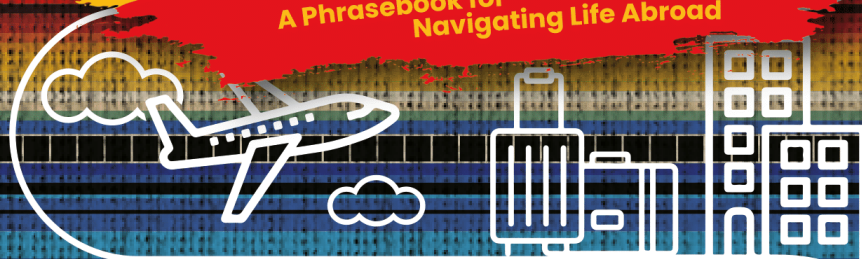




Latin America Version

SPANISH FOR EXPATS

A Phrasebook for
Navigating Life Abroad



Jameelah S. Muhammad

Complimentary Copy

(Chapter 1 – The BASICS)

These pages are an excerpt from my
book, *Spanish for Expats: A
Phrasebook for Navigating Life Abroad*

¡Qué disfrutes!
Enjoy!

www.amazon.com
www.2languages2cool.com

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First paperback edition July 2022 Jameelah S. Muhammad asserts the moral right to be identified as the author of this work.

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Spanish for Expats: A Phrasebook for Navigating Life Abroad

By Jameelah S. Muhammad

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	2
INTRODUCTION	4
ABOUT THIS BOOK	7
Chapter 1- The Basics	
1.1 The Spanish Alphabet.....	14
1.2 Counting and Using Numbers	16
1.3 Colors	21
1.4 Family Members and People.....	22
1.5 Animals	28
1.6 Body Parts	33
1.7 The Weather	36
1.8 Temperature	39
1.9 Seasons.....	43
1.10 Telling Time	44
1.11 Days and Months	50
1.12 Practice.....	54
Chapter 2- How to Greet Someone	
2.1 Greetings	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.2 Good-bye	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.3 Being Courteous	Error! Bookmark not defined.
2.4 Practice.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Chapter 3- How to Introduce Yourself	
3.1 Name	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.2 Origin and Nationality.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.3 Age	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.4 Gender.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.5 Education.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.6 Language	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.7 Marital Status.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.8 Immigration Status	Error! Bookmark not defined.

3.9 Profession	Error! Bookmark not defined.
3.10 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 4- How to Talk About Yourself

4.1 Family	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.2 Talking About Your Where You Live.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.3 Describing Your City or Town.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.4 Talking About Your Religion	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.5 Talking About Your Hobbies.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.6 Talking About Your Social Media Profile	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.7 Spanish Punctuation Signs	Error! Bookmark not defined.
4.8 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 5- Expressing Emotions and Opinions

5.1 Feelings	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5.2 Opinions.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
5.3 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 6- Describing People and Pets

6.1 Size.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.2 Physical Features	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.3 Personalities and Behaviors	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.4 Skill Level.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.5 Skin Color	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.6 Pets.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
6.7 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 7- Socializing with the Locals

7.1 Meeting for the First Time	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7.2 How to Talk About Pets.....	

Chapter 8- Shopping

8.1 At the Grocery Store	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.2 At the Bakery	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.3 At the Butcher Shop	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.4 At the Market.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.5 At the Department Store.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.6 Beauty Products.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

8.7 Signs While Shopping	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.8 Negotiating Prices and Bargaining	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.9 Online Shopping.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.10 Measurements, Distances, Sizes, Etc	Error! Bookmark not defined.
8.11 Types of Store Names.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 9- Foods and Drinks

9.1 Types of Foods	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.2 Fruits.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.3 Vegetables.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.4 Local Fruits and Vegetables of Latin America	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.5 Herbs	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.6 Meats	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.7 Desserts.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.8 Dairy Products	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.9 Breads	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.10 Condiments.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.11 Special Seasonings and Spices	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.12 Grains and Cereals	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.13 Beans.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.14 Food Preparation	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.15 Street Foods	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.16 Drinks- Non- Alcoholic.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
9.17 Drinks- Alcoholic.....	214
9.18 Practice.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 10- Eating Out

10.1 At the Restaurant.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.2 The Latin American Menu	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.3 The American Menu.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.4 How to Order Your Food	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.5 Ordering Fast Foods	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.6 How to Bless the Table in Spanish.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.7 Describing How Food Tastes	Error! Bookmark not defined.
10.8 Talking About Food While Dining	Error! Bookmark not defined.

