

Prince Henry's Grammar School A-Level Spanish Summer 2022 Bridging work



Useful websites

Access useful websites such as:

www.bbc.com/mundo

www.canalsur.es

www.clarin.com

www.elpais.com

www.rtve.es

Theses YouTube channels / podcasts may be of interest:

Coffee Break Spanish

Easy Spanish

Notes in Spanish

Spanish with Vicente



Grammar

1 The present tense

G Verbs are used in different tenses. Tenses tell us when the action of the verb happened, is happening or will happen, i.e. in the past, present or future.

You use the **present tense** to talk about things that are taking place now or happen repeatedly or are general statements of fact or belief.

Lleva una camiseta. She's wearing a T-shirt.

Vivo en Madrid. I live in Madrid.

It is also used for things that you are planning to do soon.

¿Me mandas un SMS luego? Will you send me a text later?

In Spanish, the ending of the verb tells you who or what the subject is. There are two types of verb: regular and irregular. **Regular verbs** have the same pattern of endings. **Irregular verbs** don't follow these patterns and have to be learned individually (see pp. 38–39).

Categories of regular verb

In Spanish, regular verbs fall into three categories. You can identify them by the **infinitive** form (the form used in the dictionary which does not express any particular tense or person): the different groups end in **-ar**, **-er** and **-ir**. To make the different forms, remove **-ar**, **-er** or **-ir** to find the stem (the part that does not change). Then add the following endings to the stem.

	hablar (to speak)	comer (to eat)	escribir (to write)
(yo)	hablo	como	escribo
(tú)	hablas	comes	escribes
(él/ella/usted)	habla	come	escribe
(nosotros/nosotras)	hablamos	comemos	escribimos
(vosotros/vosotras)	habláis	coméis	escribís
(ellos/ellas/ustedes)	hablan	comen	escriben



Exceptions

Some verbs are regular in the present tense apart from the 'I' form: *hago* (*hacer* – to do/make), *salgo* (*salir* – to go out), *veo* (*ver* – to see/watch).

Key time expressions

To help you recognise the present tense, look out for key time expressions like these: **hoy** (today), **ahora** (now), **en este momento** (now), **los lunes** (on Mondays), **todos los días** (every day).

Identify and correct the errors in the verbs.

- Mis amigos y yo toca el teclado dos veces a la semana. _____
- Jorge abramos la ventana. _____
- Cuando sus tías viajáis por España, siempre compras recuerdos. _____
- ¿Isabel y Juan, no bebes limonada? _____
- ¿Dónde vive tus primos? _____
- Cuando hace calor, yo nadan pero mi amigo descansas. _____

Identify the infinitive form – then you will know which endings to use.

Translate these sentences into Spanish.

Look very carefully at the subject of each verb in a sentence – it isn't always the same for each one.

1 We **live** in the country but our mother **works** in the city.

2 I don't drink milk and my brother doesn't eat cheese.

3 Ana sees Luke every day. They read books in the library.

Translate this passage into Spanish.

Use *encargar*.

At the weekends, I work in a bookshop with a café. All the shop assistants speak lots of languages. We sell books and we also help the customers. My manager looks for and **orders** books online. In the afternoon, I prepare drinks in the café. Where do you work? Do you and your friends earn a lot of money?

Connect each verb to its meaning in English and the correct infinitive.

- | | | |
|---------|------------|-------|
| 1 voy | a they are | ir |
| 2 están | b I go | |
| 3 tengo | c I am | estar |
| 4 está | d he is | |
| 5 van | e we are | ser |
| 6 tiene | f they go | |
| 7 somos | g I have | tener |
| 8 soy | h she has | |



Complete this grid with the correct verb forms. Can you see any patterns that might help you remember the different forms?

subject	tener	ir	estar	ser
Ana			está	
Ana and José	tienen			
Ana and I				somos
I		voy		

G Some verbs in the present tense have a spelling change in the stem (the stem is the part of the verb that you add the endings to). There are three main kinds of stem-changing verbs, those where the *e* in the infinitive changes to *ie*; those where the *o* changes to *ue*; and those where the *e* changes to *i*.

