

3 MINUTE SPANISH COURSE 7
RECAP NOTES



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DE DÓNDE FROM WHERE

If you want to ask something like, “**Where do you come from?**”, in Spanish, you have to literally say, “**From where do you come?**”

“**From where**” in Spanish is “**De dónde**”:

¿De dónde vienes?

Where do you come from?

¿De dónde viene (usted)?

Where do you come from?



ABROAD

There are three expressions to say “**abroad**” in Spanish, and they all have slight different meanings:

del extranjero - *from abroad*

al extranjero - *(to) abroad*

en el extranjero - *(in) abroad*

You use “**del extranjero**” to mean “**from abroad**”, but if you want to imply that somebody is going “**to abroad**”, you say “**al extranjero**”. You then use “**en el extranjero**” to imply “**in abroad**”.

vienes del extranjero

you come from abroad

estoy en el extranjero

I am abroad

voy al extranjero

I'm going abroad

A VERY LONG TIME

The phrase “**mucho tiempo**” literally means “**much time**”, but you can use it to mean “**a long time**”

estoy aquí desde hace mucho tiempo

I've been here for a long time

If you want to say “**a very long time**”, you say “**muchísimo tiempo**” instead.

fui a París hace muchísimo tiempo

I went to Paris a very long time ago

JUST

The two words “**justo**” and “**sólo**” both mean “**just**”, but in slightly different ways.

JUSTO

The word “**justo**” means “**just**” as in “**fair**”

no es justo

it isn't fair

SÓLO

The word “**sólo**” means “**just**” as in “**only**”

cuesta sólo cinco euros

it costs just (only) five euros

PERSONAL “A”

If you have a person as the object of a sentence, you have to put the word “**a**” in front of it in Spanish.

¿esperas a Pedro?

are you waiting for Pedro?

puedo ver a María

I can see María

NEGATIVES

You can make any verb negative by putting “no” in front of it:

voy - *I'm going*

no voy - *I'm not going*

me gusta - *I like*

no me gusta - *I don't like*

¿vas? - *are you going?*

¿no vas? - *aren't you going?*

¿vienes? - *are you coming?*

¿no vienes? - *aren't you coming?*

EN VS. A

In Spanish, the word “en” means “in”, and the word “a” means “to” or “at”

voy a España

I'm going to Spain

estoy en Madrid

I'm in Madrid

voy a la piscina

I'm going to the pool

estoy en la piscina

I'm in the pool

Usually, though, in Spanish, if you're “at” a place that you can go inside of, you should use “en” rather than “a”

estoy en el restaurante

I'm at the restaurant (in the restaurant)

I LIKE

If you want to say that you like something in general, in Spanish, you have to use the word for “the” (*the definite article*) in front of the noun.

I like wine - **me gusta el vino**

I like cheese - **me gusta el queso**

This is also true in the negative

I don't like wine - **no me gusta el vino**

And it's the same if you're asking somebody if they like something in general:

do you like wine? - **¿te gusta el vino?**

do you like cheese? - **¿te gusta el queso?**

As well as nouns, you can put verbs after any form of “like”. In English, the verb tends to end in the letters **-ing**, but in Spanish, you use the whole form of the verb (which ends in **ar**, **er** or **ir**)

me gusta viajar

I like travelling

¿te gusta ir de vacaciones?

do you like going on holiday?

¿te gusta venir a Londres?

do you like coming to London?

no me gusta hacer eso

I don't like doing that

¿no te gusta hablar español?

don't you like speaking Spanish?

THE DIFFERENT FORMS OF YOU

Every verb has four forms for “you”: a singular informal, a singular formal, a plural informal and a plural formal.

DO YOU COME?

¿vienes (tú)? <i>singular informal</i>	¿venís (vosotros)? <i>plural informal</i>
¿viene (usted)? <i>singular formal</i>	¿vienen (ustedes)? <i>plural formal</i>

DO YOU SPEAK?

¿hablas (tú)? <i>singular informal</i>	¿habláis (vosotros)? <i>plural informal</i>
¿habla (usted)? <i>singular formal</i>	¿hablan (ustedes)? <i>plural formal</i>

ARE YOU GOING?

¿vas (tú)? <i>singular informal</i>	¿vais (vosotros)? <i>plural informal</i>
¿va (usted)? <i>singular formal</i>	¿van (ustedes)? <i>plural formal</i>

DO YOU WANT?

¿quieres (tú)? <i>singular informal</i>	¿queréis (vosotros)? <i>plural informal</i>
¿quiere (usted)? <i>singular formal</i>	¿quieren (ustedes)? <i>plural formal</i>

DO YOU LIKE?

SINGULAR NOUN

¿te gusta? <i>singular informal</i>	¿os gusta? <i>plural informal</i>
¿le gusta? <i>singular formal</i>	¿les gusta? <i>plural formal</i>

PLURAL NOUN

¿te gustan? <i>singular informal</i>	¿os gustan? <i>plural informal</i>
¿le gustan? <i>singular formal</i>	¿les gustan? <i>plural formal</i>

ARE YOU?

