

3 MINUTE SPANISH COURSE 5 RECAP NOTES



Table of **CONTENTS**

- 01** **The past tense**
Auxiliary verb
Past participle

- 02** **Irregular past participles**
I have
Two meanings
Has, ha, habéis or han

- 03** **More adjectives**
Algo
es vs. ¿es?
hay

- 04** **demasiado & mucho**
Double letters
Grande
Tiempo para + verb
Too many people

- 05** **Things to do**
Posible + verb
Any

- 06** **Time**
tiempo vs. hora
To change

THE PAST TENSE

AKA THE PRESENT PERFECT TENSE

In this course, we learnt all about how to form the **present perfect tense**, which is a tense you can use to talk about the past. It's made up of two parts:

AUXILIARY VERB + **PAST PARTICIPLE**

AUXILIARY VERB

You start off by picking an auxiliary verb:

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

Or you can use the auxiliary verb in the **negative**:

(yo) no he	I haven't
(tú) no has	you haven't
(él) no ha	he hasn't
(ella) no ha	she hasn't
(usted) no ha	you haven't
(nosotros) no hemos	we haven't
(vosotros) no habéis	you haven't
(ellos) no han	they haven't
(ustedes) no han	you haven't

Once you have an auxiliary verb, you simply put a past participle on the end.

PAST PARTICIPLE

To form the past participle, all you have to do is take a verb and change the ending. You remove the last two letters, and then add either an **ado** or **ido**, depending on what sort of verb it was:

ar → **ado**

er → **ido**

ir → **ido**

hablar - *to speak*

hablado - *spoken*

comer - *to eat*

comido - *eaten*

salir - *to leave*

salido - *left*

AUXILIARY VERB + **PAST PARTICIPLE**

Let's have a look at some example past tenses phrases:

he comido - *I have eaten*

no he comido - *I haven't eaten*

hemos acabado - *we have finished*

no hemos acabado - *we haven't finished*

ella ha esperado - *she has waited*

ella no ha esperado - *she hasn't waited*

IRREGULAR PAST PARTICIPLES

Most verbs in Spanish follow the normal rules of forming the past participle:

ar → ado

er → ido

ir → ido

However, there are some verbs that do their own thing, and we call them irregular verbs. Here are six of the more common irregular past participles

hacer (to do / to make)	hecho (done / made)
ver (to see)	visto (seen)
poner (to put)	puesto (put)
escribir (to write)	escrito (written)
volver (to return)	vuelto (returned)
decir (to say / to tell)	dicho (said / told)

I HAVE

In Spanish, there are two ways to say “I have”: “**tengo**” and “**he**”. You use “**he**” only with **past participles** to say what you *have done* (as an **auxiliary verb**). You can use “**tengo**” when you’re talking about things you actually have.

he hablado con Pedro

I have spoken with Pedro

tengo un coche

I have a car

TWO MEANINGS

There are two ways to translate the past tense into English. One way has the word “**have**”, and the other doesn’t.

he comido

I have eaten / I ate

hemos bebido

we have drunk / we drank

han hablado

they have spoken / they spoke

There are also two ways to translate the negative past tense into English. One way has “**haven’t**” and the other way has “**didn’t**”.

no he comido

I haven’t eaten / I didn’t eat

no hemos bebido

we haven’t drunk / we didn’t drink

no han hablado

they haven’t spoken / they didn’t speak

HAS, HA, HABÉIS OR HAN

There are four ways to say “**you have**” in Spanish: **has**, **ha**, **habéis** or **han**.

has (singular informal)

ha (singular formal)

habéis (plural informal)

han (plural formal)

MORE ADJECTIVES

We learnt quite a lot of new adjectives in course 5. As usual, we'll have a look at the masculine, feminine, singular and plural versions of each of them.

EXPENSIVE	caro	caros	cara	caras
DIFFERENT	diferente	diferentes	diferente	diferentes
SPANISH	español	españoles	española	españolas
INTERESTING	interesante	interesantes	interesante	interesantes
POSSIBLE	posible	posibles	posible	posibles

ALGO

In English, you can put any adjective after the word “**something**”, and say things like, “**something good**” or “**something interesting**”. You can do the same in Spanish with the word “**algo**”, but you can translate “**algo**” as either “**something**” or “**anything**”:

algo bueno

something good / anything good

algo español

something Spanish / anything Spanish

algo interesante

something interesting / anything interesting

algo malo

something bad / anything bad

algo precioso

something beautiful / anything beautiful

ES VS. ¿ES?