	e → ie	o → ue	e → i
	pensar (to think)	poder (to be able to/can)	pedir (to ask for)
(yo)	pienso	puedo	pido
(tú)	piensas	puedes	pides
(él/ella/usted)	piensa	puede	pide
(nosotros/nosotras)	pensamos	podemos	pedimos
(vosotros/vosotras)	pensáis	podéis	pedís
(ellos/ellas/ustedes)	piensan	pueden	piden

- Look at the six forms of the verb **pensar**. The stem of a regular verb would be *pens-*, but you can see that for all forms of the verb except the 'we' and 'you plural' forms, the stem is *piens-*. This is the same for other common verbs of this type: *cerrar* (to close), *empezar* (to begin), *entender* (to understand), *querer* (to want), *preferir* (to prefer) and *perder* (to lose).
Pienso que es muy simpática. I think she's very nice.
Quieren ir al cine. They want to go to the cinema.
- Now look at **poder**: the *o* of the stem changes to *ue* in all but the 'we' and 'you plural' forms of the verb. Other common verbs that follow this pattern are: *doler* (to hurt), *soler* (to usually do something), *dormir* (to sleep), *encontrar* (to find), *costar* (to cost), *volver* (to return), *acostarse* (to go to bed), *almorzar* (to have lunch).
Me duele el estómago. My stomach hurts.
¿Cuánto cuestan las botas? How much do the boots cost?
- The verb **jugar** (to play) is also stem-changing, but in this case it is a *u* in the stem that changes to *ue* (*juego*, etc.).
Juegan mucho al tenis. They play tennis a lot.
- Verbs like **pedir** change the *e* of the stem to *i*, again in all but the 'we' and 'you plural' forms of the verb.
Pido tapas en un restaurante español. I order tapas in a Spanish restaurant.

The endings for stem-changing verbs are the same as for regular *-ar*, *-er*, and *-ir* verbs in the present tense.

1 Choose the correct form of the verb to complete each sentence.

- 1 Mi amigo *prefiero / preferimos / prefiere* estar al aire libre.
- 2 Y tú, ¿siempre *cierra / cierras / cerráis* la puerta?
- 3 Yo no *puedo / podemos / puede* ir al cine hoy.
- 4 Nosotros *juegas / jugamos / jugáis* al bádminon después del insti.
- 5 A mí me *duelen / duelo / duele* la pierna.
- 6 Y vosotras, ¿cuándo *queréis / quieres / quieren* ver la tele?
- 7 Mi hermano y yo *sueles / solemos / suele* lavar el coche los sábados.
- 8 Las clases *empiezan / empiezas / empieza* a las nueve.

★ Remember that in all tenses the 'we' form of the verb always ends *-mos* and the 'they' form always ends *-n*.



2 Unjumble the stem-changing verbs in brackets to complete the sentences.

- 1 Yo _____ (*reopiefr*) hacer equitación.
- 2 De vacaciones mi hermana _____ (*esule*) ir a Marbella.
- 3 Los españoles _____ (*anujge*) mucho al baloncesto.
- 4 Nosotros no _____ (*dpsmooe*) salir esta noche.
- 5 Y tú, ¿ _____ (*useeqir*) poner la mesa?

Verbs The present tense: reflexive verbs

» Foundation
» Higher p. 4

G Reflexive verbs often describe actions that you do to yourself (*lavarse* – to have a wash or wash yourself) or actions that you share with someone else (*pelearse* – to argue with each other). They are easily recognisable in their infinitive form because they have **-se** on the end (*divertirse*, etc.).

What makes these verbs different is that they need an extra word before the verb in any tense. This word is called the reflexive pronoun (*me, te, se, nos, os, se* depending on the form of the verb used – see p. 27 for a reminder).

	lavarse (to wash oneself)	acostarse (to go to bed)	vestirse (to get dressed)
(yo)	me lavo	me acuesto	me visto
(tú)	te lavas	te acuestas	te vistes
(él/ella/usted)	se lava	se acuesta	se viste
(nosotros/nosotras)	nos lavamos	nos acostamos	nos vestimos
(vosotros/vosotras)	os laváis	os acostáis	os vestis
(ellos/ellas/ustedes)	se lavan	se acuestan	se visten

Notice that *acostarse* (o → ue) and *vestirse* (e → i) are also stem-changing verbs. See pp. 40–41 for more information.