10.9 Talking About Alcoholic Beverages **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

10.10 Practice **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 11- Housing

11.1 Types of Housing and Land..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.2 Buying a House or Condo **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.3 Renting an Apartment **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.4 Housing for Travelers..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.5 Housing Matters.....270

11.6 Parts of a House and Furnishings **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.7 Outdoor Amenities **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.8 A Sample Listing **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

11.9 Practice.....

Chapter 12- Transportation

12.1 Personal Vehicles **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

12.2 Taking Public Transportation..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

12.3 At the Airport.....**Error! Bookmark not defined.**304

12.4 Renting a Car **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

12.5 Taking a Taxi or UBER..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

12.6 Roads and Streets **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

12.7 Asking for and Giving Directions **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

12.8 Practice **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 13- Running Errands

13.1 Talking About Running Errands..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.2 At the Bank **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.3 At the Library..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.4 At the Gas Station **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.5 At the Post Office **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.6 At the Laundromat and Dry Cleaners **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.7 At the Mechanics..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.8 At the Bike Repair Shop..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.9 At the Driver's License Office **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.10 Walking Your Dog **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

13.11 Practice **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 14- At the Hair Salon/ Barber Shop/ Nail Salon/ Spa

14.1 Makeup Products	Error! Bookmark not defined.
14.2 The Hair Salon	Error! Bookmark not defined.
14.3 The Barber Shop.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
14.4 The Nail Salon	Error! Bookmark not defined.
14.5 The Spa	Error! Bookmark not defined.
14.6 Practice.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 15- At School

15.1 School Vocabulary	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.2 Types of Schools.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.3 Daycare and Preschool.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.4 Secondary School.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.5 College.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.6 Language School	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.7 Virtual Classes	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.8 Dance School.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
15.9 Practice.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 16- Working and Volunteering

16.1 Searching for a Job	Error! Bookmark not defined.
16.2 Sample Job Interview.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
16.3 At the Office	Error! Bookmark not defined.
16.4 Volunteering.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
16.5 Practice.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 17- Hiring the Local Help

17.1 Types of Local Help	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.2 Chores	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.3 Babysitter.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.4 Housekeeper.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.5 Handyman.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.6 Gardener.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.7 Driver	Error! Bookmark not defined.
17.8 Practice.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 18- Excursions and Tours

- 18.1 Excursions and Tours..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 18.2 Exploring Nature and Camping **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 18.3 Water Sports **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 18.4 Practice..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 19- Entertainment and Exploring the City

- 19.1 Exploring the City **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.2 At the Movies **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.3 At the Amusement Park **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.4 At the Circus **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.5 At the Zoo **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.6 At the Beach **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.7 At the Ball Game **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 19.8 Practice..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 20- Holidays and Traditions

- 20.1 Hispanic Holidays..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 20.2 New Year’s Eve Traditions **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 20.3 Parades **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 20.4 Practice..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 21- Attending Special Events

- 21.1 At a Birthday Party **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 21.2 At a Quinceañera **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 21.3 At a Party/Club..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 21.4 At a Wedding **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 21.5 At a First Communion..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 21.6 At a Funeral **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 21.7 Practice..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 22- Immigration and Residency

- 22.1 Documents Expats Will Need **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 22.2 At the Immigration Office..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 22.3 At Customs **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
- 22.4 Practice..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Chapter 23- Medical Care

23.1 Symptoms and Ailments.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
23.2 Diseases, Disabilities, and Vaccinations.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
23.3 At the Hospital or Clinic.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
23.4 At the Dentist Office	Error! Bookmark not defined.
23.5 At the Pharmacy.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
23.6 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 24- Drugs and Alcohol

24.1 Drugs	Error! Bookmark not defined.
24.2 Alcohol	Error! Bookmark not defined.
24.3 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Chapter 25- Emergencies and Asking for Help

25.1 Asking for Help.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.2 At the Police Station.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.3 Theft.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.4 Traffic Violations.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.5 Car Accidents.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.6 Missing Person.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.7 Slang Words for Law Enforcement.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.8 Legal Help.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.9 Natural Disasters and Preparedness.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
25.10 Practice	Error! Bookmark not defined.

References	500
Pronunciation Guide	501
How to Pronounce Spanish Letters.....	502
Accent Mark Rules.....	503
Index	504
Index of Comic Strip Dialogs.....	505
Index of Diagrams.....	506
Index of Culture Notes.....	507
Index of Grammar Notes.....	508
Glossary of Key Spanish Vocabulary	509



This book is dedicated to
my guardian angels:

Monica Wells Kisura

and

Nola Campbell

I love you,
miss you,
and appreciate
your guidance.

