

# A summary of regular and irregular verbs

# **VERB COMPONENTS**

## 1. The Infinitive

The verb in its most basic form, such as hablar (to speak), comer (to eat) and vivir (to live).

- a. The stem, or radical: The first portion of the verb, such as habl-, com-, and viv-
- b. Infinitive ending: The last two letters in the verb, such as -ar, -er, and -ir
- c. Verbs are **usually** conjugated by removing the infinitive ending and applying a new ending, corresponding to a certain set of rules.

#### 2. English-Spanish comparison

- a. In English, most verbs differ only between the third-person singular and the other tenses.
- b. Thus, the options for the simple present tense in English for the verb "speak" are I speak, you speak, he speaks, she speaks, they speak and we speak. "Speak" and "speaks" are the only options in that tense.
- c. Spanish, however, has six distinct possible

- endings for that verb (hablar) in the present tense.
- 3. In Spanish, verbs have six conjugations in each tense – one for each subject pronoun. To use the verb hablar in the simple present tense, take the stem - habl - and attach an ending according to the following guidelines:
- a. Yo: (first-person, singular pronoun) habl + o – I speak
- b. Tú: (second-person, singular familiar pronoun) habl + as – you speak
- c. Usted: (second-person, singular formal pronoun, often abbreviated as Ud.) habl + a vou speak
- d. El: (third-person, singular, male pronoun) habl + a - he speaks
- e. Ella: (third-person, singular, female pronoun) habl + a - she speaks
- f. Nosotros: (first-person, plural, male or mixed-gender pronoun) habl + amos - we

- g. Nosotras: (first-person, plural, female pronoun) habl + amos – we speak
- h. Vosotros: (second-person, plural, familiar, male or mixed-gender pronoun) habl + áis you speak
- i. Vosotras: (second-person, plural, familiar, female pronoun) habl + áis – you speak
- j. NOTE: The "vosotros" and "vosotras" forms are primarily used in Spain, and are less common in other Spanish-speaking countries. Except for Spaniards, most Spanish speakers use the "ustedes" form, as described below, in item k.
- k. Ustedes: (second-person, plural formal pronoun, often abbreviated as Uds.) habl + an – you speak
- 1. Ellos: (third-person, plural, male or mixedgender pronoun) habl + an - they speak
- m. Ellas: (third-person, plural, female pronoun) habl + an - they speak

# **VERB TYPES**

## 1. Regular verbs:

- a. All verbs fall into one or more of five basic categories, and most can be conjugated by following a basic system of rules.
- b. Hablar, comer, and vivir are all common, regular verbs.

## 2. Irregular Verbs:

- a. While most Spanish verbs correspond with a basic set of rules, several extremely important verbs do not.
- b. Dar (to give), tener (to have) and decir (to say) are all common irregulars.
- 3. Verbs that end in "ar" are the most common.

Examples of verbs ending in "ar":

amar (to love), ayudar (to help), bailar (to dance), caminar (to walk), contestar (to answer), disculpar (to pardon), entrar (to enter), esperar (to wait, hope), estudiar (to study), explicar (to explain), jurar (to swear), mirar (to look), orar (to pray), pasar (to pass), perdonar (to forgive, pardon), preguntar (to ask), quedar (to stay), quitar (to take off), tomar (to take, drink), trabajar (to work), tratar (to treat) and viajar (to travel)

4. Verbs ending in "er" are less common. Examples of verbs ending in "er"

aprender (to learn), beber (to drink), comer (to eat), comprender (to understand), correr (to run), esconder (to hide), leer (to read), poseer (to possess, own), prometer (to promise), sorprender (to surprise), temer (to fear) and vender (to sell)

5. Verbs ending in "ir" are fewer yet.

Examples: admitir (to admit), asistir (to attend), cumplir (to complete), describir, (to describe), discutir (to discuss, argue), escribir (to write), existir (to exist), interrumpir (to interrupt), ocurrir (to occur, happen), recibir (to receive), subir (to climb, go up), **sufrir** (to suffer) and **vivir** (to live)

6. Some of the most useful verbs are irregular.

Examples: creer (to believe), dar (to give), decir (to say), estar (to be, in the sense of location or temporary status), haber (to have, in the sense of having done something), hacer (to do, make), ir (to go), oir (to hear), poder (to be able), poner (to put), querer (to want), saber (to know), salir (to leave), ser (to be, usually on a permanent basis), tener (to have, in the sense of possession), traer (to bring), venir (to come), and ver (to see).

