







LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #1 Where ya' headed?

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

1.	CHOFER:	Si ¿a dónde va?
2.	MARIA:	A la cuadra siete de la calle San Augustin en San Miguel.
3.	CHOFER:	A ver la cuadra siete de la calle San Augustin hmm setenta colones?
4.	MARIA:	¡Setenta colones! No se pase, maestro, nunca pago más que treinta.
5.	CHOFER:	Sí, pero el precio de combustible ha subido un montón. Mire, la llevo por sesenta colones.
6.	MARIA:	Cincuenta está bien. ¿Salimos ?
7.	CHOFER:	Ya ya suba

ENGLISH

1.	CHOFER:	Yeah where are ya' headed?
2.	MARIA:	The seventh block of San Augustín Street in San Miguel.
3.	CHOFER:	Let me see The seventh block of San Augustín Street in San Miguel hmm Seventy Colones?
4.	MARIA:	Seventy Colones! Don't go overboard, man, I never pay more than thirty.
5.	CHOFER:	Yeah, but the price of gas has gone way up. Look, I'll take you for sixty.



- 6. MARIA: Fifty is cool. Should we go...?
- 7. CHOFER: Alright... alright... get in...

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. CHOFER: Si... ¿a dónde vas?
- 2. MARIA: A la cuadra siete de la calle San Augustin en San Miguel.
- 3. CHOFER: A ver... la cuadra siete de la calle San Augustin... hmm... setenta colones?
- 4. MARIA: ¡Setenta colones! No te pases, maestro, nunca pago más que treinta.
- 5. CHOFER: Sí, pero el precio de combustible ha subido un montón. Mira, te llevo por sesenta colones.
- 6. MARIA: Cincuenta está bien. ¿Salimos...?
- 7. CHOFER: Ya... ya... sube....

ENGLISH

- 1. CHOFER: Yeah... where are ya' headed?
- 2. MARIA: The seventh block of San Augustín Street in San Miguel.
- 3. CHOFER: Let me see... The seventh block of San Augustín Street in San Miguel... hmm... Seventy Colones?

MARIA: Seventy Colones! Don't go overboard, man, I never pay more than thirty.
CHOFER: Yeah, but the price of gas has gone way up. Look, I'll take ya' for sixty.
MARIA: Fifty's cool. Should we go...?
CHOFER: Alright... alright... get in...

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
maestro(a)	teacher, master, expert	noun	
nunca	never, notever	adverb	
subir	to go up, to climb, to bring up, to get into a vehicle	verb	
cuadra (Mexican)	block	noun	masculine
precio	price	masc. noun	masculine
combustible	gasoline, combustible		

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Natalia es una maestra joyera.	El maestro de esta clase sabe
"Natalia is a master silversmith."	mucho de la historia.
	"The teacher of this class knows a lot about history."

En el invierno, nunca salgo sin abrigo. "In the winter, I never go out without	¿Cuánto ha subido? "How much has it gone up?"
a coat."	
Subimos al segundo piso. "We went up to the second floor."	Hay un parque en mi cuadra. "There is a park in my block."
¿Cuántas cuadras ya hemos caminado? "How many blocks have we walked now?"	¿Cuál es el precio de esta camisa? "What's the price of this shirt?"

Últimamente el combustible es carísimo.

"Lately the price of gas is so expensive."

GRAMMAR

The Preterit Perfect is what we call a "compound tense", since we need to use two different words together in order to express it. First, we must conjugate the verb "haber" (to have) to agree with the subject of the verb that follows. That is to say, we conjugate "haber" (to have) to get the meaning "I have, you have, he has, we have, they have, or you all have". Keep in mind that this is not the same as the verb "tener"(to have). We use "haber" in the sense of "having done something". For example, "I have gone to the market".

Here are the conjugations for the verb "haber"(to have):

yo he (l have) tú has (you have) él/ella/usted ha (he/she has) nosotros hemos (we have) vosotros habéis (you all have) ellos/ellas han (they have) ustedes han (you all have)

The second part of this compound tense is the Past Participle of the verb being carried out. In English, we often see -ED- or -EN- endings on most verbs in this tense, although there are

some exceptions.

*For regular -AR- verbs, the participle ending that replaces the -AR- infinitive ending is "A-D-O".

For instance: "cocinar" (to cook) = "cocinado" (cooked)

*For regular -IR/ER- verbs, the participle ending that replaces the -IR/ER- infinitive endings is "I-D-O".

For example: "crecer" (to grow) = "crecido" (grown)

*Review the Grammar Bank in the Learning Center for further explanations and an in depth look at irregular forms of the Past Participle.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Keep something in mind...in many Latin American cities taxis aren't the same as in The US or Europe. Many will not have conventional meters. Prices are should be agreed upon before you enter the taxi. if you make an agreement with the Taxi driver, do not let them try to raise the price at the end of the ride. Be firm and make sure that you just hand him the agreed upon price. Most will accept the payment, after a little bit of arguing. Just to reiterate, make sure that there is an agreed upon price before you get into the taxi, otherwise, who knows what you are going to end up paying!



LESSON NOTES Beginner S2 #2 What a shame!

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
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FORMAL SPANISH

1.	DAVID:	¿A cuánto están las sandalias?
2.	JULIA:	Están a doscientos colones, pero puedo dejárselas a ciento noventa.
3.	DAVID:	¿De qué son? ¿De oro? No valen más que ciento cincuenta.
4.	JULIA:	ah! Es que todo el detalle es hecho a mano. No son de fábrica.
5.	DAVID:	Sí, pero no son tan finas como otras que he visto. ¿Qué tal ciento sesenta?
6.	JULIA:	Ay, no me sale. Mire, le voy a hacer un descuento especial para que se las lleve. Puedo dejárselas a ciento ochenta, pero nada menos.
7.	DAVID:	¡Que lástima! Solo tengo ciento setenta.
8.	JULIA:	Bueno, está bien, ciento setenta. ¿Le doy una bolsa?

ENGLISH

- 1. DAVID: How much are the sandals?
- 2. JULIA: They're two hundred Colones, but I can give them to you for one hundred and ninety.
- 3. DAVID: What are they made of? Gold? They're not worth more than one hundred and fifty.
- 4. JULIA: The thing is that all the detail is handmade. They're not from a factory.



5.	DAVID:	Yeah, but they're not as nice as others that I've seen. How about one hundred and sixty?
6.	JULIA:	Ah, that won't work. Look, I'm going to give you a special discount, so that you take them with you. I can let them go for one hundred and eighty, but nothing less.
7.	DAVID:	What a shame! I only have one hundred and seventy.
8.	JULIA:	Alright, it's OK. One hundred and seventy. Can I give you a bag?

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. DAVID: ¿A cuánto están las sandalias?
- 2. JULIA: Están a doscientos colones, pero puedo dejártelas a ciento noventa.
- 3. DAVID: ;De qué son? ;De oro? No valen más que ciento cincuenta.
- 4. JULIA: ah! Es que todo el detalle es hecho a mano. No son de fábrica.
- 5. DAVID: Sí, pero no son tan finas como otras que he visto. ¿Qué tal ciento sesenta?
- 6. JULIA: Ay, no me sale. Mira, te voy a hacer un descuento especial para que te las lleves. Puedo dejártelas a ciento ochenta, pero nada menos.
- 7. DAVID: ¡Que lástima! Solo tengo ciento setenta.
- 8. JULIA: Bueno, está bien, ciento setenta. ¿Te doy una bolsa?

ENGLISH

1.	DAVID:	How much are the sandals?
2.	JULIA:	They're two hundred Colones, but I can give them to you for one hundred and ninety.
3.	DAVID:	What are they made of? Gold? They're not worth more than one hundred and fifty.
4.	JULIA:	The thing is that all the detail is handmade. They're not from a factory.
5.	DAVID:	Yeah, but they're not as nice as others that I've seen. How about one hundred and sixty?
6.	JULIA:	Ah, that won't work. Look, I'm gonna' give you a special discount, so that ya' take them with you. I can let them go for one hundred and eighty, but nothing less.
7.	DAVID:	What a shame! I only have one hundred and seventy.
8.	JULIA:	Alright, it's OK. One hundred and seventy. Can I give ya' a bag?

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
fino, -a	fine, nice	adjective	
detalle	detail, nice touch	masc. noun	
lástima	shame, pity	fem. noun	
descuento	discount	masc. noun	masculine
fábrica	factory	fem. noun	feminine
hecho a mano	handmade	set phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Quiero que me lleves a un restauante fino. "I want you to take me to a nice restaurant."	Mira ese detalle. "Look at that detail."
Es un detalle muy importante. "It is a very important detail."	Es una lástima que no me puedas acompañar. "It's a shame that you can't join me."
Comunmente los productos que están de descuento tienen algún tipo de defecto. "Usually the products that are on discount have some kind of defect."	Después de haber desayunado aquí diario por más de un año, obtengo un descuento cada viernes. "After having eaten breakfast here every day for over a year, I get a discount every Friday."
En esta tienda, ellos ofrecen un descuento especial de verano. "In this shop, they offer a special summer discount."	Le daré un descuento especial. "I'll give you a special discount."
Le puedo ofrecer un buen descuento. "I can offer you a good discount."	En esta zona hay muchas fábricas. "There are a lot of factories in this area."

Los productos hechos a mano son incomparables.

"Handmade products are incomparable."

GRAMMAR

Here we take a closer look at comparisons of equality. In English we use and adjective or an adverb and the word "as" to make such comparisons. For instance, "this lesson is *as*

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interesting as the last one". In Spanish, there is a simple formula that we use to construct the same kinds of comparisons of equality:

Tan + adjective or adverb + Como

We see this formation used in the lesson conversation:

"Si, pero no son tan finas como otras que he visto." (Yeah, but they're not as nice as others that I've seen.)

Here we use the adjective "finas" which we remember means "fine" or "nice".

Observe the following sample sentences and notice how the structure of "tan + adjective/ adverb + como" remains intact:

"Esta película no es *tan interesante como* la que vimos anoche."
(This movie isn't as interesting as the one we saw last night.)
"Manejas *tan lento como* mi abuela."
(You drive as slowly as my grandma does.)
"La comida aquí es *tan rica como* la comida que mi madre prepara."
(The food here is as delicious as the food that my mother prepares.)
"Habla *tan rápido como* un papagayo."
(He speaks as fast as a parrot.)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Now, there are different ways to bargain. Some work better than others. If there is one rule that stands out, make an initial offer that is very high. The counteroffer will then obviously be very low. Your hope is to meet somewhere in the middle. Never offer the number that you would like to end up with in the beginning. Don't get flustered, don't get angry, just calmly go through the motions and get ready to accept a certain truth about bargaining/negotiating...In the end, both parties should feel like they lost! Another strategy to flower the sell with compliments. Tell them what a nice item it is and how much you would enjoy owning it. And finally, another option is to ask how much an item is, and then say that you wouldn't offend the vendor by offering a lower price, because it is such a nice item. The vendor is undoubtedly going to ask you how much you'd be willing to spend.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #3 But if I always buy from you!?

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FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. JUAN: ¿A cuánto está el kilo de tomate?
- 2. VERDURERA: Está a mil quinientos colónes.
- 3. JUAN: ¿¡Tanto!? Oiga, casera, no puede ser. ¿¡Pero si a usted siempre le compro...!?
- 4. VERDURERA: Bueno, amiguito, para usted le cobro mil nada más.
- 5. JUAN: Ahora sí. Me parece mejor. Me da dos kilos de tomate.
- 6. VERDURERA: Dos kilos. Son dos mil colónes. Un toquecito...

ENGLISH

- 1. JUAN: How much is a kilo of tomatoes?
- 2. VERDURERA: It's one thousand five hundred Colones.
- 3. JUAN: That much!? Hey now, ma'am, that's impossible. But if I always buy from you...!?
- 4. VERDURERA: Well, my friend, for you I'll only charge one thousand.
- 5. JUAN: Now that's what I'm talking about. Sounds better. Give me two kilos of tomatoes.
- 6. VERDURERA: Two kilos. That's two thousand Colones. Just a sec...

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. JUAN: ¿A cuánto está el kilo de tomate?
- 2. VERDURERA: Está a mil quinientos colónes.
- 3. JUAN: ¿¡Tanto!? Oye, casera, no puede ser. ¿¡Pero si a tí siempre te compro...!?
- 4. VERDURERA: Bueno, amiguito, para tí te cobro mil nada más.
- 5. JUAN: Ahora sí. Me parece mejor. Me das dos kilos de tomate.
- 6. VERDURERA: Dos kilos. Son dos mil colónes. Un toquecito...

ENGLISH

1.	JUAN:	How much is a kilo of tomatoes?
2.	VERDURERA:	It's one thousand five hundred Colones.
3.	JUAN:	That much!? Hey now, ma'am, that's impossible. But if I always buy from ya'!?
4.	VERDURERA:	Well, buddy, for you I'll only charge one thousand.
5.	JUAN:	Now that's what I'm talking about. Sounds better. Give me two kilos of tomatoes.
6.	VERDURERA:	Two kilos. That's two thousand Colones. Just a sec

VOCABULARY

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kilogramo (Kilo)	kilogram (Kilo)	masc. noun	
tanto (-a) (Peruvian)	so much, so many	adjective	
casero, -a	home-loving, home- made, favorite vendor		
parecer	to seem	verb	
tomate	tomato	noun	masculine
cobrar	to charge	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

¿Cuántos kilos de naranja deseas? "How many kilograms of oranges would you care for?"	Ella compró un kilogramo de arróz. "She bought a kilogram of rice."
¿Cuál es la causa de tanta comoción? "What's the cause for so much commotion?"	En mi casa hay tantas sillas como en tu casa. "In my house there are as many chairs as in your house."
¡Hola, casera! ¿Qué hay de nuevo? "Hey there, ma'am. What's new?"	La comida del restaurante no compara con la comida casera. "Food form restaurants doesn't compare with home-made food."
El cielo parece infinito. "The sky seems infinite."	Mi abuelo cultiva tomates en su jardín. "My grandfather grows tomatoes in his garden."

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Como tionas un queán do	Vamaa a aata har na aahran la
Como tienes un cupón de	Vamos a este bar, no cobran la
descuento válido, sólo te	entrada.
cobraremos la mitad del precio.	"Let's go to this bar: they don't
"As you have a valid discount	charge a cover."
coupon, we will only charge you half	
the price."	

GRAMMAR

In this lesson, we look at how to replace indirect objects with indirect object pronouns.

An indirect object receives the indirect action of the verb.

For example: "Envié la carta a Martín". (I sent the letter to Martin).

Here, "la carta" (the letter) receives the action of being sent (enviar) directly. So, we say that the letter is the direct object. 'Martín' would be the indirect object because he receives the action indirectly.

We often replace indirect objects with a pronoun to avoid redundancy. When this happens, we call it an indirect object pronoun. Note how we can take the same example we just used and exchange the indirect object with an indirect object pronoun:

"*Le* envié la carta". (I sent the letter to him).

Look at the information below to see the indirect object pronouns for each type of subject:

Singular ----*---- Plural me (to/for me) -----*---- nos (to/for us) te (to/for you, inform.) -----*---- os (to/for you all, inform.) le (to/for him) -----*---- les (to/for them, masc.) le (to/for her) -----*---- les (to/for them, fem.) le (to/for you, form.) -----*---- les (to/for you all, form.)

So, we can say, "Me parece bien" (It seems good to me), in which case 'me' is the indirect object pronoun. We could also say, "¿Les parece bien?" (Does it seem good to you all?), and this would make 'les' the indirect object pronoun. Notice the substitution of the indirect object pronoun in place of the indirect object itself.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In Latin America, the mega store has not taken complete hold as it has in the United States. Many times, small, locally owned shops are where the majority of people get the everyday things they need. This is where the casero, -a comes in. These are your favorite shopkeepers and a very important relationship. At these stores, they may give you a tab which you take care of when you can. It helps to develop this kind of loyalty with a shop keeper, they will take care of you when you need it.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #4 But, Sir, I have all of my papers in order

- 2 Formal Spanish
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FORMAL SPANISH

- 1.ANA:Buenas tardes, director. Quisiera solicitar una visa de investigación.
Estoy aquí en Costa Rica para realizar un estudio sobre la literatura
costarricense.
- 2. DIRECTOR: ¿Tiene, usted, alguna afiliación con una institución?
- 3. ANA: No, lo estoy haciendo por mi cuenta.
- 4. DIRECTOR: Le cuento, señorita, que le convendría más cruzar la frontera o también podría casarse con un ciudadano costarricense.
- 5. ANA: Pero, señor, tengo todas mis papeles en orden.
- 6. DIRECTOR: Sí, lo veo. Pero como le digo, el camino más rápido es cruzar la frontera o casarse con un ciudadano costarricense. Depende de usted.

ENGLISH

- 1.ANA:Good afternoon, Sir. I would like to request a research visa. I'm here
in Costa Rica to carry out a study about Costa Rican literature.
- 2. DIRECTOR: Do you have some kind of affiliation with an institution?
- 3. ANA: No, I'm doing it on my own.
- 4. DIRECTOR: Let me tell you, Ms., that it would be more suitable for you to cross the border or you could also get married to a Costa Rican citizen.
- 5. ANA: But, Sir, I have all of my papers in order.

6. DIRECTOR: Yes, I see that. But, as I said, the fastest way is to cross the border or get married to a Costa Rican citizen. It's up to you.