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The People of Okinawa, Japan

This book was conceived in Japan's southernmost prefecture, Okinawa. This remote island in the middle of the Pacific Ocean provided the perfect formula for writing this book: lush vegetation, pleasant weather, peaceful and warm people, and glorious ocean views. In fact, much of my writing developed while at the Onna Library, which overlooks the East China Sea. More importantly, I want to thank my best friend and kindred spirit, Hayatsu Shimoji, who was instrumental in making my stay in Okinawa beyond amazing. I must also thank the US Department of Defense for providing the opportunity to live and work in Okinawa. It has been an honor and a privilege. I am grateful.

Arigato gozaimasu!



My Guardian Angels

Sometimes things in life happen that can't be explained. My guardian angels, Monica Wells Kisura and Nola Campbell have guided me every step of the way in writing this book. I once mentioned that I was not the only one writing this book. Their presence has put all the resources I need in place to make this book possible. I am so fortunate to have them.

My Children, Ali and Aliyah

My children are my biggest fans. I want to thank them for encouraging me to write this book and their support and patience.

Los quiero mucho.

INTRODUCTION

Felicitaciones! Congratulations! You have decided to take the plunge and move abroad. There will be excitement and challenges along the way. Take this opportunity to live abroad and become fluent in the language. Think of the implications for your children and future generations. Don't worry about being 100% fluent. That will come with time.

If you are reading this book, it is because you want to take charge of your destiny. You want to make living abroad more meaningful and immerse yourself in the host nation. You want to take your Spanish to the next level. If you have traveled to a foreign country where your language is not spoken, you know that when it comes to communicating with the locals, non-verbal cues such as gestures and pointing will get you only so far. Don't rely only on Google Translate. Although Google Translate is a great translation tool, it has its limitations. And, you clearly realize that your high school Spanish is all but a distant memory. I should know because I have taught high school Spanish (Spanish I–AP Spanish) for over fifteen years. The high school curriculum is generally not designed for learners to function in a Spanish-speaking society but rather provides you with a foundation on which to build. The honest truth is that if you don't learn even basic Spanish, the quality of your life abroad will be negatively impacted.

WHO THIS BOOK IS FOR

This book was written to help people like you—people who are fearless, independent, determined, and courageous. Living in a society where English is not the dominant language is a legitimate concern. The language barrier can affect your lifestyle and quality of life. How do I know this? Well, I have been living as an expat most of my adult life in Mexico, Spain, and at the time of the writing of this book, Japan.

Maybe you work for the Foreign Service or the US Department of Defense stationed in Panama. Maybe you are a graduate student doing research abroad, a digital nomad, or a digital expat who has decided to work for yourself or make a living online while living overseas. Or, you could be a perpetual tourist who doesn't have a resident visa but enjoys living in a Spanish-speaking country.

This book is ideal for expats only seeking “transactional” Spanish just to “get by.” Even if you are not planning on improving your Spanish (because you feel you don't have the mental capacity or time), this book is a must as it will help you understand the world in which you have chosen to live. You will have many *aha!* moments and make lots of connections. This book will empower you and give you the confidence you need to learn Spanish while understanding the culture of your new host nation. Keep this book handy: by your bedside, on the table, in your backpack. It is a useful tool to help you transition into your new country.

Finally, this phrasebook is for all skill levels. It is intended to provide a quick reference to words and expressions that you as an expat would likely need to know to survive. The intention is to give the novice learner a good start when engaging with the locals, whether at a grocery store or the immigration office. For those who already have some Spanish proficiency, you are guaranteed to learn something new while confirming vocabulary and phrases you already know.

The phrases included in this book are just to jumpstart your Spanish. To take it to the next level, take classes and learn grammar. My final piece of advice is that learning a language is a journey. Take it step by step. Don't give up and watch how the quality of life abroad improves.

MY LANGUAGE STORY

My first living abroad experience was during my sophomore year at Iowa State University, where I participated in a study abroad program in Morelia, Michoacan, and Madrid, Spain. I eventually ended up getting my master's degree in Hispanic Linguistics at *La Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México* (UNAM). As a teacher working for the District of Columbia Public School System, I participated in a teacher exchange program and spent a year in Aranda de Duero, Spain. My son spent his first year of school in a Spanish preschool. Living as an expat was not new to me, but it was evident that my Spanish ability determined my living ability. Fast forward about ten years, I was offered a Spanish teaching position with the US Department of Defense in Japan. My knowledge of the importance of speaking the local language really hit me. Suffice to say that Japanese has been a challenge to learn, so I can empathize with the reader. I hope this book reduces some of the anxiety and intimidation in communicating with the locals in Spanish.