7. The other major group is stem-changing verbs, which have the same endings as regular verbs, but the stems change in all forms except nosotros and vosotros (the forms in which the stem is not stressed in pronunciation). Endings for stem-changing verbs are the same as for regular "ar," "er" and "ir" verbs.

# REGULAR VERBS

All regular verbs listed in the following section are conjugated to match pronouns in the following order:

- 1. **yo**(I)
- 2. **tú** (you, informal singular)
- 3. **él**, **ella**, **Ud.** (he, she or you, formal singular)
- 4. **nosotros**, **nosotras** (we)
- vosotros, vosotras (you, informal plural)
- ellos, ellas, Uds. (they or you, formal plural)

#### **PRESENT**

1. Regular "ar" verbs, such as estudiar (to study) estudi+ o (I study, I do study, estudi+ amos or I am studying)

estudi+ as estudi+ áis estudi+ a estudi+ an

Example: Yo estudio biología (I study biology).

2. Regular "er" verbs, such as comer (to eat)

com+ o (I eat, I do eat, com+ emos

or I am eating)

com+ es

com+ éis com+ en

Example: Tú comes rapido (You eat quickly).

3. **Regular "ir" verbs**, such as escribir (to write) escrib+ o (I write, I do write, escrib+ imos or I am writing)

escrib+ es escrib+ e

com+ e

escrib+ is escrib+ en

Example: El escribe en español (He writes in Spanish).

## **IMPERFECT**

estudi+ aba

1. Regular "ar" verbs

estudi+ aba (I was studying, estudi+ ábamos or I used to study)

estudi+ abas

estudi+ abais estudi+ aban

# **REGULAR VERBS CONT.**

**Example: Nosotros estudiabamos literatura** (We were studying literature).

#### 2. Regular "er" verbs

com+ ía (I was eating, com+ íamos

or I used to eat)

com+ ías com+ íais com+ íais

Example: Vosotros comías con nosotros (You were eating/used to eat with us).

## 3. Regular "ir" verbs

escrib+ ía (I was writing, escrib+ íamos

or I used to write)

escrib+ ías escrib+ íais escrib+ ía escrib+ ían

**Example: Ellas escribían el libro** (They were writing/used to write the book).

#### **FUTURE**

#### 1. Regular "ar" verbs

estudiar+ é (I will study, estudiar+ emos

or I shall study)

estudiar+ **ás** estudiar+ **éis** estudiar+ **á** estudiar+ **á** 

## Example: Yo estudiaré religión (I will study religion).

#### 2. Regular "er" verbs

comer+ é (I will eat, comer+ emos

or I shall eat)

comer+ ás comer+ éis comer+ án

Example: Tú comer ás mu cho más (You will eat much more).

#### 3. Regular "ir" verbs

escribir+ é (I will write, escribir+ emos or I shall write)

escribir+ ás escribir+ éis escribir+ á escribir+ án

Example: Ella escribirá su nombre (She will write her name).

#### CONDITIONAL

#### 1. Regular "ar" verbs

estudiar+ ía (I would study) estudiar+ íamos estudiar+ ías estudiar+ íais estudiar+ ían

**Example:** Nosotros estudiaríamos los cambios (We would study the changes).

#### 2. Regular "er" verbs

comer+ ía (I would eat) comer+ íamos comer+ ías comer+ íais comer+ ía comer+ ían

Example: Vosotros comeríais la ensalada (You would eat the salad).

#### 3. Regular "ir" verbs

escribir+ ía (I would write) escribir+ íamos escribir+ ías escribir+ íais escribir+ ía escribir+ ían

Example: Ellos escribirían sus poemas (They would write their poems).

#### 4. Other Uses Of Conditional

a. To make a request or a polite statement: ¿Podría Ud. abrir la puerta? (Could you open the door?).

b. To express uncertainty, feelings, desires and hypothetical situations: **Ellos dirían la verd ad** (They probably told the truth).

## SIMPLE PAST

## 1. Regular "ar" verbs

estudi+ **é** (I studied) estudi+ **amos**estudi+ **aste**estudi+ **ó** estudi+ **aron** 

Example: Yo estudié geografía (I studied geography).

