

Regular verbs

PRESENTE SIMPLE (PRESENT)

hablar to speak	comer to eat	vivir to live
(I) habl-o	com-o	viv-o
(you) habl-as	com-es	viv-es
(he/she) habl-a	com-e	viv-e
(we) habl-amos	com-emos	viv-imos
(you all) habl-áis	com-éis	viv-ís
(they) habl-an	com-en	viv-en

The present tense is used to describe what you're doing at the present moment in time, e.g: "I am eating breakfast" or what you do routinely, e.g: "I eat breakfast every day".

FUTURO SIMPLE (FUTURE 'will')

nadar to swim	beber to drink	abrir to open
(I) nadar-é	beber-é	abrir-é
(you) nadar-ás	beber-ás	abrir-ás
(he/she) nadar-á	beber-á	abrir-á
(we) nadar-emos	beber-emos	abrir-emos
(you all) nadar-éis	beber-éis	abrir-éis
(they) nadar-án	beber-án	abrir-án

The future tense is used to say what you will do in the future.

PRETERITO (PAST – completed actions)

preguntar to ask	comer to eat	escribir to write
pregunt-é	com-í	escrib-í
pregunt-aste	com-iste	escrib-iste
pregunt-ó	com-ió	escrib-ió
pregunt-amos	com-imos	escrib-imos
pregunt-ásteis	com-ísteis	escrib-ísteis
pregunt-aron	com-ieron	escrib-ieron

The preterite is sometimes known as the simple past. It's used to talk about events in the past, e.g. I asked, I ate, I wrote.

PRESENTE CONTINUO (PRESENT CONTINUOUS)

hablar to speak	comer to eat	vivir to live
estoy hablando	estoy comiendo	estoy viviendo
estás hablando	estás comiendo	estás viviendo
está hablando	está comiendo	está viviendo
estamos hablando	estamos comiendo	estamos viviendo
estáis hablando	estáis comiendo	estáis viviendo
están hablando	están comiendo	están viviendo

The present continuous tense is used to indicate what is happening at the time of speaking, or when one action is happening at the same time as another. *Estar+past participle*

CONDICIONAL ('would')

nadar to swim	beber to drink	abrir to open
nadar-ía	beber-ía	abrir-ía
nadar-ías	beber-ías	abrir-ías
nadar-ía	beber-ía	abrir-ía
nadar-íamos	beber-íamos	abrir-íamos
nadar-íais	beber-íais	abrir-íais
nadar-ían	beber-ían	abrir-ían

The conditional is recognised in English by the use of the word "would" or sometimes "should", e.g. "I would swim"

IMPERFECTO (IMPERFECT – 'used to')

trabajar to work	comer to eat	escribir to write
trabaj-aba	com-ía	escrib-ía
trabaj-abas	com-ías	escrib-ías
trabaj-aba	com-ía	escrib-ía
trabaj-ábamos	com-íamos	escrib-íamos
trabaj-ábais	com-íais	escrib-íais
trabaj-aban	com-ían	escrib-ían

The imperfect tense is used for things that 'used to happen' or 'were happening' e.g. I worked, I used to work, I was working

PARTICIOPIO PRESENTE

-AR	-ando	hablando
-ER	-iendo	comiendo
-IR	-iendo	viviendo

The present participle or gerund is recognised in English by the ending -ing .e.g. talking, eating, living.

To find the past participle of a verb in English, just imagine that the words 'I have' are in front of it. E.g. 'to eat' put 'I have' in front of it you would say 'I have eaten' so 'eaten'.

PARTICIOPIO PASADO

-AR	-ado	hablado
-ER	-ido	comido
-IR	-ido	vivido

FUTURO INMEDIATO (FUTURE - I am going to...)

voy	a	trabajar	<i>I am going to work</i>
vas	a	estudiar	
va	a	beber	
vamos	a	comer	
vais	a	abrir	
van	a	vivir	

The immediate future tense can be used to express what is going to happen in the future. E.g. I am going to work, I am going to study, I am going to drink, I am going to eat....

PRESENTE PERFECTO (PRESENT PERFECT 'I have done')

hablar to speak	comer to eat	vivir to live
he hablado	he comido	he vivido
has hablado	has comido	has vivido
ha hablado	ha comido	ha vivido
hemos hablado	hemos comido	hemos vivido
habéis hablado	habéis comido	habéis vivido
han hablado	han comido	han vivido

The present perfect in English always contains 'has' or 'have' in it. E.g. I have spoken, I have eaten, I have lived.

There is/are= hay
There was/were= había

In Spanish the infinitive form of a verb always ends with the letter r and falls into three categories:

- 1) those which end with -ar (ar verbs) e.g. *hablar* = to speak
- 2) those which end with -er (er verbs) e.g. *comer* = to eat
- 3) those which end with -ir (ir verbs) e.g. *vivir* = to live

For regular verbs in the present, preterite and imperfect tenses, you must first remove the -ar, -er or -ir endings from the infinitive form of the verb, and then add the correspondent endings.

Most verbs in Spanish have six forms which correspond to their respective pronouns and which will be listed in the following order:

- 1) yo (I)
- 2) tú (you-familiar a person you know well, a familiar relationship)
- 3) él/ella/usted (he/she/you-formal a person you don't know, a formal relationship)
- 4) nosotros/nosotras (we)
- 5) vosotros/vosotras (you-plural-familiar [only used in Spain])
- 6) ellos/ellas/ustedes (they/you-plural-formal [Spain]/you-plural [L. America])

It's essential that you get the correct ending for the person you're talking about in Spanish because pronouns don't tend to be used in Spanish.

PASADO PERFECTO

hablar to speak	comer to eat	vivir to live
había hablado	había comido	había vivido
habías hablado	habías comido	habías vivido
había hablado	había comido	había vivido
habíamos hablado	habíamos comido	habíamos vivido
habíais hablado	habíais comido	habíais vivido
habían hablado	habían comido	habían vivido

The past perfect is used to indicate an action that happened and was completed before another action took place in the past. E.g. I had spoken/lived/eaten