¿A qué hora **te acuestas**?

Me acuesto a las diez.

Se pelean todo el tiempo.

Nos levantamos temprano.

What time **do you go to bed**?

I go to bed at 10.00.

They argue all the time.

We get up early.

When reflexive verbs are used in the infinitive, the reflexive pronoun is added on to the end of it. The pronoun must match the subject (the person who is doing the action):

Antes de **vestirme**, **tomo** el desayuno.

Before **I get dressed**, **I have** breakfast.

After a preposition (*a, de, en, con, sin*), you must use the infinitive of the verb. In the example above, the infinitive is **vestirme**. The reflexive pronoun on the end of the infinitive is **me**, because the subject of the verb is 'I'.

In this sentence, the reflexive pronoun on the infinitive is **se** because the subject is 'he':

Va al insti **sin ducharse**.

He's going to school without having a shower.

1 Complete the sentences using the words from the box.

te lleva levanto nos divertimos se

- Me _____ a las seis de la mañana.
- Sus hermanas _____ pelean mucho.
- Nos _____ cuando vamos al cine.
- ¿Te bañas o _____ duchas?
- Mi primo se _____ bien con todo el mundo.
- De vacaciones mi familia y yo _____ quedamos en un hotel.

2 Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Mi mejor amigo y yo | a apoyamos si tenemos problemas. |
| 2 Siempre nos | b quedarte en la playa? |
| 3 Como tengo el pelo muy largo, | c levantarnos temprano mañana. |
| 4 ¿Te gusta | d nos conocemos desde hace seis años. |
| 5 Y vosotros, | e ¿os peleáis mucho? |
| 6 Vamos a | f es bastante difícil peinarme. |



2 Past tenses

Verbs The preterite: regular verbs

G You use the preterite to talk about completed actions in the past.

Aprendí a hacer vela.

¿Conociste a algunas chicas en las vacaciones?

I learned how to sail.

Did you meet any girls during the holidays?

The preterite is not used for descriptions of things in the past or for repeated actions in the past – for these you use the imperfect tense (see pp. 56–57).

There are two types of verbs: regular and irregular. **Regular verbs** have the same pattern of endings. Irregular verbs don't follow these patterns and have to be learned individually (see pp. 38–39).

To make the different preterite forms of regular verbs, remove **-ar**, **-er** or **-ir** from the infinitive of the verb to find the stem (the part that doesn't change). Then add the following endings to the stem:

	visitar (to visit)	comer (to drink)	salir (to leave/go out)
(yo)	visité	comí	salí
(tú)	visitaste	comiste	saliste
(él/ella/usted)	visitó	comió	salió
(nosotros/nosotras)	visitamos	comimos	salimos
(vosotros/vosotras)	visitasteis	comisteis	salisteis
(ellos/ellas/ustedes)	visitaron	comieron	salieron

Recognising patterns

- In the preterite, endings for **-er** and **-ir** verbs are the same.
- The 'we' form of **-ar** and **-ir** verbs in the preterite is the same as the present tense: *visitamos* – we visited; *salimos* – we go out/we went out. You have to use the context to work out which is meant.

Exceptions

Some verbs are regular in the preterite apart from the 'I' form:

saqué (*sacar* – to take) *toqué* (*tocar* – to touch/play [instrument]) *jugué* (*jugar* – to play [game/sport])
cruce (*cruzar* – to cross) *empecé* (*empezar* – to begin) *llegué* (*llegar* – to arrive)

Key time expressions

To help you recognise the preterite, look out for key time expressions such as **ayer** (yesterday) and ... *pasado* (last ...), e.g. *la semana pasada* (last week).

1 Circle the verbs that are the same in the present tense and the preterite. Then highlight the other verbs that are in the preterite.