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1.ANA:Buenas tardes, director. Quisiera solicitar una visa de investigación.1.Estoy aquí en Costa Rica para realizar un estudio sobre la literatura
costarricense.
- 2. DIRECTOR: ¿Tienes alguna afiliación con una institución?
- 3. ANA: No, lo estoy haciendo por mi cuenta.
- 4. DIRECTOR: Te cuento, señorita, que te convendría más cruzar la frontera o también podrías casarte con un ciudadano costarricense.
- 5. ANA: Pero, señor, tengo todas mis papeles en orden.
- 6. DIRECTOR: Sí, lo veo. Pero como te digo, el camino más rápido es cruzar la frontera o casarse con un ciudadano costarricense. Depende de tí.

ENGLISH

- 1. ANA: Good afternoon, Sir. I would like to request a research visa. I'm here in Costa Rica to carry out a study about Costa Rican literature.
- 2. DIRECTOR: Do ya' have some kind of affiliation with an institution?
- 3. ANA: No, I'm doing it on my own.
- 4. DIRECTOR: Let me tell you, Ms., that it would be more suitable for you to cross the border or you could also get married to a Costa Rican citizen.

- 5. ANA: But, Sir, I have all of my papers in order.
- 6. DIRECTOR: Yeah, I see that. But, as I said, the fastest way is to cross the border or get married to a Costa Rican citizen. It's up to you.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class
realizar	to carry out, to fulfill	verb
solicitar	to request, to solicit, to apply for	verb
afiliación	affiliation	fem. noun
ciudadano, -a	citizen	
frontera	border	fem. noun
depender	to depend on, to be up to	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Los jefes realizan un proyecto nuevo.	Solicita una entrevista con tu agencia de empleo.
"The bosses carry out a new project."	"Ask for an interview with your employment agency."
No tengo ninguna afiliación con una institución.	Soy ciudadana costarricense. "I am a Costa Rican citizen."
"I don't have an affiliation with an institution."	
¿Está lejos de aquí la frontera?	Todo depende de lo que haces.
"Is the border far from here?"	"Everything depends on what you do."

GRAMMAR

Direct objects receive the action directly from the verb. For example, "I see Eliana". Here, "Eliana" is the direct object. She is what I see. When we replace a direct object with a pronoun, we call it a direct object pronoun.

For example, "veo a Eliana" (I see Eliana), becomes "la veo" (I see her).

Because both people and things can be the direct object of a verb, we must use gender and number to indicate the object to which each direct object pronoun refers. The typical word order with direct object pronouns is [subject + direct object pronoun + verb], except when an infinitive or gerund is used, in which case the direct object pronoun is suffixed or attached to the end of the infinitive or gerund (i.e. "Iba a llamarte", "estoy llamándote").

Look at the information below to see all of the Direct Object Pronouns:

For People

Person: Singular / Plural First: me / nos Second: te / os Third: lo (masc.), la (fem. / los (masc.), las (fem.)

For Things

Gender: Singular / Plural Masculine: lo / los Feminine: la / las

*See the Grammar Bank in the Learning Center for even more information and sample sentences!

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Extending a visa in Costa Rica is not easy. Many foreigners leave Costa Rica every 90 days to renew their visa. This is technically illegal but as of yet, the government hasn't really cracked down on foreigners (lucky for me). It is advised to walk around with your passport or a copy of your passport along with a copy of the stamp that marks your date of entry. If caught, you most likely won't be deported but you will be given a ticket. It's a better idea just to go to Panama or Nicaragua. By bus, it is not a very long trip.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #5 But I need to go to Panama. What do I do?

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FORMAL SPANISH

1.	ANA:	Buenas tardes. Quisiera comprar un boleto a Panamá.
2.	ANDRES:	El bus sólo va hasta Sixola.
3.	ANA:	Pero necesito ir hasta Panamá. ¿Qué hago?
4.	ANDRES:	No se preocupe. Sixola está en la frontera de Costa Rica con Panamá.
5.	ANA:	¿Cómo cruzo?
6.	ANDRES:	Caminando nomás. Es facilísimo. Ya va a ver.

ENGLISH

- 1. ANA: Good afternoon. I'd like to buy a ticket to Panama.
- 2. ANDRES: The bus only goes to Sixola.
- 3. ANA: But I need to go to Panama. What do I do?
- 4. ANDRES: Don't worry. Sixola is at the border of Costa Rica and Panama.
- 5. ANA: How do I cross?
- 6. ANDRES: Just walking. It's really easy. You'll see.

INFORMAL SPANISH



1.	ANA:	Buenas tardes. Quisiera comprar un boleto a Panamá.
2.	ANDRES:	El bus sólo va hasta Sixola.
3.	ANA:	Pero necesito ir hasta Panamá. ¿Qué hago?
4.	ANDRES:	No te preocupes. Sixola está en la frontera de Costa Rica con Panamá.
5.	ANA:	¿Cómo cruzo?
6.	ANDRES:	Caminando nomás. Es facilísimo. Ya vas a ver.

ENGLISH

1.	ANA:	Good afternoon. I'd like to buy a ticket to Panama.
2.	ANDRES:	The bus only goes to Sixola.
3.	ANA:	But I need to go to Panama. What do I do?
4.	ANDRES:	Don't you worry. Sixola is at the border of Costa Rica and Panama.
5.	ANA:	How do I cross?
6.	ANDRES:	Just walking. It's really easy. You'll see.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
hasta	until, up to	preposition	

boleto	ticket	noun	masculine
preocuparse	to worry	reflexive verb	
cruzar	to cross	verb	
nomás	just, only	adverb	
facilísimo	really easy	superlative adjective	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

No hay postre para tí hasta que termines tu cena. "No dessert for you until you finish your dinner."	¡Hasta la vista! "Good bye!"
Vamos a viajar desde Madrid hasta	Acabo de comprar un boleto.
Barcelona.	Estuvo bien caro.
"We're going to travel from Madrid	"I just bought a ticket. It was really
all the way to Barcelona."	expensive."
Me preocupé cuando no llamaste.	¿Cruzamos la calle?
"I got worried when you didn't call."	"Should we cross the street?"
Llegamos a la fiesta caminando nomás. "We got to the party just by walking."	Esta tarea es facilísima. "This homework is really easy."

GRAMMAR

Here, we are going to look at two sets of prepositions when expressing distance or time from one place or moment to another.

We can choose between one of these two pairs of prepositions, either to lessen the emphasis,

or to add to it:

"De... A..." (from... to...) This form is used to *lessen the emphasis* on the distance or time.

Example: "Caminé de mi casa a la escuela." (I walked from my house to school.)

DESDE... HASTA... (from... to...) This form is used to *add emphasis* to the distance or time.

Example:

"Voy a viajar desde Pittsburgh hasta Lima." (I'm going to travel from Pittsburgh all the way to Lima.)

*Note how with the prepositions "de...a..." we make a simple statement without emphasis. On the other hand, the prepositions "desde...hasta..." add emphasis. It is like saying from one point "all the way" until another.

*We cannot mix and match the prepositions from these two sets. The preposition "de" is used exclusivley with "a", and "desde" is only used with "hasta".

For instance, you can never say "de Costa Rica hasta Panamá". It must be "de Costa Rica a Panamá", or "desde Costa Rica hasta Panamá".

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When you cross the border into Panama, Americans will have a pleasant surprise. The currency used in Panama are dollars. Since the United States took control of the canal, its involvement spread throughout the country. Many Panamanians and Costa Ricans say that the United States owned Panama as an unofficial colony. That goes against the official history but when one travels to Panama, the American influence is evident. Other than the use of American currency, neighborhoods in Panama City exist that are completely closed off and used to house many American Military and Government officials. Since the hand over of the canal to Panama on December 31, 1999, American influence in Panama has faltered but is by no means over. Panama City is said by some to be the most cosmopolitan city in Central America.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #6 Understand me: I want to promote your culture

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. OFICIAL: Pasaporte.
- 2. ANA: Aquí tiene.
- 3. OFICIAL: Veo que usted ha pasado un buen tiempo aquí en Costa Rica. ¿Qué es lo que hace?
- 4. ANA: Estoy realizando una investigación sobre la literatura costarricense. Soy escritora.
- 5. OFICIAL: Le voy a dar trienta días más.
- ANA: Pero, oficial, he tratado de tramitar una visa de investigadora, y el director de aduanas me sugirió que cruzara la frontera nomás. Me dijo que más facil es así. Entiéndame quiero promover su cultura.
- 7. OFICIAL: Bueno, le doy noventa. Suerte. ¡El próximo!

ENGLISH

- 1. OFICIAL: Passport.
- 2. ANA: Here you go.
- 3. OFICIAL: I see that you have spent quite a bit of time here in Costa Rica. What is it that you do?
- 4. ANA: I'm carrying out research about Costa Rican literature. I'm a writer.
- 5. OFICIAL: I am going to give you thirty more days.

CONT'D OVER

2

- 6. ANA: But, officer, I have tried to process a Researcher's Visa, and the director of Customs suggested that I just cross the border. He told me that it's easier this way. Understand me I want to promote your culture.
- 7. OFICIAL: Fine. I'll give you ninety. Good luck. Next!

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. OFICIAL: Pasaporte.
- 2. ANA: Aquí tienes.
- 3. OFICIAL: Veo que has pasado un buen tiempo aquí en Costa Rica. ¿Qué es lo que haces?
- 4. ANA: Estoy realizando una investigación sobre la literatura costarricense. Soy escritora.
- 5. OFICIAL: Te voy a dar trienta días más.
- 6. ANA: Pero, oficial, he tratado de tramitar una visa de investigadora, y el director de aduanas me sugirió que cruzara la frontera nomás. Me dijo que más facil es así. Entiéndeme quiero promover su cultura.
- 7. OFICIAL: Bueno, te doy noventa. Suerte. ¡El próximo!

ENGLISH

1. OFICIAL: Passport.

CONT'D OVER

3

2.	ANA:	Here you go.
3.	OFICIAL:	I see that you've spent quite a bit of time here in Costa Rica. What is it that ya' do?
4.	ANA:	I'm carrying out research about Costa Rican literature. I'm a writer.
5.	OFICIAL:	I am going to give you thirty more days.
6.	ANA:	But, officer, I've tried to process a Researcher's Visa, and the director of Customs suggested that I just cross the border. He told me that it's easier this way. Understand me - I want to promote your culture.
7.	OFICIAL:	Fine. I'll give ya' ninety. Good luck. Next!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
realizar	to carry out, to fulfill	verb	
suerte	luck, good luck	fem. noun	feminine
promover	to promote	verb	
aduanas	Customs (border control)	plural fem. noun	
investigación	investigation, research	feminine noun	
tramitar	to process	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Los jefes realizan un proyecto nuevo. "The bosses carry out a new project."	¡Suerte! ¡Ya nos vemos! "Good luck! See you soon!"
Hay personas que siempre tienen suerte. "There are people who are always lucky."	Esta pastilla promueve la circulación. "This pill promotes circulation."
El mate de coca promueve la digestión. "Coca tea promotes digestion."	Pasar por aduanas es como pasar por la tierra de nadie. "Going through Customs is like going through no-man's-land."
La investigación sobre el robo, fue cerrada. "The burglary investigation was closed."	Deberías tramitar tu visa ahora, porque se demora un montón. "You should process your visa now, because it takes a long time."

GRAMMAR

Here, we go over the conjugations in the Preterit Indicative Tense for the verbs "decir" (to say) and "sugerir" (to suggest). Recall that the Preterit Tense applies to completed actions in the past. Some common expressions are used with these two verbs to explain what someone said to you. For example:

"me dijo que..." (he told me that...)

"me sugirió que..." (he suggested to me that...)

*Notice how the stems of the verbs change when we conjugate them in the Preterit Indicative as you observe the table below for a complete list of the conjugations.

DECIR (TO SAY)	SUGERIR (TO SUGGEST)
yo dije	yo sugerí
(I said)	(I suggested)

5

tú dijiste	tú sugeriste
(you said)	(you suggested)
él dijo	él sugirió
(he said)	(he suggested)
ella dijo	ella sugirió
(she said)	(she suggested)
usted dijo	usted sugirió
(you said *formal)	(you suggested *formal)
nosotros dijimos	nosotros sugerimos
(we said)	(we suggested)
vosotros dijisteis	vosotros sugeristeis
(you all said)	(you all suggested)
ellos dijeron	ellos sugirieron
(they said)	(they suggested)
ellas dijeron	ellas sugirieron
(they said *feminine)	(they suggested *feminine)
ustedes dijeron	ustedes sugirieron
(you all said)	(you all suggested)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When dealing with the bureaucracy of any country, staying calm and helping them in any way the ask is of the utmost importance. The majority of people who deal with customs are generally not in a good mood due to traveling and many other factors. In my experience, this leaves many agents on the defensive and once they see an individual becoming agitated, they will become agitated. When dealing with any official, please stay calm, smile, and have understanding when going through any procedure you are required to undergo. Remember, if not, this experience may become a lot longer and uncomfortable for you.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #7 I think there was a misunderstanding

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

1.	FATIMA:	¡Oiga, Daniel, lo esperé por dos horas, pero usted nunca llegó!
2.	DANIEL:	¿Qué? ¿En qué habíamos quedado?
3.	FATIMA:	Me dijo que a las dos me iba a recoger de mi casa.
4.	DANIEL:	¿Que la iba a recoger? Yo tenía entendido que a las doce la iba a Ilamar.
5.	FATIMA:	Bacán
6.	DANIEL:	No no me parece es que hubo una confusión.

ENGLISH

- 1. FATIMA: Listen, Daniel, I waited for you for two hours, but you never showed up!
- 2. DANIEL: What? What had we planned on?
- 3. FATIMA: You told me that at two you were going to pick me up from my house.
- 4. DANIEL: That I was going to pick you up? I had understood that at twelve I was going to call you.
- 5. FATIMA: Awesome...
- 6. DANIEL: No... no... I think there was a misunderstanding.

INFORMAL SPANISH

1. FATIMA: ¡Oye, Daniel, te esperé por dos horas, pero nunc	a llegaste!
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2. DANIEL: ¿Qué? ¿En qué habíamos quedado?

3. FATIMA: Me dijiste que a las dos me ibas a recoger de mi casa.

- 4. DANIEL: ¿Que te iba a recoger? Yo tenía entendido que a las doce te iba a llamar.
- 5. FATIMA: Bacán...
- 6. DANIEL: No... no... me parece es que hubo una confusión.

ENGLISH

1.	FATIMA:	Hey, Daniel, I waited for you for two hours, but ya' never showed up!
2.	DANIEL:	What? What had we planned on?
3.	FATIMA:	You told me that at two you were going to pick me up from my house.
4.	DANIEL:	That I was going to pick you up? I had understood that at twelve I was going to call you.
5.	FATIMA:	Awesome
6.	DANIEL:	No no I think there was a misunderstanding.

VOCABULARY

Spanish English Class	
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quedar	to arrange to meet, to plan on	verb
recoger (Peruvian)	to pick up	verb,phrasal verb
haber (Peruvian)	to have, there is, there are	verb
entendido	understood	past participle
bacán	awesome, cool (slang)	adjective
confusión	confusion, misunderstanding	fem. noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

¿En qué habían quedado? "What had you all planned on?"	Quedamos a las once para salir juntos. "We arranged to meet at eleven in order to leave together."
¿Podrías ir a la niñera y recoger a los niños por mí? "Could you go to the babysitter and pick up the kids for me?"	¿Me puedes recoger a las ocho? "Can you pick me up at eight?"
El chofer nos recogió a las ocho en punto.	Mañana habrá conciertos en el parque.
"The driver picked us up at eight on the dot."	"Tomorrow, there will be a concert in the park."
No te había entendido bien y por eso me confundí.	¿Has visto el nuevo parque? Es bien bacán.
"I hadn't understood you clearly, and that's why I got confused."	"Have you seen the new park? It's really cool."

Hubo una confusión y por eso no nos entendimos bien.

"There was a misunderstanding, and that's why we didn't understand each other well."

GRAMMAR

The Pluperfect Preterite tense expresses a past action anterior to another action in the past with an indeterminate interval between the two. Thus, we say "Yo había salido, cuando me llamaste" (I had left, when you called), where we know that the "leaving" occurred before the "calling", but we don't know how much time elapsed between the two actions.

To form the Pluperfect Preterite, we use the Imperfect Tense of the auxiliary verb "haber" and a participle. The only irregular forms occur when the participle is irregular. The forms of "haber" are the same no matter what kind of participle is used. The regular participle in Spanish is formed by removing the infinitive ending and adding "-ado" for verbs of the first conjugation (-AR) and "-ido" for verbs of the second (-ER) and third (-IR) conjugations.

FORMATION:

Example: Infinitive - Ilamar (to call) Participle - Ilamado (called)

yo había llamado (I had called) tú habías llamado (you had called) él había llamado (he had called) ella había llamado (she had called) usted había llamado (you had called) formal nosostros habíamos llamado (we had called) vosotros habíais llamado (you all had called) ellos habían llamado (they had called) ellas habían llamado (they had called *feminine) ustedes habían llamado (you all had called)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

When learning any new language it is important to understand that many, many mistakes will be made. When traveling around any Spanish speaking country, you will be surprised with the helpfulness of many native speakers when they see that you are trying to speak their language. Do not feel self conscious, trust us, it is evident that you aren't from there. Sit back, relax, and enjoy your mistakes. Mistakes made in the present lay the foundation for the correct way to speak in the future. If you find yourself with a cell phone, try text messaging. It is an informal way to practice your reading comprehension, and it gives you a visual cue for verb tenses. I have found it to be very useful. You will be surprised just how much Spanish you can learn in a very short time.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #8 Then, why didn't you call me?