Again, I applaud your determination for a better life. You can control your expat experience. Is it hard work to learn a second language? Heck yeah, but the rewards are amazing and everlasting.

ABOUT THIS BOOK

This is book Book #1 of the three-part *Spanish for Expats* series. It is written from my perspective as an American and the experiences I gained after living most of my adult life as an expat. It is intended for those who have decided to live abroad, expats, retirees, families, nomads, professionals, and everyone in between. Students who are studying abroad will also find this book useful. Please note that this book assumes that you have some knowledge of the Spanish language, perhaps some high school Spanish foundation. I encourage you to learn Spanish grammar to really understand the phrases highlighted in the book. Additionally, this book is great for expats with the following Latin American countries on their list: Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama, and Puerto Rico. I include phrases and cultural notes from these particular countries.

The book is organized into twenty-five chapters. Each chapter represents a theme and includes (1) an introduction of essential vocabulary words you will need, (2) indications on how these vocabulary words are used in context, (3) cultural notes that help you understand a certain aspect of the culture that you may not have known, and (4) grammar notes to explain certain grammatical concepts that will help you. Additionally, I have included a *Now You Try It* page at the end of each chapter so that you can practice writing words and expressions learned in the chapter.

The layout of *Spanish for Expats* is learner-friendly. Each chapter has a theme, topics, and subtopics. The chapters are arranged as follows:

- **Vocabulary**
- **Verbs**
- **Sample Sentences**
- **Useful Expressions**
- **Dialog Samples**
- **Culture Note**
- **Grammar Note**
- **Additional Information**
- **Go-To notification for future study**
- **Practice**

CONVENTIONS USED IN THIS BOOK

Spanish for Expats is learner-friendly. Here are the conventions to help you understand:

1. Italicizations

The English translations are italicized throughout the book.

Example: el amigo *friend*

2. Articles

Spanish nouns are typically taught simultaneously with the definite article 'the' (*el* or *la*) or the indefinite article 'a' or 'an' (*un* or *una*). This is the case because some Spanish nouns may appear to be masculine but are actually feminine, and vice versa.

Example: *el día* (the day) and *una mano* (a mouth).

3. Gendered Nouns

When nouns or adjectives have a masculine and feminine form, words may appear with a backslash, indicating that there is another form.

Example: camarero/a *waiter*
rojo/a *red*

4. Optional Words

Sometimes in Spanish, certain words can be left out and still maintain their meaning. If a word in a phrase or sentence is optional, it will be enclosed in parentheses.

Example: *(Yo) vivo en Salinas, Ecuador.*
¿Cómo está (usted)?
¡(Buen) provecho!

5. Words or Letters Written in Bold Type

I will type a letter or word in bold to make a point about the language's grammar or simply to make a point about an important difference that learners need to be aware of.

6. Synonyms

Spanish is known for having multiple ways of saying the same thing. When this is the case, I will indicate this by including the other word(s).






For example, the words for 'face mask' vary in the Spanish-speaking world. They are called *la máscara*, *la mascarilla*, *el tapabocas*, and *el cubrebocas*, to name a few. If a word or expression deviates from standard speech, I indicate this by including the country in parenthesis.

7. Latin American Spanish

I include practical vocabulary and expressions for expats who live or want to live in Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Puerto Rico. Typically, I do not include vocabulary for locations outside of these eight countries.

ICONS USED IN THIS BOOK

The following icons will be used to alert you to some important points outlined in this book.

	The tips icons provide ideas on word usage.
	The information icon provides additional information on a topic.
	The <i>Go-To</i> icon indicates where you can go in the book to receive more information about a topic.
	The Culture Note points out any cultural information that is relevant to the topic.
	The Grammar Note icon analyzes any grammatical structures relevant to the topic.

ABOUT THE SPANISH LANGUAGE

There are over 450 million native Spanish speakers worldwide, making it the second most spoken language in the world after Chinese. The Spanish language is as diverse as its speakers. Latin America was colonized by the Spanish in the 16th century. And although the grammar rules and spelling rules may be the same as *el castellano* (Castilian Spanish), the nouns differ greatly. Spanish speakers represent many ethnicities and cultures, from the Bri Bri indigenous communities of Costa Rica to the descendants of enslaved Africans—the Garifuna of Nicaragua, Honduras, and Guatemala. In South America, there are many Germans and Italians who settled in Argentina after World War II. Many Japanese (the Nikkei) migrated to Peru, Argentina, and Bolivia. Each ethnic group influences the culture and undoubtedly the language.