#### 2. Regular "er" verbs

com+ i (I understood) com+ imos com+ iste com+ isteis com+ ió com+ ieron

Example: Tú comiste el bistec (You ate the beefsteak).

#### 3. Regular "ir" verbs

escrib+ i (I wrote) escrib+ imos escrib+ iste escrib+ isteis escrib+ ió escrib+ ieron

Example: El te escribió (He wrote to you).

#### PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE

- 1. Expresses commands (in the Ud. and Uds. form) and also in subordinate or dependent clauses, as in the cases of expressing emotions such as joy, sorrow and doubt.
- 2. Can also be used to express a negative command in the tú form.

#### 3. Regular "ar" verbs

estudi+ e estudi+ emos
estudi+ es estudi+ éis
estudi+ e estudi+ en

Examples: Estudie más (Study more); No estudiemos aquí (Let's not study here).

#### 4. Regular "er" verbs

com+ a com+ amos com+ as com+ áis com+ a com+ an

**Examples: Que ella coma más** (May she eat more); **Dudo que lo coman** (I doubt that they eat it).

#### 5. Regular "ir" verbs

escrib+ a escrib+ amos
escrib+ as escrib+ áis
escrib+ a escrib+ an

Examples: No lo escribas (Don't write it); Estaré aquí hasta que me escriban (I will be here until they write to me).

# PRESENT PARTICIPLE

- 1. Equivalent to the "ing" form of verbs (such as speaking, eating, living)
- 2. Formation
  - a)"Ar" verbs: Drop the "ar" and add "ando" to the stem, as in hablando (speaking).
  - b)"Er" and "ir" verbs: Drop the "er" and "ir" and add "iendo" to the stem, as in bebiendo (drinking) or viviendo (living).

Examples: Los jovenes están caminando (The young ones are walking); La maestra entra bailando en el cuarto (The teacher enters the room dancing).

#### PAST PARTICIPLE

#### 1. Formation

- a. Regular verbs' past participles are formed:
  - From "ar" verbs: Drop "ar" and add "ado" to the stem, as in hablado (spoken).
  - ii. From "er" or "ir" verbs: Drop "er" and "ir" and add "ido" to the stem, as in **bebido** (drunk) or **vivido** (lived).
- b. Just as certain English verbs (such as see, take and know) have irregular past participles (seen, taken and known), so do some Spanish verbs.

#### 2. Function

- a. To form the seven perfect tenses.
- b. To form the perfect infinitive, such as **haber escuchado** (to have listened).
- c. To form the perfect participle, such as habiendo vivido (having lived).
- d. To serve as an adjective, as in **las casas pintadas** (the painted houses), always agreeing in gender and number with the noun being modified.
- e. To work with **estar** to express the result of an action: **Los muchachos estan vistos** (The boys are seen).
- f. To work with **quedar** or **quedarse** to express the result of an action: **Los zapatos** se **quedan mojados** (The shoes remain wet).
- g. To work with ser in forming the passive voice: La ventana fue cerrada por el maestro (The window was closed by the teacher).

# **REGULAR VERBS CONT.**

#### **PERFECT TENSES**

- 1. Haber:
  - a. Essential in forming the various perfect tenses communicating such ideas as "I have returned" and "They would have spoken."
  - b. To use any of the perfect tenses, place the past participle of any verb after a conjugation of the verb **haber**.

**Examples: Yo he hablado** (I have spoken); **Pablo habrá estudiado** (Pablo will have studied).

 Present perfect uses the following conjugations of haber: he, has, ha, hemos, habeis and han

Examples: Nosotros hemos vivido aquí (We have lived here); Uds. han hablado bien (You have spoken well).

3. Past perfect uses the following conjugations of haber: había, habías, había, habíamos, habíais, and habían.

Examples: Ana había escrito (Ana had written); Vosotros habíais dicho mucho (You had said plenty).

4. **Past anterior** (which is rarely used, except in literature) uses the following conjugations of haber: **hube**, **hubiste**, **hubo**, **hubimos**, **hubisteis**, and **hubieron**.

Examples: Yo te hube comprendido (I had understood you); Pablo hubo estado en la casa (Pablo had been in the house).

5. Future perfect uses the following conjugations of haber: habré, habrás, habrán, habremos, habréis and habrán.

**Examples: Vosotros habréis preparado sus cuartos** (You will have prepared your rooms); **Los soldados habran llegado** (The soldiers will have arrived).