Remember that some forms are the same in the present tense and the preterite.

hablaron	bebí	lavo	vivimos	compré	vende
cenamos	escribió	mando	viviste	bailasteis	tocamos
como	llamé	leí	necesitan	ordenáis	veo
cocinaste	aprendemos	lleva	salieron	recibió	

Complete this grid with the correct verb forms.

infinitive	present	preterite
	compro	
	partes	
	vende	
	tomamos	
	subis	
	beben	

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Verbs The preterite: irregular verbs

» Higher

G Some common verbs are irregular in the preterite and it is important that you know which they are and how they are formed. They don't follow a fixed pattern, so you need to learn them separately.

ser (to be)	ir (to go)	estar (to be)	hacer (to do, to make)	tener (to have)
fui	fui	estuve	hice	tuve
fuiste	fuiste	estuviste	hiciste	tuviste
fue	fue	estuvo	hizo	tuvo
fuimos	fuimos	estuvimos	hicimos	tuvimos
fuisteis	fuisteis	estuvisteis	hicisteis	tuvisteis
fueron	fueron	estuvieron	hicieron	tuvieron

poner (to put)	poder (to be able to)	venir (to come)	querer (to want)	decir (to say, to tell)
puse	pude	vine	quise	dije
pusiste	pudiste	viniste	quisiste	dijiste
puso	pudo	vino	quiso	dijo
pusimos	pudimos	vinimos	quisimos	dijimos
pusisteis	pudisteis	vinisteis	quisisteis	dijisteis
pusieron	pudieron	vinieron	quisieron	dijeron

The preterite of the verbs *ser* and *ir* is identical. This means that *fue*, for example, can mean either 'he/she/it was' or 'he/she/it went'. This is something to be aware of when you are translating from Spanish to English. In the context, it will always be clear which verb is being used. For instance, *fue* in the following sentence has to mean 'he went':

El año pasado fue a Ibiza. Last year he went to Ibiza.

In this sentence, on the other hand, *fue* has to mean 'it was':

Fue guay. It was cool

The verb *poder* means 'to be able to'. In the preterite, therefore, it can translate as 'I was able to' etc. However, you would usually say 'I could'.

1 Match each Spanish verb to its English meaning.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 I could | a fui |
| 2 we wanted | b tuvisteis |
| 3 they came | c pude |
| 4 she could | d vinieron |
| 5 he went | e hicieron |
| 6 I was | f fue |
| 7 they did | g quisimos |
| 8 you (informal plural) had | h dijiste |
| 9 you (singular) said | i pudo |



2 Correct the incorrect verbs in these sentences. Some of the sentences are correct.

- Mi amigo **tuve** que ir de vacaciones con sus padres.
- Hizo sol todos los días.
- Y tú, ¿**fui**steis de vacaciones el verano pasado?
- Yo **puso** la mesa.
- Nosotros **estuvimos** en el restaurante anoche.

The imperfect tense

G The imperfect tense is a past tense and is used for the following:

- to describe something or someone in the past
*El hombre **era** muy alto.* The man **was** very tall.
- to say what someone was doing or what was happening
***Hacia** mis deberes cuando mi amigo llamó.* **I was doing** my homework when my friend called.
- to say what someone used to do or what things used to be like.
*De niño, **jugaba** con mi perro.* As I child, I **used to play** with my dog.

There are two sets of endings, one for -ar verbs and one for -er and -ir verbs. Take off the last two letters of the infinitive and add the following endings:

	-ar verbs	-er verbs	-ir verbs
	hablar	comer	vivir
(yo)	habl aba	com ía	viv ía
(tú)	habl abas	com ías	viv ías
(él/ella/usted)	habl aba	com ía	viv ía
(nosotros/nosotras)	habl ábamos	com íamos	viv íamos
(vosotros/vosotras)	habl abais	com íais	viv íais
(ellos/ellas/ustedes)	habl aban	com ían	viv ían



There are only three verbs that are irregular in the imperfect tense:

ser (to be)		ir (to go)		ver (to see)	
era	éramos	iba	íbamos	veía	veíamos
eras	erais	ibas	ibais	veías	veíais
era	eran	iba	iban	veía	veían

1 Choose the correct form of the verb(s) to complete each sentence.

- Elena *vivíamos / vivía / vivías* en Perú cuando *eras / eran / era* joven.
- Mi hermano y yo *estabais / estábamos / estaban* en el parque.
- Yo siempre *jugaba / jugábamos / jugaban* al fútbol con mis amigos.
- Cuando Raúl *estabas / estaban / estaba* de vacaciones, *hacías / hacia / hacían* submarinismo cada día.

2 Complete these sentences with a verb from the box that makes sense. You don't need all the words. Then translate the sentences into English.