Additionally, Spanish is the official language of 21 countries. Interestingly, some indigenous languages share the title of “official language” with Spanish. For example, the official languages of Paraguay are Spanish and Guarani. The official languages of Peru are Spanish, Aymara, and Quechua. Bolivia has three official languages: Spanish, Quechua, and Aymara. This is pretty awesome.

Spain	Cuba	Nicaragua	El Salvador	Guatemala
Bolivia	Equatorial Guinea	Puerto Rico	Peru	Mexico
Venezuela	Costa Rica	El Salvador	Guatemala	Panama
Bolivia	Chile	Colombia	Paraguay	Uruguay

The Spanish of each country is unique and characteristic of its people, culture, and history. In other words, the Spanish of Mexico is different from the Spanish of the Dominican Republic. Mexico has a significant indigenous population, so its Spanish is influenced by those cultures. For example, *guajolote* ‘turkey’ is a Nahuatl word spoken by millions of indigenous Mexicans. On the other hand, the Spanish of the Dominican Republic is laced with *Africanisms* due to the introduction of enslaved Africans in the 16th century. This is evident in the plantain dishes *mofongo* and *magü*. We see these linguistic differences primarily in word usage and pronunciation.

Finally, as an expat learning Spanish, please be aware that Spanish words have different meanings in different countries, much like “subway” in American English and “tube” in British English. For example, a *tortilla* is a thin, flat pancake made from corn or wheat flour. However, in Spain, a *tortilla* is a potato omelet.

I cover many of these linguistic nuances in this book.

A NOTE ABOUT THE TRANSLATIONS

One of the most challenging aspects of writing this book was providing the proper translation and word usage. Like any language, Spanish is ever evolving. I tried to provide vocabulary and expressions that were not only simple to use and natural sounding but also those commonly used in the eight Latin American countries of Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Puerto Rico. This was no easy task considering the various dialects in the Spanish language. Standard Spanish is used throughout, and regionalisms (words used only in certain regions) are kept to a minimum. The other challenge I faced was whether to use formal sentences (using *usted*) or informal sentences (using *tú*). Typically, the book provides formal expressions for situations that require formal interactions, such as meeting an elderly lady for the first time or talking to an immigration agent. I encourage you to consider the context before using Spanish words or expressions in this book.

SECTION I - All About You and More



The Basics

- 1.1 The Spanish Alphabet
- 1.2 Counting and Using Numbers
- 1.3 Colors
- 1.4 Family Members and People
- 1.5 Animals
- 1.6 The Body Parts
- 1.7 The Weather
- 1.8 Seasons
- 1.9 Telling Time
- 1.10 Days and Months
- 1.11 Practice

Chapter 1

At What Time?



Disculpe- ¿a qué hora abren?
Excuse me - what time do you open?

A las nueve de la mañana, lunes a domingo.

At 9am, Monday to Sunday.

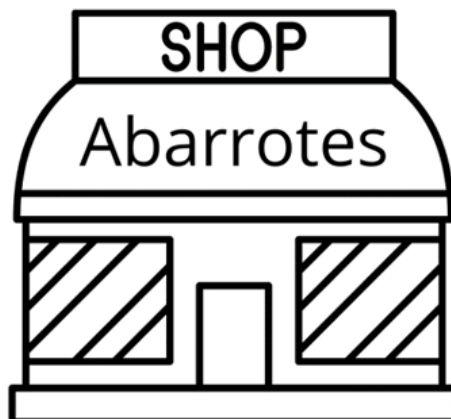


¿Está abierto?
Is it opened?

No, está cerrado..
No, it's closed.

Gracias
Thank you

A su orden.
At your service.





1.1 The Spanish Alphabet

El alfabeto español

In 2010, the leading authority on the Spanish language, the Real Academia Española (RAE) updated the Spanish alphabet. The original Spanish alphabet consisted of thirty letters. However, the new Spanish alphabet contains twenty-seven letters. The *ch*, *l*, and *rr* were dropped. This was an effort by the government to simplify and clear up some pronunciation ambiguities between certain letters such as the *b*, *i*, *v*, *w*, and *y*. Here is the new Spanish alphabet.




