6. Conditional perfect uses the following conjugations of haber: habría, habrías, habríamos, habríais, and habrían.

Examples: Tú habrías hecho más (You would have done more); Ellos habrían querido estar allá (They would have wanted to be there).

7. Present subjunctive uses the following conjugations of haber: haya, hayas, haya, hayamos, hayáis, and hayan.

Examples: Dudo que me hayas oído (I doubt that you've heard me); ¿Es posible que hayan visitado Alaska? (Is it possible that they've visited Alaska?).

8. Pluperfect or past perfect subjunctive uses the following conjugations of haber: hubiera, hubieras, hubiera, hubiéramos, hubiérais and hubieran; OR hubiese, hubieses, hubiese, hubiesemos, hubieseis and hubiesen.

**Examples: Nosotros queríamos que hubiérais cantado** (We wanted you to sing); **Ella habría preferido que ellos lo hubiesen descubierto antes** (She would have preferred that they had discovered it beforehand).

9. Future perfect subjunctive (rarely used in modern Spanish) uses the following conjugations of haber: hubiere, hubieres, hubieres, hubieren, hubierens and hubieren.

# **REFLEXIVE VERBS**

- 1. Describe some actions, such as hygiene, which one performs on oneself, and are distinguished by the "se" at the end of the infinitive.
- a. "Cepillarse," for example, means "to brush one's teeth."
- b. "Ponerse" means "to put on," often in the sense of putting on clothing.
  - c. "Acostarse" means "to lie down."
  - d. Other examples: **casarse** (to get married), **lavarse** (to wash oneself), **levantarse** (to get up), **maquillarse** (to put on makeup), **sentarse** (to sit down) and **vestirse** (to dress oneself).
- 2. Some verbs assume a different meaning when they become reflexive. Among them are **irse** (to go away) and **dormirse** (to fall asleep), as compared to **ir** (to go) and **dormir** (to sleep).

Examples: Me voy ahora (I'm going away now); ¿Te duermes? (Are you falling asleep?).

# **PASSIVE VOICE**

- 1. To express an indefinite subject, Spanish uses "se" with the third-person singular of a verb: Se dice que te gusta helado (It is said that you like ice cream); Se estudia mucho aquí (One studies very much here, or people study very much here).
- 2. If the subject is a thing, and the activator of the verb is not specified, "se" can be used in either the third-person singular or plural, depending on whether the subject is singular or plural: Se habla inglés allí (English is spoken there); Se presenta el grupo hoy (The group is presented today).

# **IMPERATIVE MOOD**

- 1. Command verbs are conjugated in five groups not the usual six, because there is no logical reason to give oneself a command.
- 2. The rules for forming positive commands are not always the same as those for forming negative commands. For example, in a second-person, singular, informal usage, "Camina en la hierba" is correct for conveying to" Walk on the grass." The phrasing for "Don't walk on the grass," however, is "No camines en la hierba."
- 3. Regular "ar" verbs for positive commands

estudi+ a estudi+ ad estudi+ e estudi+ en estudi+ emos

**Examples: Estudie más** (Study more); **Estudien con sus amigos** (Study with your friends).

4. Regular "er" verbs for positive commands

com+ e com+ ed com+ a com+ an

Examples: Come el pan (Eat the bread); Comamos las manzanas (Let's eat the apples).

5. Regular "ir" verbs for positive commands

escrib+ e escrib+ id escrib+ a escrib+ an

escrib+ amos

com+ amos

**Examples: Escribe todo** (Write everything); **Escribid más libros** (Write more books).

6. Regular "ar" verbs for negative commands

No estudi+ es
No estudi+ e
No estudi+ e
No estudi+ en
No estudi+ en

**Examples:** No estudie todo, por favor (Don't study everything, please); No estudiemos aquí (Let's not study here).

7. Regular "er" verbs for negative commands

No com+ e No com+ áis
No com+ as No com+ an

No com+ amos

**Examples: No comas mis galletas, por favor** (Don't eat my cookies, please); **No coman los ingredientes** (Don't eat the ingredients).