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. DANIEL: Escúcheme, Fatima, la entendí mal. Yo pensaba que no teníamos nada en concreto.
- 2. FATIMA: Es que usted me dejó un mensaje que decía 'ya nos vemos a las dos". Entonces esperaba verlo.
- 3. DANIEL: ¿Qué? Yo había entendido que a las doce y que le iba a llamar, no recojer.
- 4. FATIMA: O sea, usted quiere decir que hubo un malentendido.
- 5. DANIEL: Precisamente.
- 6. FATIMA: ¿Precisamente?
- 7. DANIEL: Sí. No me dejé entender. Lo siento.
- 8. FATIMA: Entonces, ¿por qué no me llamó?

ENGLISH

- 1. DANIEL: Listen to me, Fatima, I misunderstood you. I thought that we did not have anything set in stone.
- 2. FATIMA: The thing is that you left a message that said 'see at at two'. So, I expected to see you.
- 3. DANIEL: What? I had understood that at twelve I was going to call you, not pick you up.
- 4. FATIMA: Then you mean to say there was a misunderstanding.

DANIEL: Precisely.
FATIMA: Precisely?
DANIEL: Yes. I did not make myself clear. I am sorry.
FATIMA: Then, why didn't you call me?

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. DANIEL: Escúchame, Fatima, te entendí mal. Yo pensaba que no teníamos nada en concreto.
- 2. FATIMA: Es que me dejaste un mensaje que decía 'ya nos vemos a las dos". Entonces esperaba verte.
- 3. DANIEL: ¿Qué? Yo había entendido que a las doce y que te iba a llamar, no recojer.
- 4. FATIMA: O sea, quieres decir que hubo un malentendido.
- 5. DANIEL: Precisamente.
- 6. FATIMA: ¿Precisamente?
- 7. DANIEL: Sí. No me dejé entender. Lo siento.
- 8. FATIMA: Entonces, ¿por qué no me llamaste?

ENGLISH

1.	DANIEL:	Listen to me, Fatima, I misunderstood ya'. I thought that we didn't have anything set in stone.
2.	FATIMA:	The thing is that you left a message that said 'see at at two'. So, I expected to see ya'.
3.	DANIEL:	What? I had understood that at twelve I was going to call you, not pick you up.
4.	FATIMA:	Then you mean to say there was a misunderstanding.
5.	DANIEL:	Precisely.
6.	FATIMA:	Precisely?
7.	DANIEL:	Yeah. I didn't make myself clear. I'm sorry.
8.	FATIMA:	Then, why didn't you call me?

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
entender (Peruvian)	to understand	verb	
mensaje	message	noun	masculine
concreto	concrete	masc. noun	
malentendido	misunderstanding	masc. noun	
precisamente	precisely	adverb	
dejarse entender	to make oneself clear	verbal phrase	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

¿Entendiste? "Did you understand?"	Creo que te entendí mal. ¿Me lo puedes repetir? "I think I misunderstood you. Can you repeat it for me?"
Entendemos el inglés. "We understand English."	Deje su mensaje después de oir la señal. "Please leave your message after the tone."
¿A qué hora me enviaste el mensaje de texto? "What time did you send me the text message?"	No tengo nada en concreto. ¿Qué quisieras hacer esta noche? "I don't have anything set in stone. What would you like to do tonight?"
Parece que hubo un malentendido. Aclarémoslo. "It looks like there was a misunderstanding. Let's clear it up."	Precisamente por eso me mola. "That's precisely why I think it's cool."
Es precisamente lo que quiero. "It's precisely what I want."	¿Me dejo entender? "Do I make myself clear?"

GRAMMAR

Today we are looking at "la formación de los adverbios" (the formation of adverbs). Adverbs serve to modify adjectives, verbs, and other adverbial phrases. Adverbs may be formed in Spanish by adding the ending "-mente" to the feminine form of practically any adjective. If the adjective has only one form rather than both masculine and feminine forms, the same rule applies. Simply add "-mente" to the end to construct the adverb.

Observe the examples below:

MASCULINE/FEMININE ADJECTIVES: Adjective: "rápido, -a" (rapid). Adverb: "rápidamente" (rapidly, quickly). Adjective: "lento, -a" (slow). Adverb: "lentamente" (slowly). Adjective: "obvio, -a" (obvious). Adverb: "obviamente" (obviously). Adjective: "sincero, -a" (sincere). Adverb: "sinceramente" (sincerely).

ADJECTIVES WITH ONLY ONE FORM: Adjective: "feliz" (happy). Adverb: "felizmente" (happily). Adjective: "fácil" (easy). Adverb: "fácilmente" (easily). Adjective: "triste" (sad). Adverb: "tristemente" (sadly).

Note that if the adjective has a written accent, the adverb retains it. For example, the adverb "fácilmente" (easily) has an accent on the -a-, just as there is an accent on the -a- of the adjective "fácil" (easy).

Now that we have covered the formation of adverbs, let's briefly look at adverbial phrases in Spanish. Adverbial phrases are very common, and often become necessary if the ending "-mente" with the adjective forms a compound that is disagreeable to the Spanish ear. When the adverb sounds strange, native speakers often form an adverbial phrase to replace it. This is done by using the word "con" (with) and the noun that is the root of the adverb being replaced.

For example, watch how the following sentence with an adverb can be changed to an adverbial phrase:

"Cumplió su trabajo prudentemente." (He prudently finished his work).

"Cumplió su trabajo con prudencia." (He finished his work with prudence).

*Notice that the adverb "prudentemente" (prudently) is converted into the adverbial phrase "con prudencia" (with prudence) by making use of the noun at the root of the original adverb.

We can do this with other adverbs as well:

"Aprobé el examen fácilmente." (I passed the exam easily).

"Aprobé el examen *con facilidad*." (I passed the exam with ease).

CULTURAL INSIGHT

On the topic of misunderstandings...When learning another language one will make mistakes during practice. This may result in many, many misunderstandings. In my experience, the best way to move through this sometimes awkward situation is to take it in stride. Slow down, don't get flustered, and try to speak slower. This will happen many times if you are purchasing a

service and no one speaks English. Be careful though, this is where many people will get taken advantage of. It is always easier for one to pretend they do not understand you when they can make some money off of it. This is not where you should take the misunderstanding in stride.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #9 You'd better! I'm waiting for you...

CONTENTS

- 2 Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight



SPANISH

- 1. DANIEL: No le llamé a las dos porque yo entendí a las doce, o sea, a la medianoche.
- 2. FATIMA: Realmente he pasado un mal día, pensando que no le importo.
- 3. DANIEL: Claro que usted me importa. ¿Qué dice si le recojo ahorita? Le invito a cenar.
- 4. FATIMA: ¿Usted me recojerá de verdad?
- 5. DANIEL: Sííííííí... sí. Le recojo de todas maneras. Insisto.
- 6. FATIMA: Más le vale. Le espero.

ENGLISH

- 1. DANIEL: I did not call you at two, because I understood twelve, I mean, midnight.
- 2. FATIMA: I have really had a bad day, thinking that you do not care about me.
- 3. DANIEL: Of course I care about you. What do you say I pick you up right now? Dinner is on me.
- 4. FATIMA: Are you really going to pick me up?
- 5. DANIEL: Yessssss.... yes. I'll pick you up no matter what. I insist.
- 6. FATIMA: You had better. I am waiting for you.

SPANISH



- DANIEL: No te llamé a las dos porque yo entendí a las doce, o sea, a la medianoche.
- 2. FATIMA: Realmente he pasado un mal día, pensando que no te importo.
- 3. DANIEL: Claro que me importas. ¿Qué dices si te recojo ahorita? Te invito a cenar.
- 4. FATIMA: ¿Me recojerás de verdad?
- 5. DANIEL: Sííííííí... sí. Te recojo de todas maneras. Insisto.
- 6. FATIMA: Más te vale. Te espero.

ENGLISH

- DANIEL: I didn't call you at two, because I understood twelve, I mean, midnight.
- 2. FATIMA: I've really had a bad day, thinking that you don't care about me.
- 3. DANIEL: Of course I care about you. What do you say I pick you up right now? Dinner is on me.
- 4. FATIMA: Are you really going to pick me up?
- 5. DANIEL: Yessssss.... yes. I'll pick you up no matter what. I insist.
- 6. FATIMA: You'd better. I'm waiting for you.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
verdad	truth, true	feminine noun	
valer	to be worth, to cost	verb	
insistir	to insist	verb	
medianoche	midnight	noun	feminine
importar	to matter, care about, mean something to someone	verb	
manera	manner, way	fem. noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La verdad es incómoda. "The truth is uncomfortable."	Más te vale que me escuches bien, porque no te lo repetiré. "You'd better listen to me closely, because I won't repeat it for you."
Valdrá la pena estudiar para mi examen. "It will be worth the effort to study for my exam."	Javier insiste en ayudarme por más que yo no quiera su ayuda. "Javier insists on helping me, no matter how much I don't want his help."
Si tú insistes, te acompañaré a la fiesta. "If you insist, I'll go with you to the party."	Empieza la fiesta a la medianoche. "The party starts at midnight."

A ti sólo te importa tu novio.	Llegaremos a tiempo de todas
"All that's important to you is your	maneras.
boyfriend."	"We'll arrive on time no matter what."

GRAMMAR

The Pretérito Perfecto (Present Perfect) Tense express an action in the past that is in some way linked to the Present or that is near the Present. With the Pretérito Perfecto (Present Perfect), we know that this action took place before the moment of speech, but we don't know when it stopped. In some cases, the action (especially when it expresses an emotion, can even flow into the present). For this reason, the Pretérito Perfecto (Present Perfect) is very often used with temporal expressions, which help clarify when the action took place. To form the Pretérito Perfecto, we use the Present Tense of the auxiliary verb "haber" and a participle. The only irregular forms occur when the participle is irregular. The forms of "haber" are the same no matter what kind of participle is used. The regular participle in Spanish is formed by removing the infinitive ending and adding "-ado" for verbs of the first conjugation (-AR) and "-ido" for verbs of the second (-ER) and third (-IR) conjugations.

In the lesson conversation, we see the Pretérito Perfecto (Present Perfect) being used:

"Realmente he pasado un mal día." (I've really had a bad day.)

Notice that the use of the Pretérito Perfecto (Present Perfect) implies that the action of having a bad day started in the past but carries on into the present moment. We get the idea that that one has had a bad day and that day is still in progress. If we wanted to express that we had a bad day yesterday or farther in the past, we would use the Absolute Preterite Tense.

Refer to the Grammar Bank in the Learning Center to see all the constructions for the Pretérito Perfecto (Present Perfect) and Absolute Preterite. There is a wealth of information on the topic for you to explore.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

At some point or another, we all misunderstand something or someone. When we're studying Spanish as a second language, the probability of misunderstanding increrases quick a bit.

So, you've got to be prepared for this. Learning phrases like "¿me entiendes?" (do you understand me?) or "ya veo" (so I see) will enable you to keep closer contact with the person whom you're speaking to. They help you engage people in a new way (a new language). If you're fallen into a lengthy conversation with someone (*this often happens over drinks), you may find that your partner has taken over the conversation, since you were not able to keep up. If you don't say anything, communication will be lost. But with a phrase like "a ver si te he entendido correctamente" (let me see if I've understood you right), you can jump back into the conversation and try to pick up where you "left off".



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #10 I e-like verry much the Junited Estates...

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. HECTOR: Usted no es costarricense...
- 2. PAUL: No, yo soy de los estados unidos, de Philadelphia mejor dicho.
- 3. HECTOR: I e-like verry much the Junited Estates...
- 4. PAUL: Jaja... ¿Qué le parece si hablamos en castellano, está bien?
- 5. HECTOR: ¡Claro! Tiene que practicar. Yo soy Hector Ramirez de la Peña.
 ¿Con quién tengo el gusto?
- 6. PAUL: Paul Feldman. Encantado, Hector.

ENGLISH

- 1. HECTOR: You're not Costa Rican...
- 2. PAUL: No, I'm from the United States, Philadelphia that is.
- 3. HECTOR: I e-like verry much the Junited Estates...
- 4. PAUL: I'm glad, Sir. But I prefer to speak Spanish, is that OK?
- 5. HECTOR: Of course. You have to practice. I am Hector Ramirez de la Peña. With whom do I have the pleasure?
- 6. PAUL: Paul Feldman. Nice to meet you, Hector.

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. HECTOR: Tú no eres costarricense...
- 2. PAUL: No, yo soy de los estados unidos, de Philadelphia mejor dicho.
- 3. HECTOR: I e-like verry much the Junited Estates...
- 4. PAUL: Jaja... ¿Qué te parece si hablamos en castellano, está bien?
- 5. HECTOR: ¡Claro! Tienes que practicar. Yo soy Hector Ramirez de la Peña.
 ¿Con quién tengo el gusto?
- 6. PAUL: Paul Feldman. Encantado, Hector.

ENGLISH

- 1. HECTOR: Ya' aren't Costa Rican...
- 2. PAUL: No, I'm from the United States, Philadelphia that is.
- 3. HECTOR: I e-like verry much the Junited Estates...
- 4. PAUL: I'm glad. I prefer to speak Spanish, is that OK?
- 5. HECTOR: Of course. Ya' have to practice. I'm Hector Ramirez de la Peña. With whom do I have the pleasure?
- 6. PAUL: Paul Feldman. Nice to meet ya', Hector.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
alegrarse	to make glad, to delight	pronominal verb	
mejor	better, best	adjective, adverb	
preferir	to prefer, to rather	verb	
quien	who, that, whom	pronoun	
practicar	to practice	verb	
encantado	enchanted, delighted	adjective	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Me alegra que estes conmigo. "I am glad that you are with me."	Es una ciudad pequeña, o mejor dicho, es un gran pueblo. "It's a small city, or better yet, it's a large town."
Yo preferiría ver solo una exhibición. "I would rather see just one exhibition."	Ellos prefieren viajar en avión. "They prefer to travel by plane."
Quien paga elige.	¿Quién fue?
"He who pays gets to choose."	"Who was it?"
No me gusta practicar deportes.	Encantado de conocerte.
"I don't like practicing sports."	"Nice to meet you."

Estoy encantado de ir a la playa.

"I'm delighted to go to the beach."

GRAMMAR

Here, we look over relative and interrogative pronouns. A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. We say that a pronoun is a "Relative Pronoun" when it carries out a function in the sentence that it belongs to. In English, we use the relative pronouns "who" and "whom". In Spanish, "quien" or "quienes" are utilized to the same effect. Relative pronouns are inserted into sentences, which can be thought of as greater units. But these relative pronouns also have an and explicit or implicit "antecedent".

An antecedent is just the "nominal expression", that is, the "noun phrase, to which some pronouns make reference. This may seem more difficult than it really is. You do this all the time in your native language without having to think about the mechanics of it.

These are expressions like, "mi primo, quien es escritor, tiene una vida solitária" (my cousin, who's a writer, has a solitary life). Another example would be, "la mujer, con quien me encontré en la calle, es mi profesora" (the woman, whom I ran into on the street, is my teacher).

*Keep in mind that when a pronoun is required after a preposition and refers to a person, "quien" must be used; never "que" or "cual", both of which are relative pronouns that never refer to people.

Also, remember that "quién" is accented when it's used as an interrogative expression, such as "¿con quién tengo el gusto?" (with whom do I have the pleasure?). Whereas relative pronouns refer to an antecedent, a noun that's previously mentioned; subject pronouns do not accompany a noun, they don't make a direct reference to any antecedent. Formation:

*As a relative pronoun, "quien" only shows number, not gender.

Here are a few sample sentences to reinforce what we have learned:

"El chico con quien saliste el fin de semana pasado es el hermano de mi amigo." (The guy who you went out with last week is my friend's brother.) "¿Con quién tengo el gusto?" (With whom do I have the pleasure.)

"Vamos a salir con los hermanos Pérez, con quienes hemos compartido muchas mesas." (We're going to go out with the Perez brothers, whom we've shared many a table with.)

"Dime con quién andas y te diré quién eres." (Tell me who you hang out with and I'll tell you who you are.)

*Notice that there are no accents on either "quien" in the singular or "quienes" in the plural. Don't confuse the usage of relative pronouns with that of interrogative pronouns, pronouns which carry an accent and are used to ask questions, such as "¿quién llamo?" (who called?) or "¿con quiénes saliste?" (with whom did you leave?).

It's recommendable to study other pronouns while you're on this topic, like "que" and "cual", both of which are used just as much as "quien". Pronouns are useful because they help us make reference to people, place or things which are either implicit or explicit. In this way, they let us build more complex structures, which in turn give us the ability to be more precise.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The lables Hispanic and Latino are used to collectively refer to the residents of Latin America. When in an international terminal in Latin America, one can easily see how the reality of Latin America is far more diverse than these two words. If one travels to Perú, Guatemala, Mexico, Puerto Rico, The Dominican Republic, or Argentina, the differences of the people are very noticable. The stereotypical unorganized and hectic Latin American terminal is not the reality in my experience. But be prepared to be approached by a mob of taxi drivers, people willing to help you with your bags, and a mass of welcoming families. It can be overwhelming. Keep your cool and pretend like you've been there plenty of times. But no matter what you do, you cannot avoid the taxis.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #11 I'll give you a special discount

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
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- 4 Sample Sentences
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- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

1.	HECTOR:	¡Suerte! ¡Que le vaya bien!
2.	PAUL:	Gracias. De igual manera.
3.	TAXISTA 1:	¿Taxi, señor? ¿Necesita servicio de movilidad? Lo llevo, señor. ¿A dónde va? Le doy un buen precio.
4.	PAUL:	Ehhh No, gracias. Por favor, déjeme pasar.
5.	TAXISTA 2:	¿Movilidad, señor? ¿A dónde lo llevo?
6.	PAUL:	A la plaza de armas, al Hotel el Patio. ¿Cuánto está?
7.	TAXISTA 2:	No se preocupe. Le daré un descuento especial.