Table 1.1- The Spanish Alphabet

A (a) <i>ah</i>	B (be) <i>bay</i>	C (ce) <i>say</i>	D (de) <i>day</i>
E (e) <i>ay, like the ay in "pay"</i>	F (efe) <i>ay-fay</i>	G (ge) <i>hay</i>	H (hache) <i>ah-chay</i>
I (i) <i>ee</i>	J (jota) <i>ho-ta</i>	K (ka) <i>kah</i>	L (ele) <i>ay-lay</i>
M (eme) <i>ay-may</i>	N (ene) <i>ay-nay</i>	Ñ (nye) <i>ay-nyay</i>	O (o) <i>oh</i>
P (pe) <i>pay</i>	Q (qu) <i>koo</i>	R (ere) <i>ay-ray</i>	S (ese) <i>ay-say</i>
T (te) <i>tay</i>	U (u) <i>oo</i>	V (ube) <i>oo-bay</i>	W (ube doble) <i>oo-bay do-blay</i>
X (equis)	Y (ye)	Z (zeta)	

<i>ay-kees</i>	<i>yay</i>	<i>say-ta</i>	
----------------	------------	---------------	--



: Go to the Reference Section on page ???to learn more.


A (a)  aduana	B (be)  boleto/billete	C (ce)  cédula	D (de)  documento
E (e)  embajada	F (efe)  farmacia	G (ge)  glorieta	H (hache)  hogar
I (i)  inmobiliario	J (jota)  jubilación	K (ka)  kilo(grama)	L (ele)  ley
M (eme)  maleta	N (ene)  notario	Ñ (nye)  ñame	O (o)  ¡Ojo!
P (pe)  pesos	Q (qu)  querer	R (ere)  residencia permanente	S (ese)  seguro médico
T (te)  tarifa	U (u)  usted	V (ube)  visa/visado	W (ube doble)  wi-fi
X (equis)  xenofobia	Y (ye)  Yo = I	Z (zeta)  zócalo	The EXPAT ABC's 

The Spanish alphabet consists of:

5 vowels: **a, e, i, o, u**

22 consonants: **b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, ñ, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z**

i : When spelling, older Spanish speakers may refer to the *b* as *b grande* (big 'b') and the *v* as *b chica* (little 'b'); the *y* has *i giriega*; the *ch* as *che*; the *rr* as *erre*; and the *ll* as *elle*.



1.2 Counting and Using Numbers

Contar y usar los números

One of the most critical skills an expat can have is counting and using numbers. Transactions such as banking, shopping, and paying for a taxi will be so smoother if you have a good handle on counting in Spanish.

Table 1.2- Spanish Numbers

0	10	20	30
0 – cero 1 – uno 2 – dos 3 – tres 4 – cuatro 5 – cinco 6 – seis 7 – siete 8 – ocho 9 – nueve 10 – diez	11 – once 12 – doce 13 – trece 14 – catorce 15 – quince 16 – dieciséis 17 – diecisiete 18 – dieciocho 19 – diecinueve	20 – veinte 21 – veintiuno 22 – veintidós 23 – veintitrés 24 – veinticuatro 25 – veinticinco 26 – veintiséis 27 – veintisiete 28 – veintiocho 29 – veintinueve	30 – treinta 31 – treinta y uno 32 – treinta y dos 33 – treinta y tres 34 – treinta y cuatro 35 – treinta y cinco 36 – treinta y seis 37 – treinta y siete 38 – treinta y ocho 39 – treinta y nueve
40	50	60	70
40 – cuarenta 41 - cuarenta y uno 42 - cuarenta y dos 43 – cuarenta y tres 44 - cuarenta y cuatro 45 – cuarenta y cinco 46 – cuarenta y seis 47 – cuarenta y siete 48 – cuarenta y ocho	50 – cincuenta 51 – cincuenta y uno 52 – cincuenta y dos 53 – cincuenta y tres 54 – cincuenta y cuatro 55 – cincuenta y cinco 56 – cincuenta y seis 57 – cincuenta y siete 58 – cincuenta y ocho	60 – sesenta 61 – sesenta y uno 62 – sesenta y dos 63 – sesenta y tres 64 – sesenta y cuatro 65 – sesenta y cinco 66 – sesenta y seis 67 – sesenta y siete 68 – sesenta y ocho	70 – setenta 71 – setenta y uno 72 – setenta y dos 73 – setenta y tres 74 – setenta y cuatro 75 – setenta y cinco 76 – setenta y seis 77 – setenta y siete 78 – setenta y ocho