You can form questions from any sentence in Spanish simply by putting an **upside question mark** in front of it, and a **normal question mark** after it. In speaking, you should also **raise your voice at the end**, to make it sound like a question. So, “**es**” and “**está**” both mean “**it is**”, whereas “**¿es?**” and “**¿está?**” both mean “**is it?**”

es bueno - *it's good*

¿es bueno? - *is it good?*

es posible para mí - *it's possible for me*

¿es posible para mí? - *is it possible for me?*

está aquí - *it is here*

¿está aquí? - *is it here?*

HAY

The word “**hay**” can mean “**there is**” or “**there are**”, so you can use it with singular nouns and plural nouns, unlike in English.

hay una persona

there is one person

hay dos personas

there are two people



DEMASIADO & MUCHO

The words “**demasiado**” and “**mucho**” mean “**too much**” and “**a lot**”, respectively. You can put nouns after them, but you need to change them so they agree with the noun.

demasiado - too much (*masculine singular*)

demasiados - too many (*masculine plural*)

demasiada - too much (*feminine singular*)

demasiadas - too many (*feminine plural*)

mucho - a lot (*masculine singular*)

muchos - a lot / many (*masculine plural*)

mucha - a lot (*feminine singular*)

muchas - a lot / many (*feminine plural*)

Here are a few examples of both words in use:

demasiada comida - *too much food*

demasiado vino - *too much wine*

demasiados coches - *too many cars*

mucha comida - *a lot of food*

muchas personas - *a lot of people*

DOUBLE LETTERS

In Spanish, double letters are not as common as they are in English. The only letters that can be doubled in a word are R, C and L. So, whereas we have plenty of double letters in English, words like “possible” and “necessary” don’t have a double ss in Spanish:

posible - *possible*

necesario - *necessary*

GRANDE

The adjective “**grande**” has two meanings: **big** and **great**. If you place “**grande**” after the noun, it means “**big**”, but if you place it before the noun, it means “**great**”. However, if you do place “**grande**” in front of a noun, it shortens to “**gran**”:

un coche grande - *a big car*

un gran coche - *a great car*

una casa grande - *a big house*

una gran casa - *a great house*

TIEMPO PARA + VERB

If you want to put a verb after “**tiempo**” to say that you have the time to do something, you need to put “**para**” in front of the verb:

no tengo tiempo para hacer eso

I don't have time to do that

¿tiene tiempo para ayudar?

do you have time to help?

TOO MANY PEOPLE

There are two ways to say, “**too many people**” and “**many people**” in Spanish:

demasiadas personas - *too many people*

demasiada gente - *too many people*

muchas personas - *many / lots of people*

mucha gente - *many / lots of people*

Both versions of each phrase mean the same thing. Both “**personas**” and “**gente**” mean “**people**”, but “**personas**” is plural and “**gente**” is singular.

THINGS TO DO

In Spanish, “**cosas para hacer**” and “**cosas que hacer**” both mean “**things to do**”, but they’re used in slightly different ways.

COSAS PARA HACER

You use “**cosas para...**” when you want to say that there are lots of possible things to do. It doesn’t mean things that are necessary to do, but rather things that you can do

COSAS QUE HACER

You use “**cosas que...**” when you’re talking about things that you have to do.

hay muchas cosas para hacer

there are lots of things to do (lots of choice)

hay muchas cosas que hacer

there are lots of things to do

tengo muchas cosas para hacer

I have lots of things to do (things I can do)

tengo muchas cosas que hacer

I have lots of things to do (things I must do)

hay muchas cosas para ver en Madrid

there are lots of things to see in Madrid

hay muchas cosas para comer aquí

there are lots of things to eat here

POSIBLE + VERB

You can put any verb after “**posible**” to say that it’s **possible to do** something.

es posible hacer eso mañana

it’s possible to do that tomorrow

¿es posible alquilar un coche aquí?

is it possible to hire a car here?

You can even say “**posible para mí**” plus a verb:

¿es posible para mí hacerlo?

is it possible for me to do it?

no es posible para mí ayudar

it isn’t possible for me to help

ANY

If you want to say “**any**” in Spanish, you simply say nothing. In English, you can say something like, “**I don’t have any money**”, but in Spanish, you say, “**I don’t have money**”

no tengo dinero

I don’t have any money

¿tiene preguntas?

do you have any questions?

no hay vino

there isn’t any wine

TIME

If you want to ask somebody what time it is, you can use this question:

¿Qué hora es?

What time is it?

However, you can use an alternative question, which is a little more informal, but still valid:

¿Tiene la hora?

Do you have the time?

TIEMPO VS. HORA

There are two ways to say “time” in Spanish: **tiempo** and **hora**. They both mean “time”, but they are used in different situations.

LA HORA - this means “the time” as in the time on a clock. We’ve seen it in questions like, “¿Qué hora es?”

EL TIEMPO - this means “the time” as in the time to do something.

no tengo mucho tiempo

I don't have a lot of time

tengo el tiempo para ayudar

I have the time to help

¿tiene el tiempo?

do you have the time? (to do something)

¿tiene la hora?

do you have the time? (on a clock)

TO CHANGE

The verb “**cambiar**” means “to change”, but there are two ways that you can use it. You can use it to mean “to change” in the sense of **modifying something**, or you can use it in the sense of **exchanging or switching something**.

If you want to say that you’re **modifying something**, you use the verb “**cambiar**” by itself. If you want to say that you’re **exchanging or switching something**, you use the phrase, “**cambiar de**”.

voy a cambiar la reserva

I'm going to change the reservation

If you use “**cambiar de**”, you follow it with a singular noun in Spanish, whereas in English, we use a plural noun.

voy a cambiar de coche

I'm going to change cars

¿puedo cambiar de habitación?

can I change rooms?

So, “**cambiar**” means “to change” as in to **modify**, and “**cambiar de**” means “to change” as in to **switch**.

quiero cambiar el coche

I would like to change the car (modify it)

quiero cambiar de coche

I would like to change cars (get a new one)