings are used.

   **A. Verbs ending in -GER and -GIR:** Change G to J to maintain the "soft G" sound in all forms.

   - coger: coja, cojas, ...
   - corregir (i,i): corrija, corrijas, ...
   - dirigir: dirija, dirijas, ...
   - elegir (i,i): elija, elijas, ...
   - escoger: escoja, escojas, ...
   - exigir: exija, exijas, ...
   - recoger: recoja, recojas, ...

   **B. Verbs ending in -GUIR:** Drop the silent U to maintain the "hard G" sound in all forms.

   - conseguir (i,i): consiga, consigas, ...
   - distinguir: distinga, distingas, ...
   - extinguir: extinga, extingas, ...
   - seguir (i,i): siga, sigas, ...

   **C. Verbs ending in -UIR (but not -GUIR or -QUIR).**

   - construir: construya, construyas, ...
   - contribuir: contribuya, contribuyas, ...
   - destruir: destruya, destruyas, ...
   - distribuir: distribuya, distribuyas, ...
   - fluir: fluya, fluyas, ...
   - huir: huya, huyas, ...
   - influir: influya, influyas, ...

   **D. Verbs ending in -IAR, -UAR, and REUNIR:** Accent I or U in the "shoe" forms.

   - confiar: confíe, confíes, ...
   - continuar: continúe, continúes, ...
   - enviar: envíe, envíes, ...
   - guiar: guíe, guíes, ...
   - reunir: reúna, reúnas, ...
E. **Verbs ending in -ÉIR**: Change E to I and accent I in the "shoe" forms.

- freír, fría, frías, ...
- refreír, refría, refrías, ...
- reír, ría, rías, ...
- sonreír, sonría, sonrías, ...

**THE FUTURE INDICATIVE** The future tense in Spanish has two basic uses: To replace English "will" or "shall" and to express probability. Note its use in the following examples:

--¿Qué hora es? --**Serán** las tres. (It's probably 3 o'clock.)
Un momento. **Iré** contigo. (Just a moment. I'll go with you.)

The forms of the future (and the conditional in the next section) **use the entire infinitive or a modified infinitive** plus the following endings:

- -é -emos
- -ás -éis
- -á -án

1. **Regular Verbs.** Use the **infinitive** plus the above endings for -AR, -ER and -IR verbs.

   **Estudiaré** para el examen mañana.
   (I'll study for the test tomorrow.)

   Los Gómez **venderán** su casa pronto.
   (The Gomezes will probably sell their house soon.)

   **Recibirás** mi respuesta esta tarde
   (You'll receive my response this afternoon.)

2. **Modified Infinitives.** These groups are easily remembered as the "5-5-2" categories according to their modification.

   **A. Verbs that change E or I to D:**
   - poner, pondré, pondrás, ...
   - salir, saldré, saldrás, ...
   - tener, tendré, tendrás, ...
   - valer, valdré, valdrás, ...
   - venir, vendré, vendrás, ...

   **B. Verbs that drop E:**
   - caber, cabré, cabrás, ...
   - haber, habré, habrás, ...
   - querer, querré, querrás, ...
   - poder, podré, podrás, ...
   - saber, sabré, sabrás, ...
C. Verbs that drop E and C:

decir  diré, dirás, ...
 hacer  haré, harás, ...

THE CONDITIONAL  The conditional mood is often taught immediately after the future because its forms and uses are parallel. The conditional replaces English "would" or expresses past probability. For example:

¿Qué hora sería?  (What time could it have been?)

Me dijiste que vendrías.  (You told me you would come.)

Like the future tense, the conditional uses the infinitive or a modified infinitive, to which the following endings (from the imperfect) are added:

-ía  -íamos
-ías -íais
-ia  -ian

THE PERFECT TENSES  These compound tenses parallel English. They use a form of the auxiliary verb haber - to have and the past participle of the main verb. Note the following examples:

Papá todavía no ha llegado.  (Dad still hasn't arrived.)

Ellos ya habían comido.  (They had already eaten.)