ENGLISH

1.	HECTOR:	Good luck! Hope it goes well for you!
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- 2. PAUL: Thanks. Same to you.
- 3. TAXI 1: Taxi, Sir? Do you need transportation service? Where am I taking you, Sir? Where are you going? I'll give you a good deal.
- 4. PAUL: Uhh..., no thanks. Please, let me through.
- 5. TAXI 2: Transportation, Sir. Where am I taking you?
- 6. PAUL: To the Plaza de Armas, to the hostal El Pation. How much is it?



7. TAXI 2: Don't you worry. I'll give you a special discount.

INFORMAL SPANISH

1.	HECTOR:	¡Suerte! ¡Que te vaya bien!
2.	PAUL:	Gracias. De igual manera.
3.	TAXISTA 1:	¿Taxi, amigo? ¿Necesitas servicio de movilidad? Lo llevo, amigo. ¿A dónde vas? Te doy un buen precio.
4.	PAUL:	Ehhh No, gracias. Por favor, déjame pasar.
5.	TAXISTA 2:	¿Movilidad, amigo? ¿A dónde lo llevo?
6.	PAUL:	A la plaza de armas, al Hotel el Patio. ¿Cuánto está?
7.	TAXISTA 2:	No te preocupes. Te daré un descuento especial.

ENGLISH

- 1. HECTOR: Good luck! Hope it goes well for ya'!
- 2. PAUL: Thanks. Same to you.
- 3. TAXI 1: Taxi, Sir? Do ya' need transportation service? Where am I taking ya', Sir? Where are ya' going? I'll give ya' a good deal.
- 4. PAUL: Uhh..., no thanks. Please, let me through.

5.	TAXI 2:	Transportation, Sir. Where am I taking ya'?
6.	PAUL:	To the Plaza de Armas, to the hostal El Pation. How much is it?
7.	TAXI 2:	Don't you worry. I'll give ya' a special discount.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
igual	just the same, equal, likewise	adjective, masculine noun, adverb	
servicio	service	masc. noun	masculine
movilidad	transportation	fem. noun	
descuento	discount	noun	
especial	special	adjective	
plaza	plaza, square	fem. noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Me da igual. "It's just the same to me."	Esa compañía ofrece muchos servicios.
it's just the same to me.	"That company offers many services."

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¿Cómo consigo servicio de movilidad? "How can I get transportation service?"	Le daré un descuento especial. "I'll give you a special discount."
Le puedo ofrecer un buen descuento. "I can offer you a good discount."	Le daré un descuento especial. "I'll give you a special discount."
Vamos a la plaza en el centro. "Let's go to the plaza downtown."	Justo anteayer te vi en la plaza. "Just the day before yesterday I saw you in the plaza."

Hay un montón de gente en la plaza.

"There are a ton of people in the plaza."

GRAMMAR

This grammar point focuses on the usage of the Indicative Mood of the Future Tense. We see this tense in today's conversation:

"Te daré un discuento especial" (l'Il give you a special discount).

The Future Tense signifies a future action independent of any other action. It refers to an event that will happen after the moment of speech: 'I will call'; 'they will be late'; 'you will be OK', etc.

To form the Future Tense of the Indicative Mood, the entire infinitive form is used, and to this we simply add the future endings. The same holds true for most verbs. However, there are some verbs that don't follow the paradigms in the Future Tense and are accordingly called "irregular".

They are: caber (to fit), poner (to put), decir (to say, to tell), haber (to have), salir (to go out, to

leave), hacer (to make, to do), poder (to be able, can), tener (to have), querer (to want), valer (to be worth), saber (to know), venir (to come).

Let's take a moment to examine one of the verbs that we had in today's lesson. Look over the conjugations below to see how we form the verb "dar" (to give) in the Future Tense:

yo daré (I will give) tú darás (you will give) él dará (he will give) ella dará (she will give) usted dará (you will give) usted dará (you will give *formal) nosotros daremos (we will give) vosotros daréis (you all will give) ellos darán (they will give *feminine

ustedes darán (you all will give

*Check out the Grammar Bank in the Learning Center for more information on the Future Tense!

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In many large Latin American cities, there are lot of different kinds of taxi services, ranging from professional choffeurs to gypsie cabs. Everyone has a different approach to taking a cab. Some people just get in. Others take a good look at the cabbie and if he's not an old man, who would seem less likely to be a thief. Another strategy is to sit behind the driver once you get it, since you will be able to see exactly what he sees. On the other hand, it would be a mistake to think that every taxi you take in a Latin American city could be dangerous. There are many reputable companies, and many of the people who work informally by driving a gypsie cab are also just trying to make a little extra money.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #12 The ride of your life!

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FORMAL SPANISH

1.	PAUL:	¿¡A dónde me lleva, señor!?
2.	TAXISTA:	Es un atajo que conozco. No se preocupe.
3.	PAUL:	No me gusta la ruta. Estamos entrando a un barrio bravo. Quiero bajarme aquí mismo. ¡Pare el auto! ¡Me bajo!
4.	TAXISTA:	Usted me debe la tarifa. Son tres cientos soles.
5.	PAUL:	No te dejo nada. ¡Sal de mi vista antes de que llame a la policía!

ENGLISH

1. PAUL:	Where are you taking me, Sir!?
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- 2. DRIVER: It's a shortcut I know. Don't worry.
- PAUL: I don't like this route. We're going into a dangerous neighborhood. I want to get out this minute. Stop the car! I'm getting out!
- 4. DRIVER: You owe me the fare. It's three hundred Soles.
- 5. PAUL: I'm not leaving you anything. Get out of my sight before I call the police!

INFORMAL SPANISH

1. PAUL: ¿¡A dónde me llevas, amigo!?

- 2. TAXISTA: Es un atajo que conozco. No te preocupes.
- PAUL: No me gusta la ruta. Estamos entrando a un barrio bravo. Quiero bajarme aquí mismo. ¡Para el auto! ¡Me bajo!
- 4. TAXISTA: Tú me debes la tarifa. Son tres cientos soles.
- 5. PAUL: No te dejo nada. ¡Sal de mi vista antes de que llame a la policía!

ENGLISH

- 1. PAUL: Where are ya' taking me, Sir!?
- 2. DRIVER: It's a shortcut I know. Don't worry.
- PAUL: I don't like this route. We're going into a dangerous neighborhood. I want to get out this minute. Stop the car! I'm getting out!
- 4. DRIVER: Ya' owe me the fare. It's three hundred Soles.
- 5. PAUL: I'm not leaving ya' anything. Get out of my sight before I call the police!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class
barrio	neighborhood	masculine noun
atajo	shortcut	masculine noun
ruta	route	fem. noun

vista	sight, view	feminine noun
antes de que	before	adverbial conjunction
auto	car	masc. noun

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi mejor amiga se mudó a mi barrio hace 5 años.	Es mejor no pasar por los barrios bravos.
"My best friend moved to my neighborhood five years ago."	"It's better not to go through the rough neighborhoods."
Conozco un atajo por ahí. "I know a shortcut over there."	Esta ruta es más larga, pero el paisaje es más bonito. "This route is longer, but the landscape is nicer."
La vista desde este mirador es espectacular. "The view from the lookout was spectacular."	Llámame antes de que te vayas. "Call me before you leave."
¿Por qué no me has devuelto el auto? "Why haven't you given me back my car?"	Una computadora es como un auto: siempre requiere mantenimiento. "A computer is like a car: it always requires maintenance."

GRAMMAR

Today we cover Adverbial Conjunctions. What is an adverb? Let's think about it. It's a word

that doesn't change forms. It's function is to compliment the meaning of the verb, of an adjective or of another adverb in a certain sequence. Now, what about a conjunction? What is this? A conjunction is a word that doesn't change forms and that triggers different types of subordinated clauses or that joins words or sequences that are syntactically equivalent.

So then, an Adverbial Conjunction indicates a pending, hypothetical action or state. In Spanish, these subordinated clauses after an adverbial conjunction are typically formed in the Subjunctive Mood.

For example:

"llámame antes de que te vayas." (call me before you go).

"Iré contigo a condición de que me invites un café." (I'll go with you on the condition that you buy me a coffee.)

"A menos que me recojas no podré ir." (Unless you pick me up, I won't be able to go.) "Con tal de que me devuelves el auto a las cinco en punto, te lo presto." (I'll lend you my car as long as you bring it back at five on the dot.)

"En el caso de que te olvides quien eres, mírate en el espejo." (In case you forget who you are, look at yourself in the mirror.)

Of course, we cannot provide an exhaustive list of adverbial conjunctions, but the list below should be useful as you begin to recognize these phrases in relation to the tense of the clause which they subordinate.

Common Adverbial Conjunctions:

a condición de que / on the condition that a menos que / unless a no ser que / unless antes de que / before con tal de que / provided that en caso de que / in case para que / so that sin que / without

Let's take a closer look at how these adverbial conjunctions triggers a subordinate clause with a verb in the Subjunctive Mood. For example, in today's conversation we see this phrase: "Sal de mi vista antes de que llame a la policía" (Get out of my sight, before I call the police!). Here, the main clause is "sal de mi vista" and the verb in this clause is "sal", which is the informal singular command of the verb "salir" (to get out, to leave): "sal de mi vista" (get out of my sight). Then comes the adverbial conjunction which indicates to us that a subordinate clause is on its way: "*antes de que* llame a la policía" (*before* I call the police). So, in this subordinate clause, the verb is "llame", which has been conjugated to the present tense of the subjunctive mood.

*It's important to recognize that even though we're using the "present" tense, since it's in the subjunctive mood, the action "would take" place in the future, hypothetical as it may be.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Taking a unregistered cab is a dangerous risk. Without any regulation you really are taking your safety in your own hands. Not all unregistered cabs are dishonest, but there is a risk of being robbed or worse, especially is you are a tourist. It is recommended that you always take a licensed taxi. These are all registered with a central office, either private or governmental. If there is any incident, you are protected more than if you are simply with someone who just picked you up. Remember, it is strongly recommended to avoid these taxi's at all costs. It is illegal and highly dangerous. Heed our warnings!



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #13 It looks like you've been robbed

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FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. RECEPCIONISTA: Aquí tengo su reserva. Es, usted, el señor Paul Feldman, ¿cierto?
- 2. PAUL: Sí, soy yo. Aquí tiene mi pasaporte.
- 3. RECEPCIONISTA: Perfecto. ¿Desearía pagar ahora o al salir?
- 4. PAUL: Prefiero pagar ahora... A ver... ¿¡Qué!? ¿¡Dónde está mi billetera!?
- 5. RECEPCIONISTA: Hay un hueco en el bolsillo trasero de su pantalón. Parece que le han robado, señor.
- 6. PAUL: ¡Estoy frito! ¿Señor, disculpe si lo molesto, pero podría usar la computadora para mandar un correo? Como usted sabe, es muy urgente.
- 7. RECEPCIONISTA: Por supuesto. Hay una computadora en el lobby, pasando los muebles, a la derecha.

ENGLISH

- 1. RECEPTIONIST: I have your reservation here. Sir, you are Mr. Paul Feldman, right?
- 2. PAUL: Yes I am. Here's my passport.
- 3. RECEPTIONIST: Perfect. Would you care to pay now or when you leave?
- 4. PAUL: I prefer to pay now... Let's see... What!? Where is my wallet!?

CONT'D OVER

- 5. RECEPTIONIST: There's a hole in the back pocket of your pants. It looks like you've been robbed, Sir.
- 6. PAUL: I'm done! Sir, excuse me if I inconvenience you, but could I use the computer to send an email? As you know, it's very urgent.
- 7. RECEPTIONIST: Of course. There's a computer in the lobby, just on the other side of the furniture on the right.

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. RECEPCIONISTA: Aquí tengo tu reserva. Eres el señor Paul Feldman, ¿cierto?
- 2. PAUL: Sí, soy yo. Aquí tienes mi pasaporte.
- 3. RECEPCIONISTA: Perfecto. ¿Desearías pagar ahora o al salir?
- 4. PAUL: Prefiero pagar ahora... A ver... ¿¡Qué!? ¿¡Dónde está mi billetera!?
- 5. RECEPCIONISTA: Hay un hueco en el bolsillo trasero de tu pantalón. Parece que te han robado, amigo.
- PAUL: ¡Estoy frito! ¿Amigo, disculpa si te molesto, pero podría usar la computadora para mandar un correo? Como sabes, es muy urgente.
- 7. RECEPCIONISTA: Por supuesto. Hay una computadora en el lobby, pasando los muebles, a la derecha.

ENGLISH

CONT'D OVER

- 1. RECEPTIONIST: I have your reservation here. Sir, you are Mr. Paul Feldman, right?
- 2. PAUL: Yeah I am. Here's my passport.
- 3. RECEPTIONIST: Perfect. Would ya' care to pay now or when ya' leave?
- 4. PAUL: I prefer to pay now... Let's see... What!? Where's my wallet!?
- 5. RECEPTIONIST: There's a hole in the back pocket of your pants. It looks like you've been robbed, Sir.
- 6. PAUL: I'm done! Sir, excuse me if I inconvenience you, but could I use the computer to send an email? As ya' know, it's very urgent.
- 7. RECEPTIONIST: Of course. There's a computer in the lobby, just on the other side of the furniture on the right.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
desear	to desire, to wish, to care for	verb	
hueco	hole	masc. noun	
ahora	now, just now, right away	adverb	
bolsillo	pocket	noun	masculine
trasero, -a	back, behind	adjective, masc. noun	
mueble	piece of furniture	masc. noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Yo deseo la paz mundial. "I desire world peace."	Hay un hueco en tu camisa. ¿Qué pasó?
	"There's a hole in your shirt. What happened?"
Ahora salimos.	¿Qué tienes en el bolsillo?
"We leave right away."	"What have you got in your pocket?"
Salgamos por la puerta trasera de la casa.	No quiero llenar el apartamento con muebles.
"Let's leave through the back door of the house."	"I don't want to fill the apartment up with furniture."

GRAMMAR

The Conditional Tense is formed with the endings '-ía, -ías and -ía' in the singular and with 'íamos, -íais and -ían' in the plural for all regular -AR, -ER and -IR verbs.

The Conditional is used to 1) express a future time in the past; 2) to indicate a conjecture or possibility; 3) to show the softening of a statement; and 4) to show something hypothetic.

The Conditional Tense is generally translated with the infinitive of the verb following either the modal verb "would" or "could". Thus, "yo pensaría" means "I would think" or "I could think".

We also use the verb "poder" in conditional phrases. This is done in today's lesson conversation: ¿Podría usar la computadora? (Could I use the computer?). Another example of the Conditional Tense in today's lesson is the phrase "¿Desearía pagar ahora o al salir?" (Would you care to pay now or when you leave?). This is a very polite and nonconfrontational way to speak. You will not hear this used in informal conversation, but in certain formal settings it is quite common.

Observe a few more examples of the Conditional Tense:

"Los niños dormirían toda la tarde." (The children would sleep all afternoon.)

"Yo invertiría dinero en eso." (I would invest money in that.) "Así parecería." (So it would seem.)

*Notice that for all regular -AR, -ER and -IR verbs, the Conditional endings are the same as we mentioned at the beginning of the Grammar Point. This makes them a lot easier to memorize. What's more, if we think back to the Future Tense, we remember that we also used the complete form of the infinitive, and then we added on the future endings to form the Future Tense. The Conditional Tense requires the complete infinitive of the verb and then the Conditional endings (following the same pattern as the Future), because the Conditional tense is a future tense, although distinct from the Absolute Future Tense. This will become clearer as time goes on and you learn more tenses. For now, try your best to remember the formation of the Conditional. The context in which it's used will make itself more apparent as you continue to learn.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Pickpoketing is prevalent in many tourist destinations. It is never a good idea to keep your wallet in your back pocket. Theives are skillfull and generally work in teams. One person will attempt to distract you while someone else will make the play for your wallet or bag. More skillfull thieves will cut your pocket without you feeling anything. A money belt, while cliche, is a very good idea. Keep all valuables safetly tucked away. Also, it is a very very good idea to keep some money in your shoe. If you do find yourself the victim of theft, you will at least have some money to fall back on. Another good idea is to keep a copy of your passport on you at all times. In the very unfortunate event that your passport is stolen, a photo copy will make it easier for you to retrieve a replacement from your embassy.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #14 You're going to get me pregnant!

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- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
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FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Buenas noches, señora.
- 2. GABRIELA: ¿¡Qué!? ¿señora? Usted me hace sentir vieja. Me va a embarazar.
- 3. ALEJANDRO: ¿Embarazar? j...tanto no había pensado! ¿Qué tal si primero guardo su abrigo?
- 4. GABRIELA: ¡Qué verguenza! Quise decir que usted me iba a avergonzar, no embarazar.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: No se preocupe, esto siempre sucede con los anglohablantes.

ENGLISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Good evening, Madam.
- GABRIELA: What!? Madam? You make me feel old. You are going to get me pregnant.
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Get you pregnant? Hehe... I had not thought of so much! How about if I first take your coat?
- 4. GABRIELA: How embarrassing! I meant to say that you were going to embarrass me, not get me pregnant.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: Don't worry, this always happens with English-speakers.

INFORMAL SPANISH

CONT'D OVER

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Buenas noches, señora.
- 2. GABRIELA: ¿¡Qué!? ¿señora? Me haces sentir vieja. Me vas a embarazar.
- 3. ALEJANDRO: ¿Embarazar? j...tanto no había pensado! ¿Qué tal si primero guardo su abrigo?
- 4. GABRIELA: ¡Qué verguenza! Quise decir que me iba a avergonzar, no embarazar.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: No se preocupe, esto siempre sucede con los anglohablantes.

ENGLISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Good evening, Madam.
- GABRIELA: What!? Madam? Ya' make me feel old. You're going to get me pregnant.
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Get ya' pregnant? Hehe... I hadn't thought of so much! How about if I first take your coat?
- 4. GABRIELA: How embarrassing! I meant to say that you were going to embarrass me, not get me pregnant.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: Don't worry, this always happens with English-speakers.

VOCABULARY

Spanish English Class	
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viejo(a)	old	adjective
embarazar	to impregnate	verb
avergonzar	to embarrass	verb
querer decir	to mean	periphrastic verb phrase
suceder	to happen, to occur, to follow	verb
anglohablante	English-speaker	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Mi vecina es una vieja loca. "My neighbor is a crazy old lady."	Si quieres tener un bebé, deberías embarazarte pronto. "If you want to have a baby, you should get pregnant soon."
Me avergonzé después de decir esta tontería. "I got embarrassed after I said that stupid thing."	No quise decir eso. "I didn't mean to say that."
Eso quiere decir que ya podemos salir. "That means that we can leave now."	Esperamos que estas cosas no sucedan a menudo. "We hope that these things don't happen frequently."

Los anglohablantes suelen confundir ciertas palabras castellanas.

"English-speakers tend to confuse certain Spanish words."

GRAMMAR

Today, we study how to express future actions using "la perífrasis" (a unit made up of one verb in a personal form and another in an impersonal form). This way of speaking often takes the place of the Absolute Future.

Here, we conjugate the personal verb "ir" (to go) and then we add the preposition "a" and the infinitive of the future action to be carried out.

Unlike the Absolute Future Tense, which expresses a definitive statement that we will do something, we are expressing "el futuro de intención" (the future of intention), which shows our intention to carry out an action with less absolute certainty.

In order to build this structure we need to know the conjugation of the verb "ir" (to go) in both the imperfect past tense and the present tense.

FORMATION:

"ir (personal verb) + a + infinitive (impersonal verb)" PRESENT TENSE:

yo voy a... (I'm going to...) tú vas a... (You are going to...) él va a... (He is going to...) ella va a... (She is going to...) usted va a... (You are going to...) nosotros vamos a... (We are going to...) vosotros vais a... (You all are going to...) ellos/ellas van a... (They are going to...) ustedes van a... (You all are going to...) **IMPERFECT PAST TENSE:** yo iba a... (I was going to...) tú ibas a... (You were going to...) él iba a... (He was going to...) ella iba a... (She was going to...) usted iba a... (You were going to...) nosotros íbamos a... (We were going to...) vosotros ibais a... (You all were going to...) ellos/ellas iban a... (They were going to...) ustedes iban a... (You all were going to...)

Look over the following sample sentences to see how we use this construction:

"Voy a caminar en el parque" (I'm going to walk in the park).

"Vas a hacer tu tarea" (You are going to do your homework).

* Contrast this to the following use of the Absolute Future:

"Iré a caminar en el parque" (I will go to walk in the park).

"Harás tu tarea" (You will do your homework).

Now observe the difference between Present Tense and Imperfect Past Tense conjugation of the verb "ir (to go):

"Yo voy a trabajar" (I am going to work).

"Yo iba a trabajar" (I was going to work).

"Tú vas a venir" (You are going to come).

"Tú ibas a venir" (You were going to come).

"Ella va a dormir" (She is going to sleep).

"Ella iba a dormir" (She was going to sleep).

"Nosotros vamos a jugar" (We are going to play).

"Nosotros íbamos a jugar" (We were going to play).

"Vosotros vais a comer algo" (You all are going to eat something).

"Vosotros ibais a comer algo" (You all were going to eat something).

"Ellos van a correr" (They are going to run).

"Ellos iban a correr" (They were going to run).

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Learning comes with blunders. The key is to know how to laugh it off. Generally, people are very patient when one is learning a language (think when someone is trying to learn English. You are generally patient, aren't you?) One blunder that I have made recently goes both ways. Ordering food and beverages are generally fertile ground for blunders and this one address the latter. I wanted to order a pitcher of beer for my friends and I. I asked for "Un pichel" which is the correct spelling but the mistake occurred in the pronunciation. Think of the name Michelle. I pronounced the "ch" like the name when it is harder, like the English "CH". On the other hand, the mistake goes both ways. A friend who is a native Spanish speaker pronounces the name Michelle with a hard "CH" when it is soft. Mistakes go both ways and it is generally the small things that are mistaken and they are generally overlooked as natural. Once again, laugh these off and take the lessons as they come.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #15 Steering your food after lunch

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

1.	ALEJANDRO:	¡Qué rico estuvo el almuerzo! Gracias, Gabriela.
2.	GABRIELA:	No, no hay de qué. ¿Le sirvo una infusión de menta?
3.	ALEJANDRO:	¿Una infusión de menta? ¿Para qué toma eso?
4.	GABRIELA:	Es bueno para dirigir la comida después del almuerzo.
5.	ALEJANDRO:	¿¡Dirigir, o digerir…jejeje…!?
6.	GABRIELA:	¡Oíga, cállese la boca! ¿Se da cuenta que para nosotros los extranjeros estas palabras suenan muy parecidas?

ENGLISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Lunch was so delicious! Thank you, Gabriela.
- 2. GABRIELA: No, there is nothing to it. Can I serve you some mint tea?
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Mint tea? What do you drink that for?
- 4. GABRIELA: It is good to steer your meal after lunch.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: To steer! or, to digest... hehehe...!?
- 6. GABRIELA: Hey, shut your mouth! Do you realize that for us foreigners these words sound very similar?

INFORMAL SPANISH

CONT'D OVER

2

1.	ALEJANDRO:	¡Qué rico estuvo el almuerzo! Gracias, Gaby.
2.	GABRIELA:	No, no hay de qué. ¿Te sirvo una infusión de menta?
3.	ALEJANDRO:	¿Una infusión de menta? ¿Para qué tomas eso?
4.	GABRIELA:	Es bueno para dirigir la comida después del almuerzo.
5.	ALEJANDRO:	¿¡Dirigir, o digerir…jejeje…!?
6.	GABRIELA:	¡Oye, cállate la boca! ¿Te das cuenta que para nosotros los extranjeros estas palabras suenan muy parecidas?

ENGLISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Lunch was so delicious! Thanks, Gabby.
- 2. GABRIELA: No, there's nothing to it. Can I serve ya' some mint tea?
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Mint tea? What do ya' drink that for?
- 4. GABRIELA: It's good to steer your meal after lunch.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: To steer! or, to digest... hehehe...!?
- 6. GABRIELA: Hey, shut your mouth! Do ya' realize that for us foreigners these words sound very similar?

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
infusión	tea, infusion	fem. noun	
menta	mint	fem. noun	
dirigir	to direct, to steer, to address	verb	
digerir	to digest	verb	
darse cuenta	to realize, to find out	phrase	
parecido, -a	similar, likeness	adjective, noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La infusión de apio promueve la digestión. "Celery tea promotes digestion."	La menta es una hierba refrescante. "Mint is a refreshing herb."	
El piloto dirigió el avión hacia la pista de aterrizaje.	Es difícil digerir tanta carne. Quiero comer verduras.	
"The pilot steered the plane towards the landing strip."	"It's hard to digest so much meat. I want to eat vegetables."	
Te darás cuenta del tamaño de la casa al entrar.	Acabo de darme cuenta que no estaré disponible a esa hora.	
"You realize how big the house is when you enter."	"I've just realized that I won't be available at that time."	

Espero que te des cuenta de lo que hiciste.	Ustedes son muy parecidos hasta parecen hermanos.
"I hope that you realize what you	"You guys are really similar you
did."	even seem like brothers."

GRAMMAR

Demonstrative adjectives

An adjective modifies the meaning of a noun. For example, "the glass table". Here, "glass" tells us characteristics of the "table" in a descriptive way.

Notice how demonstrative adjectives "demonstrate" the location of the thing being referred to in relation to the speaker and the person being spoken to. Let's not forget that that the verb "mostrar", which means "to show" is at the heart of the word "demostrativo" (demonstrative).

What makes a demonstrative adjective different from a regular adjective is that it indicates precisely which person, place or thing is being referred to. For example, instead of describing the table's glassiness, we can refer to it with reference to the person being spoken to. We can say, "this table", which is near us both, "that table", which is only near you, but not me, or "that table over there", which is far from both of us.

Make sure you don't confuse demonstrative "adjectives" with demonstrative "pronouns". For example, "no puedo aceptar ESO" (I can't accept THAT). Here, the word "eso" is actually taking the place of what I can't accept.

So, if it were "un regalo" (a gift), "no puedo aceptar eso" would be the pronominal form of "no puedo aceptar el regalo". To further your understanding of demonstratives, continue onto the study of demonstrative pronouns.

REFERRING TO SOMETHING NEAR THE SPEAKER

FOR EXAMPLE:

"Hace dos años que vivo en este departamento."

(I've lived in this apartment for two years.)

"En este momento, no me siento bien."

(At this moment, I don't feel well.)

REFERRING TO SOMETHING NEAR THE PERSON BEING SPOKEN TO

Masculine Singular: ese (that) Feminine Singular: esa (that) Masculine Plural: esos (those) Feminine Plural: esas (those)

FOR EXAMPLE:

"*Ese* tipo nunca va a cambiar la idea." (That guy is never going to change his mind.) "¿De quién es *esa* mochila?" (Whose backback is that?) **REFERRING TO SOMETHING DISTANT FROM THE SPEAKER**

FOR EXAMPLE:

"En *aquella* época, las cosas eran diferentes." (Back then, things were different.) "Me encontraré contigo en *aquel* café donde te vi la semana pasada." (I'll meet you in that cafe where I saw you last week.)

*Visit the Learning Center for excercises and more information in the Grammar Bank!

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In regards to blunders, once again, the most important advice that we can offer is to take the mistakes in stride. In my experience, Latin Americans are very funny people and may make a joke but they are usually not malicious. Many people are willing to help you with your questions (especially if you offer to help them with their English.). Just like English, many words have synonyms and the only way to differentiate them is use them in real world situations. Remember, people are happy that you are attempting to learn their language and they will help you with a simple, "¿Cómo se dice?" This simple phrase that means, "How do you say?" will elicit assistance 95% of the time.



Lesson Notes Beginner S2 #16 Let's Breed!

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. GABRIELA: Tenemos que cruzar, ¿no?
- 2. ALEJANDRO: Sí... a ver... debe ser la hora del tráfico.
- 3. GABRIELA: Así parece... Ahora sí, ¡crucémonos!
- 4. ALEJANDRO: ¡Jejeje! Creo que usted quiere decir ¡crucemos!
- 5. GABRIELA: ¿Qué quiere decir ¡crucémonos!
- 6. ALEJANDRO: Es como decir ¡reproduzcámonos! Jeje...

ENGLISH

- 1. GABRIELA: We have got to cross, right?
- 2. ALEJANDRO: Yes... let's see... it must be rush hour.
- 3. GABRIELA: It seems so. OK now, let's breed!
- 4. ALEJANDRO: Hehehe! I think you mean to say 'let's cross'.
- 5. GABRIELA: What does 'crúcemonos' mean?
- 6. ALEJANDRO: It is like saying 'let's reproduce' Hehe...

INFORMAL SPANISH

CONT'D OVER

- 1. GABRIELA: Tenemos que cruzar, ¿no?
- 2. ALEJANDRO: Sí... a ver... debe ser la hora del tráfico.
- 3. GABRIELA: Así parece... Ahora sí, ¡crucémonos!
- 4. ALEJANDRO: ¡Jejeje! Creo que quieres decir ¡crucemos!
- 5. GABRIELA: ¿Qué quiere decir ¡crucémonos!
- 6. ALEJANDRO: Es como decir ¡reproduzcámonos! Jeje...

ENGLISH

- 1. GABRIELA: We've got to cross, right?
- 2. ALEJANDRO: Yep... let's see... it must be rush hour.
- 3. GABRIELA: It seems so. OK now, let's breed!
- 4. ALEJANDRO: Hehehe! I think ya' mean to say 'let's cross'.
- 5. GABRIELA: What does 'crúcemonos' mean?
- 6. ALEJANDRO: It's like saying 'let's reproduce' Hehe...

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class
cruzar	to cross	verb

tráfico	traffic	masc. noun
tener que	to have to	verb phrase
parecer	to seem	verb
reproducir	to reproduce, to repeat, to recur	verb
como	how, as, like, about (approximation)	adverb, conjunction, preposition

SAMPLE SENTENCES

¿Cruzamos la calle? "Should we cross the street?"	¡Este tráfico me da tanta cólera! "This traffic makes me so angry!"
Lo que a ella le fastidia es la bulla del tráfico. "What annoys her is the noise of the traffic."	Tengo que hacer mi tarea. "I have to do my homework."
El cielo parece infinito. "The sky seems infinite."	Las moscas nacen, crecen, se reproducen y mueren en muy poco tiempo. "Flies are born, grow up, reproduce and die in a very short time."

Manuel está equivocado, como siempre.

"Manuel is wrong, as always."

GRAMMAR

One class of irregular verbs in the Present Subjunctive is made up of those that have an irregular first person singular form in the Present Indicative. In the Present Subjunctive, all of their forms are based off of that irregularity. Of these irregular forms, we can divide them into two groups:

1) Those whose first person singular form of the Present Indicative has a -G in the ending.

2) Those whose first person singular form of the Present Indicative has a -ZCO in the ending.

* Today, we're focusing on this second group. Observe the following verb formations:

Infinitive: reproducir (to reproduce) *(As seen in today's lesson conversation.)

First Person Singular Present Indicative: reproduzco

Singular --- * --- Plural

yo reproduzca (that I may reproduce) --- * --- nosostros reproduzcamos (that we may reproduce)

tú reproduzcas (that you may kn reproduce ow) --- * --- vosotros reproduzcáis (that you all may reproduce) *inf.*

él reproduzca (that he may reproduce) --- * --- ellos reproduzcan (that they may reproduce) *masc.*

ella reproduzca (that she may reproduce) --- * --- ellas reproduzcan (that they may reproduce) *fem.*

usted reproduzca (that you may reproduce) *form.* --- * --- ustedes reproduzcan (that you all may reproduce) *form.*

"Espero que este hecho no se reproduzca." (I hope that this may not happen again) [i.e.... that this doesn't happen again]

Infinitive: conocer (to know, to get to know)

First Person Singular Present Indicative: conozco

Singular --- * --- Plural

yo conozca (that I may know) --- * --- nosostros conozcamos (that we may know)

tú conozcas (that you may know) --- * --- vosotros conozcáis (that you all may know) inf.

él conozca (that he may know) --- * --- ellos conozcan (that they may know) masc.

ella conozca (that she may know) --- * --- ellas conozcan (that they may know) fem.

usted conozca (that you may know) *form.* --- * --- ustedes conozcan (that you all may know) *form.*

"No me imagino que los conozcas." (I don't imagine that you may know them.) [i.e. *...that you know them.*]

Infinitive: nacer (to be born)

First Person Singular Present Indicative: nazco

Singular --- * --- Plural

yo nazca (that I may be born) --- * --- nosostros nazcamos (that we may be born)

tú nazcas (that you may be born) --- * --- vosotros nazcáis (that you all may be born) inf.

él nazca (that he may be born) --- * --- ellos nazcan (that they may be born) masc.

ella nazca (that she may be born) --- * --- ellas nazcan (that they may be born) fem.

usted nazca (that you may be born) *form.* --- * --- ustedes nazcan (that you all may be born) *form.*

"Es improbable que nazca el bebé esta tarde." (It's improbable that the baby may be born this afternoon.)

[i.e. ...that the baby will be born this afternoon.]

Infinitive: obedecer (to obey)

First Person Singular Present Indicative: obedezco

Singular --- * --- Plural

yo obedezca (that I may obey) --- * --- nosostros obedezcamos (that we may obey)

tú obedezcas (that you may obey) --- * --- vosotros obedezcáis (that you all may obey) inf.

él obedezca (that he may obey) --- * --- ellos obedezcan (that they may obey) masc.

ella obedezca (that she may obey) --- * --- ellas obedezcan (that they may obey) fem.

usted obedezca (that you may obey) *form.* --- * --- ustedes obedezcan (that you all may obey) *form.*

"Dudo que te obedezca." (I doubt that he may obey you.) [i.e. ...that he'll obey you.]

Infinitive: pertenecer (to pertain, to belong)

First Person Singular Present Indicative: pertenezco

Singular --- * --- Plural

yo pertenezca (that I may belong) --- * --- nosostros pertenezcamos (that we may belong) tú pertenezcas (that you may belong) --- * --- vosotros pertenezcáis (that you all may belong) *inf.*

él pertenezca (that he may belong) ---- * --- ellos pertenezcan (that they may belong) *masc.* ella pertenezca (that she may belong) ---- * --- ellas pertenezcan (that they may belong) *fem.* usted pertenezca (that you may belong) *form.* --- * --- ustedes pertenezcan (that you all may belong) *form.*

"No parece que me pertenezcan las llaves." (It doesn't seem that the keys may belong to me.)