8. Regular "ir" verbs for negative commands

No escrib+ as No escrib+ áis
No escrib+ a No escrib+ an
No escrib+ amos

**Examples:** No me escribas (Don't write to me); No escribamos nada (Let's not write anything).

9. Several prominent verbs are irregular in the "tu" form of positive commands: decir (di), hacer (haz), ir (ve), poner (pon), salir (sal), tener (ten) and venir (ven).

Examples: Dime todo, por favor (Tell me everything, please). Ve al mercado (Go to the market).

# **IRREGULAR VERBS**

## **IRREGULAR PAST PARTICIPLES**

- 1. abrir (to open): abierto
- 2. caer (to fall): caído
- 3. cubrir (to cover): cubierto
- 4. decir (to say): dicho
- 5. descubrir (to discover): descubierto
- 6. deshacer (to undo): deshecho
- 7. **devolver** (to return, give back): devuelto
- 8. envolver (to wrap up): envuelto
- 9. escribir (to write): escrito
- 10. **imponer** (to impose): impuesto
- 11. **imprimir** (to print): impreso
- 12. **ir** (to go): ido
- 13. leer (to read): leído
- 14. morir (to die): muerto
- 15. oír (to hear): oído
- 16. poner (to put, place): puesto
- 17. rehacer (to redo, remake): rehecho
- 18. reír (to laugh): reído
- 19. resolver (to resolve, solve): resuelto
- 20. romper (to break): roto
- 21. traer (to bring): traído
- 22. ver (to see) visto
- 23. volver (to return): vuelto

Examples: La puerta está abierta (The door is open); Las diferencias están vistas (The differences are seen).

#### **IRREGULAR PRESENT PARTICIPLES**

- 1. caer: cayendo
- 2. creer: creyendo
- 3. **decir**: diciendo
- 4. dormir: durmiendo
- 5. ir: yendo
- 6. leer: levendo
- 7. **mentir:** mintiendo
- 8. **morir:** muriendo
- 9. oir: oyendo
- 10. **pedir:** pidiendo
- 11. poder: pudiendo
- 12. **preferir:** prefiriendo
- 13. reir: riendo
- 14. **seguir:** siguiendo
- 15. **sentir:** sintiendo
- 16. ser: siendo
- 17. **servir:** sirviendo
- 18. **traer:** trayendo
- 19. **venir:** viniendo
- 20. Verbs which are rarely used in the present progressive:
  - a. estar c. venir
  - b. ir d. ser

## **IMPORTANT IRREGULAR VERBS**

#### 1. Gustar

- a. Definition
  - i. To be pleasing to someone
  - ii. Most used in the third-person singular and plural; conveys the idea of liking something
- b. Sentence structure: indirect object pronoun, verb, article and noun or infinitive.

Examples: Me gusta este libro (I like this book). ¿Te gusta leche fría? (Do you like cold milk?); Nos gustaba cantar (We liked to sing).

# 2. Haber

a. Root for the phrases that communicate the ideas of "there is" and "there are."

b. Serves as a helping verb for the perfect tenses.

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- c. In the "hay" conjugation, communicates the idea of "there is" and "there are."
  Examples: Hay mucho sol (It is very sunny, or literally, there is much sun);
  Hay muchas nubes en el cielo (There are many clouds in the sky);
  No hay duda (There is no doubt).
- d. Related uses: **Había** (There was/were); **hubo** (there was/were/used to be); **habrá** (there will be); **ha habido** (there has/have been); **haya** (may there be); **puede haber** (there could be); **debe haber** (there must be); **puede haber** (there can be); **podía haber** or **podría haber** (there could be); **había habido** (there had been).

**Examples:** Había luna brillante esa noche (The moon was shining brilliantly that night, or literally, there was brilliant moonlight that night); No había problema (There was no problem); Haya luz (Let there be light).

- e. Use the "hay" or "había" forms with the infinitive of a verb to communicate a general requirement: Hay que esperar (One must wait); No había que vender nada (It wasn't necessary to sell anything); Habrá que tener cuidado (It will be necessary to be careful).
- f. Like the phrase "De nada," "no hay de que" means "you're welcome." It is actually short for "No hay de que dar gracias" ("No thanks are necessary").