El avión ya habrá salido.  (The plane has probably already left.)

1. Formation of the Past Participle.  Past participles have several uses in Spanish, including as adjectives, nouns, and part of the perfect tenses, in which case they always end in -O.

A. Regular Verbs.  Verbs ending in -AR drop the infinitive ending and add -ADO. Similarly verbs ending in -ER and -IR drop their infinitive ending and add -IDO. For example:

   hablar  hablado
   comer  comido
   vivir  vivido

B. Verbs ending in -AER, -EER, -EÍR, some -UIR, and OÍR.  Place a written accent over I. For example:

   caer  caído
   creer  creído
   huir  huido
   leer  leído
   oír  oído
   reír  reído
   traer  traído
C. Irregular Verbs. The following verbs have irregular past participles which must be memorized:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Participle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abrir</td>
<td>abierto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cubrir</td>
<td>cubierto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>decir</td>
<td>dicho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>escribir</td>
<td>escrito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freír</td>
<td>frito</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hacer</td>
<td>hecho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morir</td>
<td>muerto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>poner</td>
<td>puesto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>romper</td>
<td>roto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ver</td>
<td>visto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>volver</td>
<td>vuelto</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Formation of the Perfect Tenses.

A. The Present Perfect. This tense uses the present indicative of HABER and is used to relate an event in the past to the present. For example:

No tengo hambre porque ya **he comido**.
(I'm not hungry because I've already eaten.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You</th>
<th>We</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>he</td>
<td>hemos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>has</td>
<td>habéis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ha</td>
<td>han</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. The Pluperfect. This tense uses the imperfect of HABER and relates an earlier past event to the recent past. While there is a Preterite Perfect, this tense suffices for uses in the past. Note:

Los alumnos no **habían estudiado** suficiente para la prueba.
(The students hadn't studied enough for the quiz.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You</th>
<th>We</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>había</td>
<td>habíamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>habías</td>
<td>habíais</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>había</td>
<td>habían</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. The Future Perfect. Use the future of HABER in this tense to relate future actions or to express probability:

Todavía no lo **habrán visto**, ¿verdad?
(They probably haven't seen it yet, right?)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You</th>
<th>We</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>habré</td>
<td>habremos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>habrás</td>
<td>habréis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>habrá</td>
<td>habrán</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. The Conditional Perfect. Use the conditional of HABER in this tense to relate past events.

No habrían ido allí. (They wouldn't have gone there.)

    habría      habríamos
    habrías     habríais
    habría      habrían

E. The Present Perfect Subjunctive. This tense is uses the present subjunctive of HABER to express subjectivity:

Dudan que yo haya conquistado al enemigo.  
(They doubt that I have defeated the enemy.)

    haya        hayamos
    hayas       hayáis
    haya        hayan

F. The Pluperfect Subjunctive. Use the imperfect subjunctive of HABER to express contrary to fact situations in the past:

Tú no habrías salido si yo te hubiera llamado antes.  
(You wouldn't have left if I had called you earlier.)

    hubiera     hubiéramos
    hubieras    hubierais
    hubiera     hubieran

THE IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE. This tense is used to express contrary to fact statements in the past, or when the verb in the main clause is in the past or conditional. Its formation is simplified by using the third person plural (ellos) form of the preterite as the stem. Just remove the -RON of that form and add the following endings:

- ra    -ramos     - se    -semos
- ras   - rais    OR - ses    - seis
- ra    - ran      - se    - sen

The -SE forms are found primarily in literary works and have been replaced in contemporary use by the -RA forms. Here are some examples of the imperfect subjunctive:

Era imposible que yo terminara a tiempo.  
(It was impossible for me to finish on time.)

Mamá exigió que los hijos se acostaran temprano.  
(Mom demanded that the children go to bed early.)