ARE YOU...? (temporary / location)

¿estás (tú)? <i>singular informal</i>	¿estáis (vosotros)? <i>plural informal</i>
¿está (usted)? <i>singular formal</i>	¿están (ustedes)? <i>plural formal</i>

ARE YOU...? (permanent)

¿eres (tú)? <i>singular informal</i>	¿sois (vosotros)? <i>plural informal</i>
¿es (usted)? <i>singular formal</i>	¿son (ustedes)? <i>plural formal</i>

ME GUSTA(N)

The phrase “**me gusta**” can be used to mean “**I like**” with any singular noun. If you have a plural noun, you have to use “**me gustan**” instead.

me gusta el coche

I like the car

me gustan los coches

I like the cars

The reason is because, literally, “**me gusta**” means “**it pleases me**”, whereas “**me gustan**” means “**they please me**”.

IS IT...?

You can turn “**es**”, “**está**”, “**fue**” or “**estuvo**” into questions in Spanish, simply by putting an upside question mark in front of the sentence, and a normal one at the end.

¿es...? / ¿está...? - *is it...?*

¿no es...? / ¿no está...? - *isn't it...?*

¿fue...? / ¿estuvo...? - *was it...?*

¿no fue...? / ¿no estuvo...? - *wasn't it...?*

¿es bueno?

is it good?

¿fue delicioso?

was it delicious?

¿no está aquí?

isn't it here?

LAST, THIS, NEXT

In course 7, we learnt how to use the words for “**last**”, “**this**” and “**next**” with various time phrases.

LAST	
<i>last week</i>	la semana pasada
<i>last month</i>	el mes pasado
<i>last year</i>	el año pasado

THIS	
<i>this week</i>	esta semana
<i>this month</i>	este mes
<i>this year</i>	este año

NEXT	
<i>next week</i>	la semana que viene
<i>next month</i>	el mes que viene
<i>next year</i>	el año que viene



DAYS *of the* WEEK

Here are the days of the week in Spanish:

(el) lunes *(on) Monday*
(el) martes *(on) Tuesday*
(el) miércoles *(on) Wednesday*
(el) jueves *(on) Thursday*
(el) viernes *(on) Friday*
(el) sábado *(on) Saturday*
(el) domingo *(on) Sunday*

You can add different things to the days of the week. Here they all are with “**jueves**” as an example, but you can replace the “**jueves**” with any day of the week

(el) jueves *(on) Thursday*
el jueves pasado *last Thursday*
el jueves que viene *next Thursday*
los jueves *on Thursdays*
todos los jueves *every Thursday*
(el) jueves por la mañana *(on) Thursday morning*
(el) jueves por la tarde *(on) Thursday evening*

MONTHS *of the* YEAR

Here are the months of the year in Spanish:

enero *January*
febrero *February*
marzo *March*
abril *April*
mayo *May*
junio *June*
julio *July*
agosto *August*
septiembre *September*
octubre *October*
noviembre *November*
diciembre *December*

If you want to give a date in Spanish, you put “**el**” plus a number, followed by “**de**”, and then a month:

el diez de abril - *the 10th April*

el doce de octubre - *the 12th October*

HASTA (UNTIL)

The word “until” in Spanish is “**hasta**”. You can put any time phrase on the end of it

hasta mañana - *until tomorrow*
hasta el cinco de mayo - *until the 5th May*
hasta la Navidad - *until Christmas*

You can use the word “**desde**” with “**hasta**” to mean “**from ... until ...**”

desde el primero de mayo hasta el décimo
from the first of May until the tenth

desde España hasta Portugal
from Spain until Portugal

HACE AGO

The word **"hace"** has two meanings. It comes from the verb **"hacer"** meaning **"to do"** or **"to make"**, but it can also mean **"ago"**.

In English, you put the amount of time in front of the word **"ago"**, but in Spanish, you say **"hace"** first, and then the amount of time after.

hace dos días - *two days ago*

hace una semana - *a week ago*

BASTANTE

The word **"bastante"** has a few meanings. It can mean **"enough"**, **"quite"** or **"rather"**. You can use it by itself, you can use it in front of adjectives, or in front of nouns.

es bastante para mí

it's enough for me

es bastante bueno

it's quite good / it's rather good

el coche es bastante caro

the car is quite / rather expensive

You can use it in any tense, for example, in the past tense after a past participle.

he comido bastante

I've eaten enough

no hemos comprado bastante

we haven't bought enough

BASTANTE + NOUN

You can also use **"bastante"** in front of a noun, to say **"enough of"** something.