[i.e. ...that the keys belong to me

*As you can see from the examples, the Present Tense of the Subjunctive Mood is translated a number of ways into English. Sometimes is looks like the Present Indicative, sometimes like the Future Indicative, and sometimes it really uses the modal verb "may". *We include "may" in the initial translations to highlight the subjunctive usage, but as you can see, it's often omitted from English as it's used today*. If you're having a hard time understanding what this *mood* is, simply think of the funeral phrase "may he rest in peace", which in Spanish is rendered "descanse en paz", a form which takes the Present Subjunctive. Remember, in Spanish, this form **is not** antiquated in the least; rather, it's used all the time and therefore should be learned by anyone wishing to speak modern Spanish.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Blunders vary and it doesn't only depend on subject matter. For example, I have a friend that was in Mexico and said, "ahora vamos a coger..." during a procedure. What she meant to say was, "Now we take..." without knowing that in Mexico the verb "coger" can also mean "to (vulgar word)". Understandably, this was an embarrassing situation, especially considering that the blunder was made in a professional situation. Now, the other people present didn't laugh but after the procedure a woman was kind enough to tell her just what she had said. She was embarrassed but learned something very valuable that day.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #17 I'm totally aroused to meet her

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Gabriela, ya estamos por llegar a la casa de mi tía... ¿Todo bien?
- GABRIELA: Sí, creo que va a ser muy divertido. Estoy super excitada por conocerla. ¿Y usted?
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Jeje... No tenía tantas expectativas, o sea, la amo, pero... jeje...
- GABRIELA: ¿¡Qué dije!? ¿excitada? ¡Quise decir emocionada! Usted tiene la mente cochina. Sabe a lo que voy. No joda.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: ¿Pero acaso qué he dicho? Jeje...

ENGLISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Gabby, we are about to arrive at my aunt's house. Everything OK?
- 2. GABRIELA: Yes, I think that it is going to be a lot of fun. I am totally aroused to meet her. And you?
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Hehe... My hopes were not that high, I mean, I love her, but, hehe...
- 4. GABRIELA: What did I say? Aroused? I meant to say excited! You have got a dirty mind. You know what I mean. Quit giving me a hard time.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: But what did I say? Hehe...

INFORMAL SPANISH

CONT'D OVER

2

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Gaby, ya estamos por llegar a la casa de mi tía... ¿Todo bien?
- GABRIELA: Sí, creo que va a ser muy divertido. Estoy super excitada por conocerla. ¿Y tú?
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Jeje... No tenía tantas expectativas, o sea, la amo, pero... jeje...
- GABRIELA: ¿¡Qué dije!? ¿excitada? ¡Quise decir emocionada! Tienes la mente cochina. Sabes a lo que voy. No jodas.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: ¿Pero acaso qué he dicho? Jeje...

ENGLISH

- 1. ALEJANDRO: Gabby, we're about to arrive at my aunt's house. Everything OK?
- 2. GABRIELA: Yeah, I think that it's going to be a lot of fun. I'm totally aroused to meet her. And you?
- 3. ALEJANDRO: Hehe... My hopes weren't that high, I mean, I love her, but, hehe...
- 4. GABRIELA: What did I say? Aroused? I meant to say excited! You've got a dirty mind. You know what I mean. Quit giving me a hard time.
- 5. ALEJANDRO: But what did I say? Hehe...

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
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estar por	to be about to do something	verbal phrase	
emocionado, -a	excited, touched	adjective, past participle	masculine
excitado, -a	aroused	adjective	
expectativa	expectation, hope	fem. noun	
cochino, -a	dirty	adjective	
mente	mind, thoughts	fem. noun	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Estoy por terminar, espérame un momentico. "I'm about to finish, wait for me just a sec."	Estamos emocionados por lo que nos dices. We're excited about what you tell us.
Martín y Claudia estuvieron tan excitados durante la cena de su aniversário que salieron sin que terminaran la comida. "Martin and Claudia were so aroused during their anniversary dinner that they left without finishing the meal."	Tengo muchas expectativas para esta colaboración. "I have high hopes for this collaboration."

Mis expectativas para el próximo año escolar son muy altas.	¿Y por qué te vas a poner esa camisa si está cochina?
"My expectations for next school year are very high."	"And why are you going to wear that shirt, if it's dirty?"
Eres un cochino.	¿Qué se te viene a la mente?
"You're dirty."	"What comes to mind?"

GRAMMAR

A periphrastic construction is simply one which contains one verb in a personal form and another in an impersonal form. Each periphrastic construction has a specific meaning, and these meaning change from context to context.

Today, for example, we're looking at "estar por" and then a verb in the infinitive, which is used to express the imminence of the action of the verb in the infinitive form. In the conversation, we see the following phrase:

"Ya estamos por llegar." (We're about to arrive.)

*This nuance is very useful as you continue to develop your ability to express actions in Spanish.

OBSERVE THE FORMATION:

[VERB] + [PREPOSITION] + [VERB] [PERSONAL FORM OF "estar"] + [POR] + [INFINITIVE FORM OF ANY VERB]

i.e. [estamos] + [por] + [llegar]

Look over these sample sentences to see the construction in different contexts:

"Estamos por llegar."

(We are about to arrive)

"Estoy por salir, ¿te llamo más tarde?"

(I'm about to go out, can I call you later?)

"Estábamos por comer cuando llegó mi tío."

(We were about to eat, when my uncle arrived.)

"Cuando el agua esté por hervir, le echas los huevos." (When the water is about to boil, add the eggs.) "Estoy por acostarme, hablamos sobre eso mañana."

(I'm about to go to bed, let's talk about that tomorrow.)

* The meaning of this construction usually gets translated to English in the form of "to be **ABOUT to do something**". In Spanish, this same idea can also be expressed with the phrase "a punto de" (to be on the brink, to be about to, to be on the point of).

Notice that the verb "estar" (to be) can be conjugated to any number of tenses and in either the indicative or the subjunctive mood, while still being used in this periphrastic construction. What's important to remember is that no matter the tense and mood, the action of the verb in the infinitive is always going to receive a certain amount of imminence.

There are many periphrastic constructions in Spanish. For example, we often use "poder ser" to refer to something that is possible; "tener que...+ infinitive" expresses obligation with respect to the action of the verb in the infinitive; "debe ser" expresses a supposition; "querer decir" is translted as "to signifiy, to mean"; "ir a + infinitive" expresses a future action somewhat less distinct than the absolute future. This list in not exhaustive, and you can build your knowledge on this topic by checking out other lessons that cover periphrastic constructions.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

The nuances of some verbs are lost when people are learning new language. In the Romantic realm, these can be particularly tricky. A common one is the use of the verb "gustar" to like. Now, someone can ask you, "¿Te gusta Raquel?" You may have just met her and she may be cool, so of course you say, "Sí". The thing is, in Spanish, the use of the verb gustar in relation to a person means that you are interested in them in a romantic way. To avoid this possibly embarrassing situation, if you are not interested in that way the optimal answer would be "Me cae bien," which means that you like them as a friend. Avoid this blunder!



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #18 If I were to win the lottery...

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. VENDEDORA: ¡Sorteo, sorteo...! Señora, ¡lleve su número de la suerte!
- 2. MARIANA: Hola, me da el número veinte y dos, por favor. ¿Qué tal el premio?
- 3. VENDEDORA: Está muy bueno, señora, el que gane se hace millonario.
- 4. MARIANA: ¡Ojalá ganara!
- 5. VENDEDORA: Y ¿qué haría, usted, con tanto dinero?
- 6. MARIANA: ¡Ay, dios! Si yo ganara, pagaría todas mis deudas, viajaría y me hiciera un arreglito.. los años pasan, ¿sabe?
- VENDEDORA: ¡Jajaja...! ¡Cómo lo sé! Que tenga mucha suerte. ¡Sorteo, sorteo...!
 ¡Ileve su número de la suerte!

ENGLISH

- 1. VENDOR: Lottery, lottery...! Ma'am, get your lucky number!
- 2. MARIANA: Hi there, give me number twenty-two, please. What's the prize like?
- 3. VENDOR: It is very good, Ma'am, whoever wins will become a millionaire.
- 4. MARIANA: I hope I win!
- 5. VENDOR: And what would you do with so much money, Ma'am?

CONT'D OVER



- 6. MARIANA: Oh, God! If I were to win, I would pay off all my debts, travel, and do a little nip and tuck.. the years go by, you know?
- 7. VENDOR: Hahaha...! Oh how I know! Good luck! Lottery, lottery... get your lucky number!

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. VENDEDORA: ¡Sorteo, sorteo...! Amiga, ¡lleva tu número de la suerte!
- 2. MARIANA: Hola, me das el número veinte y dos, por favor. ¿Qué tal el premio?
- 3. VENDEDORA: Está muy bueno, amiga, el que gane se hace millonario.
- 4. MARIANA: ¡Ojalá ganara!
- 5. VENDEDORA: Y ¿qué harías con tanto dinero?
- 6. MARIANA: ¡Ay, dios! Si yo ganara, pagaría todas mis deudas, viajaría y me hiciera un arreglito.. los años pasan, ¿sabes?
- VENDEDORA: ¡Jajaja...! ¡Cómo lo sé! Que tengas mucha suerte. ¡Sorteo, sorteo...!
 ¡Ileva tu número de la suerte!

ENGLISH

1. VENDOR: Lottery, lottery...! Ma'am, get your lucky number!

CONT'D OVER

- 2. MARIANA: Hey there, give me number twenty-two, please. What's the prize like?
- 3. VENDOR: It's very good, Ma'am, whoever wins will become a millionaire.
- 4. MARIANA: I hope I win!
- 5. VENDOR: And what would ya' do with so much money, Ma'am?
- 6. MARIANA: Oh, God! If I were to win, I'd pay off all my debts, travel, and do a little nip and tuck.. the years go by, ya' know?
- 7. VENDOR: Hahaha...! Oh how I know! Good luck! Lottery, lottery... get your lucky number!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
sorteo	lottery, raffle	masc. noun	
premio	award, prize	masc. noun	
millonario, -a	millonaire		
deuda	debt	noun	feminine
dios, -a	god, goddess		
año	year	noun	masculine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Si yo ganara el sorteo, no sé qué haría.	¿Por qué siempre a tí te tocan los premios?
"If I won the lottery, I don't know what I would do."	"Why do you always win the prizes?"
Esa escritora ganó varios premios durante el año pasado. "That writer won many awards over the last year."	No quiero hacerme millonario, porque los impuesto serían muy altos. "I don't want to be a millionaire, because the taxes would be really high."
¿Quién pagará mis deudas? "Who will pay my debts?"	Estamos muy bien, gracias a Dios. "We're all well, thank God."

Trabajé mucho el año pasado.

"I worked a lot last year."

GRAMMAR

The Imperfect Subjunctive can be used in relation to both past actions and hypothetical future actions that frequently appear in conditional statements. In grammatical terms, we use the Subjunctive Mood when there is an independent clause and a dependent clause in the same statement. We use the Imperfect Subjunctive Mood when the verb in the independent clause is in a present or past tense and the dependent clause refers to an action or state posterior to the action of the main clause and prior to the moment of speech.

We also use it when the verb in the independent clause is in the conditional mood and the dependent clause refers to a hypothetical future action/situation. When these conditions apply, use the Imperfect Subjunctive in the dependent clause.

HYPOTHETICAL ACTION......CONDITIONAL ACTIONS

When you're expressing a hypothetical action and a conditionalal action in a single

statement, remember that there are some options. If the verb expressing the hypothetical action is in the imperfect tense of the subjunctive mood, then the verb expressing the condition action can be in either that same tense and mood, or... it can be in the conditional.

"Si ganara el sorteo, viajara por todo el mundo."

---- or ----

"Si **ganara** el sorteo, **viajaría** por todo el mundo." (If I were to win the lottery, I would travel all around the world.) "Si yo *tuviera* más tiempo, **terminara** la película." --- or ---"Si yo *tuviera* más tiempo, **terminaría** la película." (If I had more time, I would finish the movie.) "Si *hubiera* comida, **comiéramos**." --- or ---"Si *hubiera* comida, **comeríamos**." (If there were food, we would eat.)

While you're studying this topic, you'll also want to remember that there are two sets of personal endings for this tense and mood, and the decision to use one set or the other really doesn't effect the meaning of the verbal expression. When do I use one over the other, you may be asking. Well, the truth is that this decision is largely regional. For example, there's no real difference in meaning between the following two expressions: "si yo ganara el sorteo..." and "si yo ganase el sorteo..." (if I were to win the lottery...).

CULTURAL INSIGHT

There are 3 lotteries in Costa Rica: loteria, chances, and tiempo. They all have different characteristics. Loteria pays out more and draws out on Sundays. Chances draws on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Tiempo draws only on Tuesdays. The game play is different as well. Tiempo is the drawing of one specific number. Loteria and Chances both have a number and a series. Your chances are better with Loteria and Chances because you can get a portion of the prize if you hit both series and the number. That way you can get a bunch of Colones. That is only if you are a resident or citizen of Costa Rica.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #19 Good God in Heaven and all the angels!!!

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 4 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 7 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. PRESENTADOR: Damas y Caballeros, ¡llegó el gran día del sorteo!
- 2. MARIANA: ¡Al fin llegó el día!
- 3. PRESENTADOR: El número ganador de seiscientos millones de colones es...
- 4. MARIANA: Veintidós... įvamos veintidós!
- 5. PRESENTADOR: El número Veintidós! ¡Felicidades al nuevo millonario!
- 6. MARIANA: ¡¡Santo Dios del cielo y todos los ángeles!! ¿Dijo veintidós de verdad...? ¿mi veintidós?
- 7. PRESENTADOR: Repito... el número veintidós.
- 8. MARIANA: ¡Ay, no puede ser! ¡Gané, gané, gané!

ENGLISH

- 1. ANNOUNCER: Ladies and gentlemen, the big day of the lottery has arrived!
- 2. MARIANA: The day has finally come!
- 3. ANNOUNCER: The winning number for the six-hundred million Colones is...
- 4. MARIANA: Twenty two ...come on twenty two!
- 5. ANNOUNCER: Number twenty two ! Congratulations to the new millionaire!

- MARIANA: Good God in Heaven and all the angels!!! Did he say twenty-two?
 My twenty-two?
- 7. ANNOUNCER: I repeat... number twenty-two.
- 8. MARIANA: Ah, this can't be! I won, I won, I won!

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. PRESENTADOR: Todo el mundo, ¡llegó el gran día del sorteo!
- 2. MARIANA: ¡Al fin llegó el día!
- 3. PRESENTADOR: El número ganador de seiscientos millones de colones es...
- 4. MARIANA: Veintidós... įvamos veintidós!
- 5. PRESENTADOR: El número Veintidós! ¡Felicidades al nuevo millonario!
- 6. MARIANA: ¡¡Santo Dios del cielo y todos los ángeles!! ¿Dijo veintidós de verdad...? ¿mi veintidós?
- 7. PRESENTADOR: Repito... el número veintidós.
- 8. MARIANA: ¡Ay, no puede ser! ¡Gané, gané, gané!

ENGLISH

1. ANNOUNCER: Everybody, the big day of the lottery has arrived!

The day has finally come! 2. MARIANA: The winning number for the six-hundred million Colones is... ANNOUNCER: 3. MARIANA: Twenty two ...come on twenty two! 4. ANNOUNCER: Number twenty two ! Congratulations to the new millionaire! 5. MARIANA: Good God in Heaven and all the angels!!! Did he say twenty-two? 6. My twenty-two? 7. ANNOUNCER: I repeat... number twenty-two. Ah, this can't be! I won, I won, I won! 8. MARIANA:

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
ganador, -a	winner		
felicidad	happiness, congratulations (pl.)	fem. noun	
santo, -a	holy, saint		
repetir	to repeat	verb	
ángel (Mexican)	angel	masculine noun	masculine
ganar	to win, to earn, to gain	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

¿Quién fue el ganador del sorteo? "Who was the winner of the lottery?"	El vicio es un error de cálculo en la búsqueda de la felicidad. "Vice is a miscalculation in the search for happiness."
Eres un santo por todo lo que has hecho por mí. "You're a saint for doing everything that you have for me."	¿Puedes repetirlo, por favor? "Can you repeat that please?"
El ángel bajó del cielo. "The angel came down from heaven."	No me gustan los ángeles de la iglesia. "I don't like the angels in churches."

Yo nunca gano nada.

"I never win anything."

GRAMMAR

The Preterite Tense expresses an action prior to the Present or to another action. For example, "I *saw* him two days ago," or "I *spoke* with her, while you were working." To form the Preterite Tense for regular verbs, we first must remove the -AR, -ER or -IR ending to get the root of the verb, and then we add one of the correct Preterite endings. The Preterite endings for all regular -ER and -IR verbs are identical.

Let's take a look at the formation of the Preterite Tense Endings for regular -AR-, -ER-, and -IR- verbs. We will use one verb from each of these three classes to illustrate the formations: "ganar" (to win), "aprender" (to learn), and "decidir" (to decide).

Regular Preterite Formation -AR- {ganar (to win)}

Singular ----- * ----- Plural

yo gané (I won) ----- * ----- nosostros ganamos (we won)* tú ganaste (you won) ----- * ----- vosotros ganasteis (you all won) él ganó (he won) ----- * ----- ellos ganaron (they won)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

"¿Cuánto ganaste ayer?" (How much did you earn yesterday?)

"Me ganaron." (They beat me.)

Regular Preterite Formation -ER- {aprender (to learn)}

Singular ----- * ----- Plural

yo aprendí (I learned) ----- * ----- nosostros aprendimos (we learned) tú aprendiste (you learned) ----- * ----- vosotros aprendisteis (you all learned) él aprendió (he learned) ----- * ----- ellos aprendieron (they learned)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

"Apendisteis a tomar el metro hace tiempo." (You all learned to take the subway a while back.)

"Y tu hijito, ¿de quién aprendió esas vulgaridades?" (And you little boy, where did learn those expletives?)