Review the third person plural (ellos) form of the preterite when working with this tense.
THE PROGRESSIVE TENSES. These tenses parallel English in form, but not in use. That is, people who translate directly from English to Spanish misuse or overuse this tense. The progressive is composed of **a form of ESTAR or a verb of motion, and the present participle of the main verb**, and emphasizes the ongoing or "right now" nature of the action. Observe the following examples:

No puedo hablar ahorita porque **estoy estudiando**.
(I can't talk right now because I'm studying.)

La niña **entró llorando**.
(The girl came in crying.)

Los médicos aún **siguen buscando** la causa de su muerte.
(The doctors are still looking for the cause of her death.)

The reason these forms are so often misused, especially with **ESTAR**, is because of the assumed one-to-one correspondence between **ESTAR** and the English forms of "being--is, am, are, ...", and the present participle and English "-ing." Unless the ongoing nature of the action is being stressed, the indicative can often express the same idea:

Saco mejores notas porque estudio más este año.
(I'm getting better grades because I'm studying more this year.)

1. **Formation of the Present Participle.**

A. **Regular Verbs:** Verbs ending in -AR drop the infinitive ending and add **-ANDO**.
Verbs ending in -ER and -IR add **-IENDO** to the stem:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Participle</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hablar</td>
<td>hablando</td>
<td>speaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>comer</td>
<td>comiendo</td>
<td>eating</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>escribir</td>
<td>escribiendo</td>
<td>writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. **Stem-change -IR Verbs:** Several -IR verbs make an additional change of the stem vowel of **O-U or E-I** before adding **-IENDO**:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Participle</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>decir</td>
<td>diciendo</td>
<td>telling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dormir</td>
<td>durmiendo</td>
<td>sleeping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>morir</td>
<td>muriendo</td>
<td>dying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pedir</td>
<td>pidiendo</td>
<td>requesting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sentir</td>
<td>sintiendo</td>
<td>feeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>venir</td>
<td>viniendo</td>
<td>coming</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. **Verbs ending in -AER, -EER, -UIR, and OÍR:** Change the I of **-IENDO** to Y:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Participle</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>caer</td>
<td>cayendo</td>
<td>falling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>creer</td>
<td>creyendo</td>
<td>believing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fluir</td>
<td>fluyendo</td>
<td>flowing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>huir</td>
<td>huyendo</td>
<td>fleeing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leer</td>
<td>leyendo</td>
<td>reading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oír</td>
<td>oyendo</td>
<td>listening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>traer</td>
<td>trayendo</td>
<td>bringing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**D. Irregular Verbs:** The following verbs have unpredictable present participles which must be learned by rote:

- freír friendo frying
- ir yendo going
- reír riendo laughing
- sonreír sonriendo smiling

**2. Formation of the Progressive Tenses.**

**A. With forms of ESTAR:**

- están comiendo they are eating
- estábamos estudiando we were studying
- estará nadando she's probably swimming
- estaria durmiendo he was probably sleeping

**B. With Verbs of Motion:**

- andar anduvieron hablando they walked talking
- entrar entraron sonriendo they'll enter smiling
- salir salieron riendo they left laughing
- ir va comiendo he goes along eating
- seguir siguen cantando they continue singing
- venir vienes quejando you come complaining

**COMMANDS** Spanish commands are more complicated than English for three reasons: There are more than one way of saying "you" in Spanish; some positive commands are different from their negative forms; and two tenses are required, the **subjunctive** or the **imperative**. Look at the chart below to understand these complications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tú</th>
<th>Vosotros</th>
<th>Ud.</th>
<th>Uds.</th>
<th>Nosotros</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>imperative</td>
<td>imperative</td>
<td>subjunctive</td>
<td>subjunctive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>subjunctive</td>
<td>subjunctive</td>
<td>subjunctive</td>
<td>subjunctive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The **tú** and **vosotros** forms are called **familiar commands**, the **Ud.** and **Uds.** forms are **formal commands**, and the **nosotros** forms are **indirect commands**, translated as "Let's ...". Observe the following examples of these various commands:

- No hables en voz tan alta. (Don't speak so loudly.)
- Toma tu sombrero y póntelo. (Take your hat and put it on.)
- Lea Ud. más despacio, por favor. (Read slower, please.)
- Vamos a bailar. or Bailemos. (Let's dance.)
- Clase, no se vayan Uds. todavía. (Don't leave yet.)
- Venid compañeros. Sentaos. (Come in friends. Sit down.)
Notice from some of the above examples that two rules about pronouns apply depending on the command forms: In front of positive commands and attached to the rear of negative forms.