#### 3. Hacer

- a. Communicates the ideas of "to make" and "to do."
- b. Used, in the third-person singular, to express various ideas about weather: **Hace sol** (It is sunny); **Hacía mucho fresco** (It was very cool); **Hará buen tiempo** (It will be good weather); **Hacía muchisimo viento** (It was extremely windy); **Hará mucho calor** (It will be very hot); **¿Qué tiempo hace?** (What kind of weather is it?)
- c. Used to indicate the idea of past time, in the sense of "ago" or "since:" Comenzó hace muchos años (It began many years ago); Hace muchos meses pasaron por aquí (They passed by here many months ago).

#### 4. Ir

- a. To go
- b. To communicate a sense of future intent: Yo voy a rezar (I'm going to pray); Nosotros vamos a triunfar (We are going to triumph).

#### 5. Poder

- a. Communicates the idea of ability.
- b. It is a stem-changing verb, going from "o" to "ue."

**Examples: Tu puedes nadar** (You can swim); **Ella podrá caminar** (She will be able to walk); **¿Podrían Uds. venir?** (Might you be able to come?).

#### 6. Ser/Estar

- a. Uses of ser:
  - i. Describes permanent characteristics of a person, place, object, or animal: **Miguel es alto, y los otros muchachos son bajos** (Miguel is tall, and the other boys are short); **El hielo es frío** (Ice is cold).
  - ii. Denotes origin, material, or ownership when followed by the preposition "de": **Somos de Wyoming** (We are from Wyoming).
  - iii. Tells the time and the date: Es el tres de marzo, y son las cuatro de la tarde (It's the third of March, and it's four in the afternoon).
  - iv. Forms the passive voice: La fonografía fue inventada por Thomas Edison (The phonograph was invented by Thomas Edison).

#### b. Uses of estar:

- i. Expresses location: Estamos en el jardín (We are in the garden).
- Expresses a condition: Ella está muy contenta (She is very happy); Está nublado (It is cloudy). Está despejado (It is clear).
- iii. Forms the progressive tenses: **Yo estaba escuchando durante el día** (I was listening during the day); **Alfredo está ayudando** (Alfredo is helping).

#### 7 Tener

- a. Expresses possession: **Diana tiene una bicicleta roja** (Diana has a red bicycle).
- b. Expresses a broad range of conditions, including the following:
  - i. **Tener calor** (to be or feel warm): **Isabel tiene calor** (Isabel is warm, or Isabel feels very warm).
  - ii. Tener cuidado (to be careful): Hay que tener cuidado (One must be careful).
  - iii. Tener deseos (to be eager, to wish very much): Los muchachos tienen muchos deseos de participar (The children are eager to participate).
  - iv. **Tener éxito** (to be successful): **Que tengas mucho éxito** (May you have much success).
  - v. **Tener frío** (to be or feel cold): **Juan tiene mu cho frío** (Juan is very cold, or Juan feels very cold); **Tengo frío** (I am cold, or I feel cold).
  - vi. **Tener ganas** (to feel like, be in the mood for): **Tengo ganas de bailar** (I feel like dancing).

- vii. **Tener hambre** (to be hungry): **Tuve muchísima hambre** (I was extremely hungry).
- viii. Tener la culpa (to be at fault): ¿Crees que yo tenga la culpa? (Do you think it might be my fault?).
- ix. **Tener miedo** (to be afraid): **Ellos tienen mucho miedo** (They are very afraid).
- x. **Tener prisa** (to be in a hurry): **No tuvimos prisa** (We were not in a hurry).
- xi. Tener razón (to be right): Es posíble que Uds. tengan razón (It's possible that you are right).
- xii. **Tener sed** (to be thirsty): ¿**Tienen ellos mucha sed?** (Are they very thirsty?).
- xiii. **Tener sueño** (to be sleepy): **Tendremos mucho sueño** (We will be very sleepy).
- xiv. **Tener suerte** (to be lucky, fortunate): **Que José tenga suerte** (May José be lucky).
- xv. **Tener vergüenza** (to be ashamed): **Ellos no tienen vergüenza** (They have no shame).
- c. Expresses a person's age: Tengo diecinueve años (I am 19 years old); Mi bisabuela tiene noventa años (My great-grandmother is 90 years old); ¿Cuántos años tiene Ud.? (How old are you?).
- d. Expresses concern about a strange situation or odd behavior: ¿Qué tiene Ud.? (What's wrong with you?); ¿Qué tienen ellos? (What is the matter with them?).
- e. Can be matched with **que** and the infinitive of a verb in order to communicate the idea of having to do something: **Ella tiene que ayudar** (She has to help); **No tendremos que esperar** (We won't have to wait).