tenemos bastante comida

we have enough food

If you have a plural noun, you use **"bastantes"** instead

hay bastantes personas

there are enough people

ES + ADJ + VERB

If you want to say something like, **"it's difficult to learn Spanish"**, you can use the expression:

es + adjective + verb

it's + adjective + verb

You can put an infinitive after the adjective.

es difícil aprender español

it's difficult to learn Spanish

es fácil hacer eso

it's easy to do that

no es posible alquilar eso

it's not possible to hire that

no es necesario llamar a Pedro

it isn't necessary to call Pedro

es siempre caro ir a Madrid

it's always expensive to go to Madrid

es importante beber bastante agua

it's important to drink enough water

THE PRESENT TENSE

To form the present tense, in Spanish, all you have to do is remove the R from the end of a verb, and add an S instead. If it's an "ir" verb, though, you remove the "ir", and add an "es".

comer - (to) eat
comes - you eat

vender - (to) sell
ventas - you sell

salir - (to) leave
sales - you leave

IRREGULARS

There are quite a few verbs that don't follow this present tense rule.

INFINITIVE	PRESENT TENSE
cerrar to close	cierras you close
comenzar to begin	comienzas you begin
empezar to start	empiezas you start
entender to understand	entiendes you understand
mentir to lie	mientes you lie
pensar to think	piensas you think
perder to lose	pierdes you lose
preferir to prefer	prefieres you prefer
recomendar to recommend	recomiendas you recommend
tener to have	tienes you have
venir to come	vienes you come
decir to tell	dices you tell
elegir to choose	eliges you choose

INFINITIVE	PRESENT TENSE
pedir to order	pides you order
repetir to repeat	repites you repeat
volver to return	vuelves you return
probar to try	pruebas you try
recordar to remember	recuerdas you remember
jugar to play	juegas you play

NEGATIVES

You can turn the present tense negative simply by putting a "no" in front of the verb.

comes - you eat
no comes - you don't eat

sales - you leave
no sales - you don't leave

QUESTIONS

You can turn the present tense into a question by putting an upside-down question mark in front of it, and a normal question mark after it.

comes - you eat
¿comes? - do you eat?

sales - you leave
¿sales? - do you leave?

THE PRESENT TENSE

TWO MEANINGS

Just like with the past tense, there are two ways that you can translate the present tense from Spanish into English. There's always one with that ends in **-ing**, and another way that doesn't:

comes

you eat / you're eating

bebes

you drink / you're drinking

hablas

you speak / you're speaking

This is the same in the negative and also with questions in the present tense

no comes

you don't eat / you're not eating

no bebes

you don't drink / you're not drinking

¿hablas?

do you speak? / are you speaking?

¿acabas?

do you finish? / are you finishing?

¿no tomas?

don't you take? / aren't you taking?

no sales

you don't leave / you're not leaving

COMMANDS

If you take the **"s"** off the present tense, you get a command in Spanish (also known as the **imperative**).

come eso, por favor

eat that, please

bebe el vino

drink the wine

habla en español conmigo

speak in Spanish with me

paga la cuenta

pay the bill

If you want to turn a command negative, you put a **"no"** in front of the present tense, and change **"es"** to **"as"** or **"as"** to **"es"**.

no comas eso, por favor

don't eat that, please

no bebas el vino

don't drink the wine

no hables en español conmigo

don't speak in Spanish with me

no pagues la cuenta

don't pay the bill

no esperes allí

don't wait there



DESDE HACE

You can use the phrase “**desde hace**”, with the present tense to say how long you’ve been doing something.

vivo aquí desde hace dos semanas

I’ve been living here for two weeks
(literally: I live here since two weeks)

estoy aquí desde hace una hora

I’ve been here for an hour
(literally: I am here since one hour)

If you want to ask how long somebody has been doing something, you can use “**desde hace cuándo**” (since when) plus the present tense.

¿desde hace cuándo vives aquí?

how long have you been living here?
(literally: since when do you live here?)

¿desde hace cuándo esperas el autobús?

how long have you been waiting for the bus?
(literally: since when do you wait for the bus)

¿desde hace cuándo vienes a Londres?

how long have you been coming to London?
(literally: since when do you come to London?)

THE HOLIDAYS

If you want to say “the holidays” in Spanish, you say “las vacaciones”, and there are a couple of phrases you can use with it:

pasar las vacaciones

to spend the holidays

estar de vacaciones

to be on holiday

You can conjugate the verbs “**pasar**” or “**estar**” into any tense or person:

quiero pasar las vacaciones aquí

I would like to spend the holidays here

¿dónde pasas las vacaciones?

where are you spending the holidays?

estoy de vacaciones mañana

I am on holiday tomorrow

¿estás de vacaciones ahora?

are you on holiday now?

¿pasas las vacaciones en el extranjero?

are you spending the holidays abroad?

quiero estar de vacaciones

I would like to be on holiday

¿no estás de vacaciones?

aren't you on holiday?