Regular Preterite Formation -IR- {decidir (to decide)}

Singular ----- * ----- Plural

yo decidí (I decided) ----- * ----- nosostros decidimos (we decided)* tú decidiste (you decided) ----- * ----- vosotros decidisteis (you all decided) él decidió (he decided) ----- * ----- ellos decidieron (they decided)

SAMPLE SENTENCES

"Decidieron ir a la playa a pesar de las inclemencias del tiempo." (They decided to go to the beach despite the inclement weather.)

"¿Cuándo decidiste mudarte a Costa Rica?" (When did you decide to move to Costa Rica?) *For regular -AR- and -IR- verbs, the Present Indicative and Preterite Indicative forms are identical (i.e. *terminamos* el trabajo ayer, 'we *finished* the job yesterday', or *terminamos* el trabajo a las seis de la tarde, 'we *finish* the job at six in the evening'). *Note that this rule is only valid in the 1st person plural form - Nosotros.

As you can see in these examples, the sense in which we are to take the verbal form depends on the context in which it's used. On the other hand,-ER- verbs do not follow this rule.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Costa Rica is actually a gambling center of the world. Due to its proximity to the United States and lax gambling laws, Costa Rica is one of the capitals on online sport books. While gambling, online or otherwise, is illegal in the United States, it is not illegal in Costa Rica and there aren't many ways to stop American citizens from placing bets online. Sport books and casinos are also major employers for Costa Ricans who speak English. The wage is better than many other jobs. There is definitely an organized crime influence in the gambling of Costa Rica but it is muted and not very evident. There are also many casinos in and around San José and other tourist destinations. If you are a gambler, Costa Rica is a country you would love.



LESSON NOTES Beginner S2 #20 My money on my mind...

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. MARIANA: No sé que hacer con tanto dinero.
- 2. CLAUDIA: Pues, ¡para eso están los amigos!
- 3. MARIANA: Por lo mismo todos quieren una parte, ya no sé si me quieren por lo que soy o por lo que tengo.
- 4. CLAUDIA: Eso pasa, la gente es muy materialista, pero usted no debería estar triste, lo tiene todo.
- 5. MARIANA: No todo, estoy muy sola, ¡qué ironía! Rica y sola...

ENGLISH

- 1. MARIANA: I do not know what to do with so much money.
- 2. CLAUDIA: Well, that is what friends are for!
- 3. MARIANA: For that very reason, everyone wants a part, I do not know if they like me for what I am or for what I have.
- 4. CLAUDIA: That happens, people are really materialistic, but you should not be sad, you have everything.
- 5. MARIANA: Not everything, I am really lonely, what irony! Rich and lonely...

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. MARIANA: No sé que hacer con tanto dinero.
- 2. CLAUDIA: Pues, ¡para eso están los amigos!
- 3. MARIANA: Por lo mismo todos quieren una parte, ya no sé si me quieren por lo que soy o por lo que tengo.
- 4. CLAUDIA: Eso pasa, la gente es muy materialista, pero no deberías estar triste, lo tienes todo.
- 5. MARIANA: No todo, estoy muy sola, ¡qué ironía! Rica y sola...

ENGLISH

- 1. MARIANA: I don't know what to do with so much money.
- 2. CLAUDIA: Hey, that's what friends are for!
- 3. MARIANA: For that very reason, everyone wants a part, I don't know if they like me for what I am or for what I have.
- 4. CLAUDIA: That happens, people are really materialistic, but you shouldn't be sad, you have everything.
- 5. MARIANA: Not everything, I'm really lonely, what irony! Rich and lonely...

VOCABULARY

Spanish English Class Gender

materialista	materialistic, materialist		
gente	people	noun	feminine
ironía	irony	fem. noun	
solo (a)	lonely	adjective	
rico (a)	tasty, delicious, rich	adjective	
triste	sad, gloomy	adjective	masculine / feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La gente de hoy es materialista, no sabe apreciar las cosas sencillas de la vida. "People today are very materialistic, they don't know how to value the simple things in life."	A mí me gusta hablar con la gente en los buses. "I like to talk to the people on the buses."
Ese escritor siempre usa la ironía para transmitir su crítica social. "That writer always uses irony to get his social critique across."	Ella está muy sola úlltimamente porque la dejó su novio. "She's been really lonely lately because he boyfriend left her."
Si yo fuera rico, viajaría todo el año. "If I were rich, I would travel all year long."	El pollo está muy rico. "The chicken is very tasty."

Mi abuelo está triste. "My grandfather is sad."	Es muy triste ver a los niños de la calle.	
	"It is very sad to see the homeless kids."	

GRAMMAR

Prepositions are invariable words that introduce nouns, noun phrases, or subordinate clauses, making them depend on a verb that is previously given. In Spanish, there are many prepositions and even more prepositional phrases; however, the most common prepositions are "por, para, de, a, con".

In this grammar point, we'll focus on the preposition "por" and take a look at the 7 principle ways that the preposition "por" can be used.

Since all prepositions are "invariable" (i.e. they never change forms), we're focusing on the usage here instead of the formation.

The 7 Usages of the Preposition "por" are:

1) Cause: Expresses the cause of an action:

"**Por** lo mismo todos quieren una parte, ya no sé si me quieren **por** lo que soy o **por** lo que tengo.

(For that very reason, everyone wants a part, I don't know if they like me for what I am or for what I have.)

2) *Time and Place*: It vaguely expresses local and temporal relationships.

"Entrar **por** la puerta"

(To enter through the door).

3) Agent of the Passive: Introduces the agent of a passive action.

"Él ha sido arrestado por la policía"

(He has been arrested **by** the police).

4) *Medium*: Expresses the medium through which an action is carried out.

"Hablar por teléfono"

(To talk by phone).

5) *Mode*: Forms adverbial and conjunctive phrases.

"**Por** fín"

(At last).

6) *Substitution/Equivalence*: expresses that an action is carried out by a subject on behalf of someone else:

"Trabaja por tu padre hoy día"

(Work in place of your father today).

7) Used in formulas of judgement/exclamation:

"¡**Por** el amor de Dios!"

(For the love of God!).

*Here is a similar example in which "por" is used to express cause of an action:

"Trabajo por mi familia." (I work for/on behalf my family.)

*Keep in mind that this literally means "I'm working to support my family". Contrast the preposition "por" with the preposition "para" in this context:

"Trabajo para mi familia" (I work for/am employed by my family.)

"Para" has a different meaning: it is as if I were employed by my family rather than working to support them.

*Consult the Grammar Bank in the Learning Center for more information on "por" and other prepositions.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Latin America generally has a smaller middle class than the United States. In many countries of the region, wealth is not distributed as widely as many would like. Poverty is wide spread and many people live in horrible conditions. Shanty towns dot the landscape, and many cities, such as Lima, Peru are growing not because of investement by the government but because of people simple occupying the land and building very crude homes. The extent of government aid present in the United States is not present in many of these countries and the poor suffer from many preventable diseases and conditions. This reality gave rise to the leftist governemnts of Venezuela, Bolivia, and Perhaps the most famous, Cuba. Marxist ideology found many supporters in Latin America for the inequality of the distribution of wealth is so widespread and so evident. It is the natural decendant of the Colonial age.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #21 I saw the light!

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
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- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. MARIANA: ¡Ya no estoy triste! Vi la luz!
- 2. CLAUDIA: ¿Qué pasó?
- 3. MARIANA: Fui a la iglesia del otro día, me sentía muy mal, y me di cuenta que nadie ocupa tanto dinero.
- 4. CLAUDIA: ¿Entonces?, ¿Qué pasó con los 600 millones?
- 5. MARIANA: Los di enteros a la iglesia, para los niños pobres.
- 6. CLAUDIA: Creo que es lo mejor si usted se siente bien.
- 7. MARIANA: ¡No puedo estar más feliz, gracias a Dios!

ENGLISH

- 1. MARIANA: I'm not sad anymore, I saw the light!
- 2. CLAUDIA: What happened?
- 3. MARIANA: I went to church the other day, I felt so bad and I realized nobody needs so much money.
- 4. CLAUDIA: So? What happened to the 600 million?
- 5. MARIANA: I gave it all to the church for the poor children.
- 6. CLAUDIA: I think it is the best thing if you feel good about it.

7. MARIANA: I could not be happier, thanks to God.

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. MARIANA: ¡Ya no estoy triste! Vi la luz!
- 2. CLAUDIA: ¿Qué pasó?
- 3. MARIANA: Fui a la iglesia del otro día, me sentía muy mal, y me di cuenta que nadie ocupa tanto dinero.
- 4. CLAUDIA: ¿Entonces?, ¿Qué pasó con los 600 millones?
- 5. MARIANA: Los di enteros a la iglesia, para los niños pobres.
- 6. CLAUDIA: Creo que es lo mejor si te sientes bien.
- 7. MARIANA: ¡No puedo estar más feliz, gracias a Dios!

ENGLISH

- 1. MARIANA: I'm not sad anymore, I saw the light!
- 2. CLAUDIA: What happened?
- 3. MARIANA: I went to church the other day, I felt so bad and I realized nobody needs so much money.
- 4. CLAUDIA: So? What happened to the 600 million?

5.	MARIANA:	I gave it all to the church for the poor children.
6.	CLAUDIA:	I think it's the best thing if you feel good about it.
7.	MARIANA:	I couldn't be happier, thanks to God.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
iglesia	church	noun	feminine
darse cuenta	to realize, to find out	phrase	
sentirse	to feel	verb	
entero, -a	entire, whole	adjective	
ocupar	to occupy, to take up	verb	
luz	light	noun	feminine

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La campana de la iglesia siempre	Te darás cuenta del tamaño de la
dobla en punto.	casa al entrar.
"The church bell always tolls on	"You realize how big the house is
time."	when you enter."
Acabo de darme cuenta que no	Espero que te des cuenta de lo que
estaré disponible a esa hora.	hiciste.
"I've just realized that I won't be	"I hope that you realize what you
available at that time."	did."

Hoy no voy a ir a trabajar, me siento enfermo.	No me digas que tomaste una botela entera de gaseosa.
"I'm not going to work today: I feel sick."	"Don't tell me you drank a whole bottle of soda."
El ejército ocupó el pobre pueblo durante tres años.	Lo bueno de este departamento es que tiene bastante luz.
"The army occupied the poor town for three years."	"What's good about this apartment is that it has a ton of light."

GRAMMAR

Prepositions are invariable words that introduce nouns, noun phrases or subordinate clauses, making them depend on a verb that is previous given. In Spanish, there are many prepositions and even more prepositional phrases; however, the most common prepositions are "por, para, de, a, en".

In this grammar point, we'll focus on the preposition "para" and take a look at the 8 principle ways that the preposition "para" can be used.

Again, because prepositions are "invariable" (i.e. they don't change forms), we'll be looking at the different "usages" of the preposition "para".

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1) Utility - utilidad
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"¿Para qué tanto esfuerzo?"

(What's all this effort for?)
2) Motive - motivo
"Lo dijo para molestarme."
(She said it to annoy me.)
3) Destination - destinatario

"Es **para** mamá."

(It's for mom.)

*In this sense, the preposition "para" is used to express the final purpose of something:

"Trajeron una carta para Vanesa."

(They brought a card **for** Vanesa.) "El regalo es **para** tí." (The present is **for** you.) "La vida es **para** vivir."

(Life is **for** living.)

4) Opinion - opinión

"Para Jorge, todas las mujeres son guapas."

(All women are pretty to Jorge.)

5) Comparisons - comparaciones

"Para ser tan joven, tiene ideas muy sensatas."

(He has very sensible ideas for his age.)

6) Time - tiempo

"Estará listo para las cinco."

(It'll be ready **by** five.)

*This preposition is employed in relation to time. "Para" denotes *approximate time* rather than exact time. Note that the times expressed in these examples are *general* days rather than precise moments:

"La fiesta ha sido aplazada para el jueves."

(The party has been set **for** Thursday.)

"Para Navidad nos reuniremos."

(We will get together for Christmas.)

7) Immanence - inminencia

"Está para salir."

(He's about to leave.)

8) Direction - dirección

"El tren **para** Sevilla acaba de salir."

(The train has just left for Seville.)

*Because of the inherent *indeterminacy* associated with "para", it cannot be used with verbs that imply the end of a movement/final destination. For example, we say "llegaremos a Caracas" (we will arrive in Caracas), using "a" rather than "para".

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Costa Rica is a very small country. Whenever anything out of the ordinary happens, it is put on the news. So, picture this. You win one of the lotteries and suddenly your face is plastered all over the TV. Now you cannot walk down the street in San José without someone recognizing you. The positive side is that you have won a substantial amount of money, on the other hand, everyone knows. There are a lot of muggings and petty crime in Costa Rica. If you win the lottery, I would recommend keeping where you live a secret. If someone finds out, you could come home and find that your house has been completely emptied.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #22 Coffee doesn't get better!

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
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- 4 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. GLENDA: Justo lo que necesitaba... un café bien cargado.
- 2. MARIA: El café de Costa Rica... es lo que llaman 'levanta muertos'.
- 3. GLENDA: Totalmente, no creo que haya mejor.
- 4. MARIA: ¿Usted sabĺa que en otros países pagan hasta diez euros por una taza de café de Costa Rica?
- 5. GLENDA: ¡Ande! No lo sabía pero. ¡qué suerte que aquí es casi gratis!

ENGLISH

- 1. GLENDA: Just what I needed... a strong cup of coffee.
- 2. MARIA: Costa Rican coffee... they say it will raise the dead.
- 3. GLENDA: Totally, I do not think that there is a better one.
- MARIA: Did you know in other countries they pay up to ten euros per cup of Costa Rican coffee?
- 5. GLENDA: Wow! I did not know, but we are lucky that here it is almost free!

INFORMAL SPANISH

1. GLENDA: Justo lo que necesitaba... un café bien cargado.

- 2. MARIA: El café de Costa Rica... es lo que llaman 'levanta muertos'.
- 3. GLENDA: Totalmente, no creo que haya mejor.
- MARIA: ¿Sabías que en otros países pagan hasta diez euros por una taza de café de Costa Rica?
- 5. GLENDA: ¡Anda! No lo sabía pero. ¡qué suerte que aquí es casi gratis!

ENGLISH

- GLENDA: Just what I needed... a strong cup of coffee.
- 2. MARIA: Costa Rican coffee... they say it will raise the dead.
- 3. GLENDA: Totally, I don't think that there's a better one.
- MARIA: Did ya' know in other countries they pay up to ten euros per cup of Costa Rican coffee?
- 5. GLENDA: Wow! I didn't know, but man we're lucky that here it's almost free!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
cargado, -a	strong, loaded	adjective	
levanta muertos	raise the dead	set phrase	
totalmente	totally	adverb	

taza	cup, mug	fem. noun	
suerte	luck, good luck	fem. noun	feminine
gratis	free	adjective, adverb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

No me gusta el café cargado, para mí es muy fuerte.	Este café es levanta muertos, tomáte un poquitico.
"I don't like strong coffee, it's too strong for me."	"This coffee will raise the dead, have just a little bit."
Está totalmente cubierto. "It's totally overcast out."	¿Te sirvo una taza de café o vos preferís una infusión? "Can I serve you a cup of coffee or do you prefer herbal tea?"
¡Suerte! ¡Ya nos vemos! "Good luck! See you soon!"	Hay personas que siempre tienen suerte. "There are people who are always lucky."

Por la compra de un cuarto de kilo de café, recibe otro cuarto gratis.

"Get a quarter kilo of coffee free with the purchase of one quarter kilo."

GRAMMAR

For expressions of possibility, doubt, and volition, the Subjunctive Tense is regularly employed.

In today's conversation, we see the phrase:

"No creo que haya mejor." (I don't think that there's a better one.)

Notice how the verb "haya" (in the present subjunctive, from "haber" in the infinitive) is being used here as a verb of existence, the "terciopersonal", which is the third person singular impersonal. This verb belongs to a group of irregular verbs in the Present Subjunctive which do not end in -O in the first person of the Present Indicative.

These verbs are:

"dar" (infinitive), "doy" (first person present indicative);

"estar" (infinitive), "estoy" (first person present indicative);

"haber" (infinitive), "he" (first person present indicative);

"saber" (infinitive), "sé" (first person present indicative);

and "ser" (infinitive), "soy" (first person present indicative).

Observe the following conjugation of "haber" in the Present Subjunctive:

yo haya (that I may have) --- * --- nosostros hayamos (that we may have) tú hayas (that you may have) --- * --- vosotros hayáis (that you all may have) *inf.* él haya (that he may have) --- * --- ellos hayan (that they may have) *masc.* haya (that it may have) *neut.*

When we express doubt or possibility, the Subjunctive form of the verb in the dependent clause is used:

"Dudo que haya mucha gente." (I doubt that there will be many people.)

"No creo que haya otra opción." (I don't think there's another option)

"*Puede ser que haya* una fiesta en la casa cuando lleguemos." (It's possible there may be a party in the house when we get there.)

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Costa Rica has set the standards for quality coffee for the rest of Central and South America. The best known coffee regions are Tarrazu, Tres Rios, Herediá, and Alajuela. Most coffee in Costa Rica comes from the *caturra* coffee varietal and is characterized as a bright and full bodied coffee. Other popular Costa Rica coffee varieties are Mondo Novo and Catuai. The best Costa Rican coffee beans, which are grown above 3,900 feet, are designated as "strictly hard bean". The "good hard bean" classification is given to coffees grown from 3,300 to 3,900 feet. Due to the rather small availability for coffee cultivation, Costa Rica has focused on making their coffee some of the highest quality in the world since they cannot produce a high quantity.