#### **STEM-CHANGING VERBS**

- 1. Change their form in the present tense in all forms *except the first-and second-person plural* (*nosotros, nosotras, vosotros and vosotras*). To conjugate, drop the ending and change the "e" of the last syllable to "ie;" the "o" of the last syllable to "ue;" or the "e" to "i."
- 2. Verbs which change from "e" to "ie."
- a. Include the following:

pensar (to think); querer (to want, like, love); calentar (to heat); cerrar (to close); comenzar (to begin); despertar (to awaken); empezar (to begin); entender (to understand); mentir (to lie, not tell the truth); negar (to deny); perder (to lose); preferir (to prefer); sentar (to seat); sentir (to regret, feel).

**Examples: Yo pienso en la libertad** (I think about freedom); **Lo siento** (I'm sorry, or literally, I regret it).

- b. Conjugations in the present tense include **pienso**, **piensas**, **piensa**, **pensamos**, **pensáis** and **piensan**.
- 3. Verbs which change from "o" to "ue."
  - a. Include the following:

acostar (to lay [something] down); contar (to count); poder (to be able); costar (to cost); dormir (to sleep); encontrar (to find, meet); jugar (to play); morir (to die); mostrar (to show); volar (to fly); volver (to return).

#### Example: Tú cuentas las ovejas (You count the sheep).

- b.Conjugations in the present tense include cuento, cuentas, cuenta, contamos, contáis, and cuentan.
- 4. Verbs which change from "e" to "ie."
  - a. Include the following:

**conseguir** (to obtain); **corregir** (to correct); **elegir** (to elect, choose); **impedir** (to prevent); **pedir** (to request, ask for); **repetir** (to repeat); **seguir** (to follow); **servir** (to serve); **vestir** (to dress).

**Examples: Ella pide agua fría** (She asks for cold water); **Siguen corriendo** (They continue running).

- b.In the case of **pedir**, conjugations in the present tense include **pido**, **pides**, **pide**, **pedimos**, **pédis**, and **piden**.
- 5. **Jugar** (to play) has rules of its own, as a stem-changing verb. Its "u" changes to "ue," as follows: **juego**, **juegas**, **juega**, **jugamos**, **jugais**, and **juegan**.

Example: El juega al tenis (He plays tennis).

6. Oler (to smell) also has an unusual change. Its "o" changes to "hue," as follows: huelo, hueles, huele, olemos, oléis, and huelen.

**Example: No huele bien** (It doesn't smell good).

# USEFUL VERBS (REGULAR AND IRREGULAR)

\* = irregular verb \*\* = stem-changing verb \*\*\* = irregular, stem-changing

#### A

abandonar: to abandon abatir: to overthrow abolir\*: to abolish abrazar\*: to hug, embrace abrir\*: to open aceptar: to accept acostar\*\*: to put to bed acostumbrar: to accustom

adaptar: to adapt, adjust, fit admitir: to admit adorar: to worship, adore alegrar: to make happy, cheer up almorzar\*\*\*: to have lunch

amar: to love andar\*: to walk anticipar: to anticipate aplaudir: to applaud aplicar: to apply aprender: to learn asistir: to attend ayudar: to help

#### В

bailar: to dance

**bajar:** to descend, lower **bastar:** to be enough, suffice

**beber:** to drink **besar:** to kiss

caer\*: to fall
calentar\*\*: to heat
cambiar: to change
caminar: to walk
cansar: to wear out, tire
casar: to marry

casar: to marry cenar: to eat supper cerrar\*\*: to close cocinar: to cook

comenzar\*\*\*: to commence, begin

comer: to eat
compartir: to share
comprar: to buy
comprender: to understand

comunicar\*: to communicate
confiar\*: to have trust, be trusting
conseguir\*\*: to get, obtain
construir\*: to build

construir\*: to build contar\*\*: to count contestar: to answer convertir\*\*: to convert