1. **Positive Familiar Commands.** These are the tú and vosotros forms telling someone with whom you are informal to do something.

   A. **Regular Verbs:** For tú, simply use the third person singular form of the present indicative (see pp. 2-4).

   - comer: Come (tú). Eat.
   - repetir: Repite (tú). Repeat.

   For vosotros, simply replace the -R of the infinitive with a D for all verbs. However, if the reflexive pronoun os is added, the -D is dropped, except for the verb IRSE, which retains the -D:

   - comer: Comed. Eat.
   - sentarse: Sentaos. Sit down.
   - irse: Idos. Go away.

   B. **Irregular Verbs:** You should quickly recognize the following verbs which have irregular positive commands:

   - decir: Di la verdad.Tell the truth.
   - hacer: Haz tu tarea. Do your homework.
   - poner: Pon la mesa. Set the table.
   - salir: Sal ahorita. Leave right now.
   - tener: Ten paciencia. Be patient.

   There are no irregular positive vosotros commands, except IRSE, noted above.

2. **Negative Familiar Commands.** Simply use the present subjunctive (see pp. 7-9) of the verb for both singular and plural forms:

   - No te vayas. Don't leave.
   - No os sentéis. Don't sit down.
   - No hables. Don't talk.
   - No volváis. Don't return.

3. **Positive and Negative Formal Commands.** Both the singular (Ud.) and plural (Uds.) forms use the present subjunctive to express positive and negative commands (see pp. 6-8). However they differ in the location of object pronouns— in front for positive and attached to the rear of negative forms. Note these examples:

   - Tráigame los. Bring them to me.
   - No salgan todavía. Don't leave yet.
   - Coma más despacio. Eat more slowly.
   - Véndanmelo ahorita. Sell it to me right now.
4. **First Person Indirect Commands.** Spanish also classifies the idea of "Let's ..." as a command form, although indirectly. There are two ways of expressing this command: By using the *nosotros* form of the present subjunctive or with *vamos a* ... . Observe the following examples:

- Bailemos.  
  Let's dance.
- No se lo digamos.  
  Let's not tell it to her.
- Vamos a comer ahora.  
  Let's eat now.
- Traigámoselo.  
  Let's bring it to her.

The only exception to the above rule is the verb *IR*, which uses the present indicative:

- Vamos a casa.  
  Let's go home.

---

**THE PASSIVE VOICE** All the above verb forms are used for active sentences. But passive sentences also exist in Spanish, although to a lesser degree than in English. There are two ways of expressing the passive voice in Spanish.

1. **SER + Past Participle + POR + Agent.** The "true" passive voice is expressed by the above formula. Note its use below:

- Las ciudades fueron fundadas por los españoles.  
  (The cities were founded by the Spaniards.)
- Tenochtitlán fue destruída por Cortez.  
  (Tenochtitlán was destroyed by Cortez.)
- Las cartas serán entregadas por el cartero.  
  (The letters will be delivered by the postman.)

Note that the form of SER can be in several tenses, singular or plural, and that the past participle agrees with the object (cartas--entregadas).

2. **Using The Reflexive Construction.** In cases where the agent is not expressed or is unimportant, the reflexive pronoun *SE* is used with the third person singular or plural of the verb. This construction is often used in newspaper advertisements and can be translated as "one ...". Note its use in these examples:

- **Se necesita** secretaria.  
  (Wanted--secretary.)
- Aquí **se hablan** español y francés.  
  (Spanish and French are spoken here.)
- ¿Cómo **se dice** ...?  
  (How does one say ...?)
- **Así se hace**, ¿no?  
  (This is how it's done, right?)