- El hotel _____ una piscina enorme.
- En su tiempo libre, Julia _____ artes marciales.
- Nosotros _____ tiro con arco cada día.
- Mi madre _____ a caballo cuando era niña.
- ¿ _____ de pesca mucho?
- En el camping donde me alojaba, no _____ muchas personas.

- | | |
|----------|------------|
| ibas | practicaba |
| éramos | marcábamos |
| había | tenía |
| jugaba | montaba |
| hacíamos | estabas |

3 The near future tense

G You use the near future tense to talk about what you are going to do in the future. To form it, use the present tense of *ir* + *a* + infinitive.

pronoun	present tense of <i>ir</i>	<i>a</i>	infinitive
(yo)	voy		leer
(tú)	vas		visitar
(él/ella/usted)	va	a	comer
(nosotros/nosotras)	vamos		salir
(vosotros/vosotras)	vais		nadar
(ellos/ellas/ustedes)	van		usar

¿Qué vamos a hacer?
Voy a ir al cine.

What are we going to do?
I'm going to go to the cinema.

Key time expressions

To help you recognise the near future tense, look out for key time expressions like these:

<i>mañana</i>	tomorrow	<i>este fin de semana</i>	this weekend
... <i>que viene</i>	next...	e.g. <i>el año que viene</i>	next year
... <i>próxima/a</i>	next...	e.g. <i>la semana próxima</i>	next week

1 Circle the correct form to complete the verbs in the near future tense. Then highlight the infinitives.

- 1 Jorge, ¿vas / voy a salir con tus amigos?
- 2 Isabel va / vais a ir de paseo.
- 3 Mis amigos y yo vas / vamos a hacer los deberes.
- 4 Yo voy / van a chatear.
- 5 Ana y Mateo, ¿vais / va a ver la televisión?
- 6 Los miembros del equipo van / vamos a llegar a las dos.

2 Complete the text using the words from the box.

van ir salir voy a Vamos va

El sábado que viene voy a 1 _____ con Ana. 2 _____ a quedar en su casa y después vamos 3 _____ ir de compras. Después vamos a 4 _____ a la cafetería con nuestras amigas Alba y Cristina. Yo 5 _____ a tomar un helado de chocolate pero Ana no 6 _____ a comer un helado. Prefiere las tartas de queso. Alba y Cristina 7 _____ a beber una cola.

Task

Individual research project (Speaking)

As part of the speaking exam at A level, you talk about a topic of your choice. This has to be based on an area of interest linked to the Spanish-speaking world. It is best to do this on an area of interest to you. In previous years students have chosen the following:

- Street Art in Madrid by the artist Muelle
- Barcelona Football Club and Catalan Identity
- Political change in Cuba
- Feminism in Spain
- Muslim identity in modern Spain
- Student protests in Chile



These were all chosen by students based on their own areas of interest. The idea is that you should be an expert on your chosen topic.

Task 2 is to prepare a presentation on an area of interest to you that is linked to the Spanish-speaking world. This would be a spoken presentation, however for this task it will be written.

1. Think of something that interests you e.g. sport, music, identity politics, etc.

Example: Music

2. Narrow this down to an example of this in a Spanish-speaking country. You will need to research this online.

Example: Reguetón

3. Find out about the origins of your topic and compare with today.

Example: The origins of this music; how it has grown in popularity; the growth of the Latino community, etc.

4. Prepare bullet points in Spanish. You can use phrases from your research. Make sure you understand what they all mean.

Example:

- *El reguetón es un género musical bailable que se deriva del reggae y del dancehall, así como elementos principalmente del hip hop, y la música hispana.*
- *Es un género musical muy popular hasta hoy día, que tuvo su apogeo máximo en los años 2000 y 2010.*
- *Se influenció del reggae en español de Panamá y se desarrolló en Puerto Rico en 1990; surgió a raíz de la popularidad del reggae jamaicano, junto con el hip hop estadounidense durante los inicios de esa época.*
- *El reguetón entró en los Estados Unidos en los años 1990 y 2000 y se ha convertido en un modo de expresión para muchos jóvenes hispanos.*



A lot of the A level course is about expressing opinions, defending your opinions, and justifying your point of view. Start to think about your opinions on your topic area. You may change your opinions as you start learning about the issue.