49 – cuarenta y nueve	59 – cincuenta y nueve	69 – sesenta y nueve	79 – setenta y nueve
80	90	100	1,000
80 – ochenta 81 – ochenta y uno 82 – ochenta y dos 83 – ochenta y tres 84 – ochenta y cuatro 85 – ochenta y cinco 86 – ochenta y seis 87 – ochenta y siete 88 – ochenta y ocho 89 – ochenta y nueve	90 – noventa 91 – noventa y uno 92 – noventa y dos 93 – noventa y tres 94 – noventa y cuatro 95 – noventa y cinco 96 – noventa y seis 97 – noventa y siete 98 – noventa y ocho 99 – noventa y nueve	100 - cien, ciento 101- ciento uno 130 - ciento treinta 200 - doscientos 201- doscientos uno 300 - trescientos 400 - cuatrocientos 500- quinientos 600- seiscientos 700 - setecientos 800 - ochocientos 900 - novecientos	1,000 - mil 2, 000 - dos mil 3, 000 - tres mil 10,000 - diez mil 100,000 - cien mil 1,000,000 - un millón 2,000,000 - dos millones 4,500,420 = cuatro millones, quinientos mil, cuatrocientos veinte

Cien is one hundred on the dot and *ciento* is used for numbers hundred and one and above.

For example: 195 = ciento noventa y cinco



: You don't need to add “y” after “ciento”. You write “ciento uno”, not “ciento y uno”.

cien personas – *one hundred people*

cien libros – *one hundred books*


For numbers from 200 to 999, you must first learn the multiples of 100.

doscientos	-	200
trescientos	-	300
cuatrocientos	-	400
quinientos	-	500
seiscientos	-	600
setecientos	-	700
ochocientos	-	800
novecientos	-	900

These numbers have masculine and feminine forms, and so they must agree with the noun:

setecientas personas – “seven hundred people”
ochocientos libros - “eight hundred books”

The only two new words you need to learn are *mil* (1,000) and *un millón* (1,000,000).

 1,000 is *mil*, not *un mil*. For *un millón*, you can't leave out the *un*. The only time you'll see *un mil* is in numbers like *cuarenta y un mil* (41,000). You need to put an *un* in this number to distinguish it from *cuarenta mil* (40,000).

Forming new numbers with *mil* and *un millón* is pretty straightforward as well:

1,000	- mil
1,001	- mil uno (not “mil y uno”!)
1,686	- mil seiscientos ochenta y seis
2,001	- dos mil uno
20,000	- veinte mil
100,000	- cien mil
483, 382	- cuatrocientos ochenta y tres mil trescientos ochenta y dos
1,000,000	- un millón
6,492,000	- seis millones cuatrocientos noventa y dos mil

Finally, note that when you're using *un millón* or *millones* with a noun, you must use *de* (of). For example, “one million books” is *un millón de libros*. Literally, “one million of books”.

TABLE 1.3- Spanish Ordinal Numbers

Symbol	Spelling	Abbreviation	Example
1 ^o 1 ^a	primero/primera <i>first</i>	1ero/1era <i>1st.</i>	1 ^o lugar 1er lugar 1st. place
2 ^o 2 ^a	segundo/segunda <i>second</i>	2do/2da <i>2nd.</i>	2 ^o lugar 2do lugar <i>2nd. place</i>
3 ^o 3 ^a	tercero/tercera <i>third</i>	3ero/3era <i>3rd.</i>	3 ^o lugar 3er lugar <i>3rd. place</i>
4 ^o 4 ^a	cuarto/cuarta <i>fourth</i>	4to/4ta <i>4th.</i>	4 ^o lugar 4to lugar <i>4th. place</i>
5 ^o 5 ^a	quinto/quinta <i>fifth</i>	5to/5ta <i>5th.</i>	5 ^o lugar 5to lugar 5th. place
6 ^o 6 ^a	sexto/sexta <i>sixth</i>	6to/6ta <i>6th.</i>	6 ^o lugar 6to lugar <i>6th. place</i>
7 ^o 7 ^a	séptimo/séptima <i>seventh</i>	7mo/7ma <i>7th.</i>	7 ^o lugar 7mo lugar <i>7th. place</i>
8 ^o 8 ^a	octavo/octava <i>eighth</i>	8vo/8va <i>8th.</i>	8 ^o lugar 8vo lugar <i>8th. place</i>
9 ^o 9 ^a	noveno/novena <i>ninth</i>	9no/9na <i>9th.</i>	9 ^o lugar 9no lugar <i>9th place</i>
10 ^o 10 ^a	décimo/décima <i>tenth</i>	10mo/10ma <i>10th.</i>	10 ^o lugar 10mo lugar <i>10th. place</i>

Primero y tercero are shortened (the -o is removed) in front of a masculine singular noun.