LESSON NOTES Beginner S2 #23 She likes her tamales hot!

CONTENTS

- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 2 Informal Spanish
- 3 English
- 3 Vocabulary
- 4 Sample Sentences
- 4 Grammar
- 5 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. DIANA: Hermana, Mire lo que traje!
- 2. LIGIA: Tamales! A tiempo para el desayuno.
- 3. DIANA: Prepare usted el café, yo los voy sirviendo.
- 4. LIGIA: Recuerde ponerle chile al de mamá.
- 5. DIANA: Cierto, que a ella le gustan los tamales picantes!

ENGLISH

1.	DIANA:	Look at what I brought.
2.	LIGIA:	Tamales, just in time for breakfast!
3.	DIANA:	You make the coffee, I will get to serving.
4.	LIGIA:	Remember to put chili on mom's tamale.
5.	DIANA:	True, she likes her tamales hot!

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. DIANA: Hermanita, mira lo que traje!
- 2. LIGIA: Tamales! A tiempo para el desayuno.

- 3. DIANA: Prepara tú el café, yo los voy sirviendo.
- 4. LIGIA: Recuerda ponerle chile al de mamá.
- 5. DIANA: Cierto, que a ella le gustan los tamales picantes!

ENGLISH

1.	DIANA:	Sis, look at what I brought.
2.	LIGIA:	Tamales, just in time for breakfast!
3.	DIANA:	You make the coffee, I'll get to serving.
4.	LIGIA:	Remember to put chili on mom's tamale.
5.	DIANA:	True, she likes her tamales hot!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
tamal	tamal	masc. noun	
a tiempo	on time	adverbial phrase	
recordar	to remember	verb	
chile	chili pepper	noun	masculine
picante	spicy	adjective	

cierte e	adjective, adverb,	
cierto, -a	certain, sure	interjection

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Los tamales me gustan en el desayuno. "I like tamales at breakfast."	Lo que más me importa es que lleguemos a tiempo. "What matters to me most is that we arrive on time."
Yo nunca recuerdo los nombres de las personas. "I never remember people's names."	¿A vos te gusta el chile o no comés picante? "Do you like chili or don't you eat spicy foods?"
Para mí la salsa es demasiado picante. "The sauce is too spicy for me."	¿Es cierto? ¿No querés acompañarnos? "Are you sure? Don't you want to come with us?"

GRAMMAR

An indirect object is to whom or for whom the action of the verb is carried out. When the noun that's acting as an indirect object is replaced by a pronoun, then it's called an indirect object pronoun. In English, indirect object pronouns are "me, you, him, her, us and them. Let's have a look at how that this translates to Spanish:

Indirect Object Pronouns receive verbal action "indirectly". So, they don't tell us "what" happened, but rather for whom it happened, or to what it happened. What can be tricky about learning these in Spanish is that they usually don't require prepositions. Sound confusing? Don't worry, it will clear up quickly. Depending on the placement of one of these words, these indirect object pronouns, and the context in general, we will understand the prepositional meaning implicit in the pronominal phrase.

Formation

me (to/for me) -----*---- nos (to/for us) te (to/for you, *inform*.) -----*---- os (to/for you all, *inform*.) le (to/for him) -----*---- les (to/for them, *masc*.) le (to/for her) -----*---- les (to/for them, *fem*.) le (to/for you, *form*.) -----*---- les (o/for you all, *form*.)

Observe the follwing sample sentences:

"Ella me dijo que vendría esta noche."
(She said to me that she would come tonight.)
"Te daré todo lo que tengo."
(I will give all that I have to you.)
"A Mariana la universidad le mandó su diploma."
(The university sent to Mariana her diploma.)
"Me es difícil creer que usted no pueda hacer nada."
(It's hard for me to believe that you can't do anything.)
"Me es interesante escuchar lo que me cuentas."
(It's interesting for me to listen to what you tell me.)
"Que las vacaciones te sean gratas."
(May the holidays be enjoyable for you.)

*The above sample sentences are written out to show the indirect object with a preposition in English, but many times there is no preposition. For example, "me dijo que vendría esta noche," where "me" is the indirect object, even though it may look like the direct object. You can always figure out the indirect object by asking (to/for whom/what) something is done.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Tamales are a delicious and varied dish of Latin America. Traditionally, a tamale is made with a steam cooked corn dough called masa. This dough can be filled with many different ingredients or no ingredients. Tamales can be filled with many different ingredients: meats, cheeses, chilis, chicken, pretty much anything that comes to mind. Tamales are generally wrapped in either a corn husk or banana leaf before cooking but wax paper has also been used in more modern settings. Tamales are made in one form or another throughout Latin America and its varied ingredients by region demonstrates the dishe's



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #24 It makes you feel like eating there...

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
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- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. PATRICIA: Yo creo que deberíamos ir a una soda a almorzar.
- REBECCA: Hoy es sábado, en la soda de la esquina hay un casados buenísimo.
- 3. PATRICIA: Sí, esa señora fue inteligente en abrir una soda, ¡cocina tan rico!
- 4. REBECCA: ¡Y lo mantiene todo tan limpio!... que dan ganas de comer ahí.
- 5. PATRICIA: ¡Decidido! Vamos por un casado.

ENGLISH

- 1. PATRICIA: I think we should go have lunch at a Soda.
- REBECCA: Today is Saturday, in the soda on the corner there are really good Casados.
- 3. PATRICIA: That lady was smart to open a Soda, she cooks so well!
- 4. REBECCA: And she keeps everything so clean!... it makes you feel like eating there.
- 5. PATRICIA: It is decided, let's go for a Casado.

INFORMAL SPANISH

1. PATRICIA: Yo creo que deberíamos ir a una soda a almorzar.

- 2. REBECCA: Hoy es sábado, en la soda de la esquina hay un casados buenísimo.
- 3. PATRICIA: Sí, esa señora fue inteligente en abrir una soda, ¡cocina tan rico!
- 4. REBECCA: ¡Y lo mantiene todo tan limpio!... que dan ganas de comer ahí.
- 5. PATRICIA: ¡Decidido! Vamos por un casado.

ENGLISH

- 1. PATRICIA: I think we should go have lunch at a Soda.
- REBECCA: Today's Saturday, in the soda on the corner there are really good Casados.
- 3. PATRICIA: That lady was smart to open a Soda, she cooks so well!
- REBECCA: And she keeps everything so clean!... it makes you feel like eating there.
- 5. PATRICIA: It's decided, let's go for a Casado.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
deber	should, ought to	verb	
hoy	today	noun	
sábado	Saturday	noun	masculine

3

abrir	to open	verb	
limpio, -a	clean	adjective	
almorzar	to have lunch, to eat lunch	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Carlos debería de haber estudiado más para el examen. "Carlos should have studied more for the test."	Hoy es sábado. "Today is Saturday."
Hoy es sábado.	¿Puedes abrir la puerta, por favor?
"Today is Saturday."	"Can you please open the door?"
La casa está limpia.	Nosotros almorzamos pollo.
"The house is clean."	"We have chicken for lunch."

GRAMMAR

The Preterit Tense expresses an action completed prior to the moment of speech or to another action. In the Preterit Tense, there are a number of **irregular verbs**. We call these "irregular", because they don't follow the basic formation patterns like the majority of the verbs within the system.

What makes verbs irregular in the Preterit Tense is a **stem-change**.

We saw that the stem of "hacer" in the Present Tense was "hac-".

The verbs "venir", "ser" and "ir" all had irregular stems in the Present (i.e. "vien-", "so-" and "va-").

In the Preterit Tense, the stems-changes are as follows: "hic-", "vin-", "fu-", "fu-".

The verbs "ser" and "ir" are identical in the Preterit.

For "hacer" and "venir", after these stem changes are made, the following endings are used: "-e, -iste, -o, -imos, -isteis and -ieron".

For "ser" and "ir", the Preterit endings are: "-i, -iste, -e, -imos, -isteis, -eron.

Here are the conjugations of these three irregular verbs in the preterit:

Singular ----- * ----- Plural

yo hice (I did/made) ----- * ----- nosostros hicimos (we did/made)) tú hiciste (you did/made)) ----- * ----- vosotros hicisteis (you all did/made)) informal él hizo (he did/made)) ----- * ----- ellos hicieron (they did/made)) masculine ella hizo (she did/made)) ----- * ----- ellas hicieron (they did/made)) feminine usted hizo (you did/made)) formal ----- * ----- ustedes hicieron (you all did/made)) formal hizo (it did/made)) neuter ----- * ----- hicieron (they did/made)) neuter Singular ----- * ----- Plural yo vine (I came) ----- * ----- nosostros vinimos (we came) tú viniste (you came) ----- * ----- vosotros vinisteis (you all came) informal él vino (he came) ----- * ----- ellos vinieron (they came) masculine ella vino (she came) ----- * ----- ellas vinieron (they came) feminine usted vino (you came) formal ----- * ----- ustedes vinieron (you all came) formal vino (it came) neuter ----- * ----- vinieron (they came) neuter Singular ----- * ----- Plural yo fui (I was) ----- * ----- nosostros fuimos (we were) tú fuiste (you were) ----- * ----- vosotros fuisteis (you all were) informal él fue (he was) ----- * ----- ellos fueron (they were) masculine ella fue (she was) ----- * ----- ellas fueron (they were) feminine usted fue (you were) formal ----- * ----- ustedes fueron (you all were) formal fue (it was) *neuter* ----- * ----- fueron (they were) *neuter* Singular ----- * ----- Plural yo fui (I went) ----- * ----- nosostros fuimos (we went) tú fuiste (you went) ----- * ----- vosotros fuisteis (you all went) informal él fue (he went) ----- * ----- ellos fueron (they went) masculine ella fue (she went) ----- * ----- ellas fueron (they went) feminine usted fue (you went) formal ----- * ----- ustedes fueron (you all went) formal fue (it went) *neuter* ----- * ----- fueron (they went) *neuter*

Observe the following sample sentences:

Hice lo que pude. (I did what I could.)

Vinieron a la casa a las dos de la mañana. (They came home at two in the morning.) Fuiste al cine sin invitarme. (You went to the theater without inviting me.) Fue un día maravilloso. (It was a wonderful day.)

*The third person singular of "hacer" in the Preterit Tense does not have the stem-change "hic-", but "hiz-". This is so that the soft "c" or "z" sounds is maintained. Notice that with both "ser" and "ir", the third person singular has the "-e" ending and the third person plural has the "-eron" ending, again which is unique to irregular verbs in the Preterit Tense.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

A 'soda' is the term for small family owned restaurants that are located all over Costa Rica. Devoid of the zoning restrictions, anyone who knows how to cook a good meal can open up a small restaurant either in some extra room in their house or at another location. Costa Rican cuisine is very simple and hardy. Rice, beans, and plantains are staples of the average Tico's diet and those items are eaten in different forms throughout the day. Breakfast generally comes in the form of 'Gallo Pinto' a dish that is a premixed combination of rice and beans. This is served with plantains, fried eggs, and some 'natillia' or sour cream. Lunch and dinner is served in the form of a 'casado' a combination plate of rice, beans, salad, plantains, and your choice of protein. All of these dishes are found in sodas all around Costa Rica and we urge you to try them.



LESSON NOTES

Beginner S2 #25 Do Not Bother Me While I Am Trying to Relax in the Caribbean!

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- 2 Formal Spanish
- 2 English
- 3 Informal Spanish
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- 4 Sample Sentences
- 5 Grammar
- 6 Cultural Insight



FORMAL SPANISH

- 1. FRUTERA: Hola Gringo, ¿Quiere un mamón?
- GRINGO: ¿Un mamón? A ver... bueno, sí, quiero probarlo... pero, ¿qué más tiene?
- 3. FRUTERA: ¡Tengo muchísima fruta! granadillas, carambola, guanábana, guava, higo, tamarindo, anonas y hasta marañónes si quiere.
- 4. GRINGO: Ehh... ¿cómo?.. deme una de cada una.
- 5. FRUTERA: Pero, cuidadito con el estómago...
- 6. GRINGO: La como poco a poco, quiero probar todos los tipos que pueda, voy a estar muy poco tiempo en el país.

ENGLISH

- 1. FRUIT VENDOR: Hey there, Gringo, do you want a Spanish lime?
- 2. GRINGO: A Spanish lime? Let's see...well, okay, I'll give it a shot...but, what else do you have?
- 3. FRUIT VENDOR: I have lots of fruit! Passion fruit, star fruit, guanabana, guava, figs, tamarind, soursop, even cashew fruit, if you want.
- 4. GRINGO: What? ... Give me one of each.
- 5. FRUIT VENDOR: But, you had better be careful with your stomach...

6. GRINGO: I'll eat it little by little. I want to try as much as I can since I'll be in the country for a short time.

INFORMAL SPANISH

- 1. FRUTERA: Hola Gringo, ¿Quieres un mamón?
- GRINGO: ¿Un mamón? A ver... bueno, sí, quiero probarlo... pero, ¿qué más tienes?
- 3. FRUTERA: ¡Tengo muchísima fruta! granadillas, carambola, guanábana, guava, higo, tamarindo, anonas y hasta marañónes si quieres.
- 4. GRINGO: Ehh... ¿cómo?.. dame una de cada una.
- 5. FRUTERA: Pero, cuidadito con el estómago...
- 6. GRINGO: La como poco a poco, quiero probar todos los tipos que pueda, voy a estar muy poco tiempo en el país.

ENGLISH

- 1. FRUIT VENDOR: Howdy, Gringo, do ya' want a Spanish lime?
- 2. GRINGO: A Spanish lime? Let's see...well, okay, I'll give it a shot...but, what else have ya' got?
- 3. FRUIT VENDOR: I got lots of fruit! Passion fruit, star fruit, guanabana, guava, figs, tamarind, soursop, even cashew fruit, if ya' want.

CONT'D OVER

3

4. GRINGO: What? ...Give me one of each.
5. FRUIT VENDOR: But, ya' better be careful with your stomach...
6. GRINGO: I'll eat it little by little, I wanna try as much as I can since I'll be in the country for a short time.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
poco a poco	little by little	adverbial locution of time	
cada	each, every	adjective	
probar	to prove, to test, to try	verb	
hasta	until, up to	preposition	
tipo	kind, type	noun	masculine
tener	to have	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Poco a poco te acostumbrarás.	Me levanto a las seis cada día.
"Little by little, you'll get used to it."	"I get up at six every day."
¿Has probado alguna vez las judías con almejas? "Have you ever tried beans with clams?"	¡Hasta la vista! "Good bye!"

Vamos a viajar desde Madrid hasta	¿Qué tipo de música le gusta
Barcelona.	escuchar?
"We're going to travel from Madrid all the way to Barcelona."	"What type of music do you like to listen to?"

Ella tiene amigas.

"She has girlfriends."

Imperative Mood for -AR Verbs

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson is Using the Imperative Mood in Spanish Ehh... ¿cómo?.. deme una de cada una. "What? ...Give me one of each."

The Imperative Mood is a way of expressing the speaker's attitude toward an action. It expresses the will to influence the behavior of another by way of a command, entreaty, or exhortation. We must remember that even though verbs in this mood are commands, we can and often do express them in a polite manner.

Spanish	Explanation
dar	infinitive
da	if I'm addressing "you" informally
de	if I'm addressing "you" formally
dad	if I'm addressing "you all" informally in Spain

den

*Remember that we do not use the *vosotros* form in Latin America, which means that for the informal *and* formal plural, we use the *Ustedes* ("you all") -en form for the imperative mood of - AR verbs.

For example:

Martín, Ernesto, denme dos segundos.
 "Martin, Ernesto, give me two seconds."

Sample Sentences

- Deme uno de cada uno.
 "Give me one of each."
- 2. Dame las llaves y te las devuelvo depués."Give me the keys and I'll give them back to you later."
- Oigan, chicos, denme una hora y me encuentro ahí con ustedes.
 "Hey guys, give me an hour and I'll meet up with you there."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Latin American Fruits and Vegetables

One of the beautiful things of Latin America is the abundance of fresh fruits and vegetables. We highly recommend that you make a trip to a farmer's market not only to be impressed with the sheer diversity and abundance of produce, but also the price. Many fruits and vegetables will be familiar to you while others will not. For example, one of the fruits mentioned in the conversation is guava. Guava is a small green or yellow egg-shaped tropical fruit. When ripe, it exudes a slightly musky, intense aroma that may be suggestive of peaches, lemons, and honey. Now this may seem like a perfect fruit, but it is full of rock, and I mean rock-hard seeds. These seeds make guava all but impossible to eat out of hand. How do you solve this problem? People often serve Guava cooked, in jam form or seeded and poached. You also may have seen guava paste, which is used in many Latino desserts.





Intro

- Where ya' headed?
- 2 What a shame!
- 3 But if I always buy from you!?
- 4 But, Sir, I have all of my papers in order
- 5 But I need to go to Panama. What do I do?
- 6 Understand me? I want to promote your culture
- 7 I think there was a misundestanding
- 8 Then, why didn't you call me?
- 9 You'd better! I'm waiting for you...
- 10 I e-like verry much the Juntied Estates...
- II I'll give you a special discount
- 12 The ride of your life

- 13 It looks like you've been robbed
- 14 You're going to get me pregnant!
- 15 Steering your food after lunch
- 16 Let's Breed!
- 17 I'm totally aroused to meet her
- 18 If I were to win the lottery...
- 19 Good God in Heaven and all the angels!!!
- 20 My money on my mind...
- 21 I saw the light!
- 22 Coffee doesn't get better!
- 23 She likes her tamales hot!
- 24 It makes you feel like eating there...
- 25 Give me one of each!

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