#### corregir\*\*\*: to correct

costar\*\*: to cost creer\*: to believe cruzar: to cross cubrir\*: to cover

correr: to run

cuidarse: to take care of oneself

**cumplir:** to complete

#### Б

dar\*: to give

**deber:** to owe, have a moral obligation

decidir: to decide decir\*: to say, tell

dejar: to allow, permit, let, leave desayunar: to have breakfast

desear: to want
describir\*: to describe
descubrir\*: to discover
deshacer\*: to undo, destroy
destruir: to destroy

devolver\*\*\*: to refund, give back

disculpar: to forgive
discutir: to discuss, argue
divertir\*\*: to amuse
divorciar: to divorce
doblar: to bend, double, fold
dormir\*\*\*: to sleep

dudar: to doubt

#### E

elegir\*\*\*: to elect, choose empezar\*\*: to begin

encontrar\*\*: to encounter, find

enojar: to anger

entender\*\*: to understand

entrar: to enter

envolver\*\*\*: to wrap up esconder: to hide escribir\*: to write escuchar: to listen esperar: to wait, hope

estar\*: to be
estudiar: to study
existir: to exist
explicar\*: to explain
extrañar: to miss [someone]

#### F

fumar: to smoke functionar: to function

G

gastar: to spend [money]
golpear: to hit, strike
guiar\*: to guide

**gustar:** to be pleasing [to someone or something])

#### н

haber\*: to have, as a helping verb to form compound tenses

hablar: to speak hacer\*: to do, make huir\*: to flee

#### П

impedir\*\*: to prevent
imponer\*: to impose
imprimir\*: to print
interrumpir\*: to interrupt

invitar: to invite
ir\*: to go

#### J

jugar \*\*: to play [a sport or game]
jurar: to swear, take an oath

#### L

leer\*: to read
levantar: to raise
llamar: to call
llegar\*: to arrive
llenar: to fill
llevar: to carry, wear

#### $\mathbf{M}$

matar: to kill
mentir\*\*: to tell a lie
meter: to put [in]
mirar: to look
morir\*\*\*: to die
mostrar\*\*: to show

mandar: to send

mudarse: to change one's place of residence, change one's clothes, move

#### 1/

nacer\*: to be born
nadar: to swim
necesitar: to need
negar\*\*: to deny

#### 0

ocurrir: to occur oír\*: to hear

oler\*\*\*: to smell, scent
olvidar: to forget
oponer\*: to oppose
orar: to pray

#### P

pagar\*: to pay
parar: to stop

pasar: to happen, pass [by]
pedir\*\*\*: to request
pensar\*\*: to think
perder\*\*: to lose
perdonar: to pardon
platicar\*: to chat, converse
poder\*\*\*: to be able
poner\*: to put

parecer\*: to appear, look, seem

poseer\*: to possess, own
predicar\*: to preach
preferir\*\*: to prefer
preparar: to prepare
preguntar: to ask
probar\*\*: to prove, try
prometer: to promise
proveer\*: to provide

#### 0

quedar: to remain, stay quejarse: to complain, grumble querer\*\*\*: to want

quitar: to take off [clothing]

#### R

recibir: to receive

reconocer\*: to recognize, acknowledge
recordar\*\*: to remember, recollect

regalar: to give [as a gift] registrar: to register, record

regresar: to return

rehacer\*: to redo, remake

refer\*: to laugh
repetir\*\*: to repeat
resolver\*\*: to resolve
rezar\*: to pray
romper\*: to break

#### S

saber\*: to know
sacar\*: to get, take out
salir\*: to leave

saludar: to greet, say hello to
seguir\*\*: to continue
sentir\*\*: to feel, regret
separar: to separate, detach

ser\*: to be
servir\*\*: to serve
sonreír\*: to smile
sorprender: to surprise
subir: to ascend, climb
sufrir: to suffer

## т

temer: to fear tener\*\*\*: to have

tocar\*: to touch, to play [music or a musical

instrument]
tomar: to take, drink
tostar\*\*: to toast
trabajar: to work
traer\*: to bring
tratar: to try

#### U

unir: to unite
usar: to use

#### V

vender: to sell
venir\*\*\*: to come
ver\*: to see

vestirse\*\*: to clothe oneself, dress oneself

viajar: to travel
visitar: to visit
vivir: to live
volar\*\*\*: to fly
volver\*\*\*: to return

## CREDITS

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# **NOTE TO STUDENTS**

NOTE TO STUDENT: This *QuickStudy®* guide is an outline of Spanish Verbs basics. Keep it handy as a quick reference source in the classroom, while doing homework, and as a memory refresher when reviewing prior to exams. Due to its condensed format, use it as a guide, but not as a replacement for assigned class work.

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