Example:

1er. - el primer libro

the first book

3er.- el tercer pago

the third payment



Writing Numbers 1,000 and Up in Spanish

When writing large numbers in numeric form, periods instead of commas separate groups of hundreds, thousands, and millions. In other words, commas are used where we would use decimal points in the United States system.

For example: \$54,000.99 = \$54.000.99

However, Latin American countries with a significant US influence may write these numbers or prices the same way as the United States.

Other Words Related to Numbers and Counting

$\frac{1}{2}$	medio	<i>half</i>
$\frac{1}{3}$	un tercio	<i>one third</i>
$\frac{2}{3}$	dos tercios	<i>two thirds</i>
$\frac{1}{4}$	un cuarto	<i>one fourth</i>

For example:

Necesito un litro y medio de gasolina.

I need a liter and a half of gas.

El pintor pintó solo un cuarto de la casa.

The painter painted only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the house.

El carro se alquila a \$100 por medio día.

The car is rented at \$100 for half a day.

Trabajo medio día.

I work half a day.

Quiero comprar un cuarto del pastel.

I want to buy $\frac{1}{4}$ of the cake.



: Very little is achieved without the use of numbers in any society. Knowing your numbers will give you the confidence you need to make purchases and negotiate prices. Practice pronouncing these numbers out loud. The more you practice the more you will improve.



1.3 Colors Colores

LOS COLORES PRIMARIOS

amarillo
azul
rojo
blanco
negro
gris

PRIMARY COLORS

yellow
blue
red
white
black
gray

LOS COLORES SECUNDARIOS

verde
rosa/rosado
naranja/anaranjado
morado/violeta/púrpura
marrón/café/pardo

SECONDARY COLORS

green
pink
orange
purple
brown

Expresiones útiles

Quiero la camiseta blanca
Me gusta la gorra roja
¿Hay zapatos azules?

Useful Expressions

I want the white T-shirt.
I like the red cap.
Are there any blue shoes?

There are 4 ways to say 'red' in Spanish (as well as other colors that end in an -o):

TABLE 1.4- Red in Spanish

rojo	El libro es rojo. <i>The book is red.</i>	rojos	Los libros son rojos. <i>The books are red</i>
roja	La casa es roja. <i>The house is red.</i>	rojas	Las casas son rojas. <i>The houses are red</i>



1.4 Family Members and People

Miembros de la familia y las personas

FAMILIA INMEDIATA

la familia
el miembro de la familia
los parientes
los familiares

Los padres

la madre
la mami
la mamá
mami
el papi
el papi
el padre
el papá

Los hermanos

el hermano
la hermana
el mellizo
el gemelo
mi hermano gemelo

IMMEDIATE FAMILY

the family
family member
relatives/ family members
relatives/ family members

Parents

mother
mommy
mom
mom
pop/ dad
daddy
father
dad

Siblings

brother
sister
twin
twin
my twin brother

mi hermana gemela
los hijos
el hijo
la hija
el medio hermano
la media hermana

my twin sister
children
son
daughter
half brother
half sister

Los tíos

el tío
la tía
el primo
la prima
la sobrina
el sobrino

Aunts and Uncles

uncle
aunt
cousin
cousin
niece
nephew

Los abuelos

el abuelo
la abuela
la nana
el nieto
la nieta
el bisabuelo
la bisabuela
el tatarabuelo
la tatarabuela

Grandparents

grandfather
grandmother
granny
grandson
granddaughter
great- grandfather
great- grandmother
great- great- grandfather
great- great- grandmother

Apodos de afecto

Abu
Abuelito
Abuelita
Tata
Nono
Nona
Nana
Mamá grande
Papá grande

Nicknames of Affection:

Grandma/Grandpa
Grandpa
Grandma
Dad
Granddad (South America)
Grandma (South America)
Grandma and babysitter
Big Mama
Big Daddy

FAMILIA POLÍTICA

la suegra
el suegro

IN-LAWS

mother-in-law
father-in-law

el cuñado
la cuñada

brother-in-law
sister-in-law

FAMILIA ENSAMBLADA/ RECONSTRUIDA

el padrastro
la madrastra
la hijastra
el hijastro
el hermanastro
la hermanastra

STEP FAMILY

step father
step mother
step daughter
step son
step brother
step sister

FAMILIA DE DIOS/ PADRINAZGO

la madrina
el padrino
el ahijado
la ahijada

GOD FAMILY

godmother
godfather
godson
goddaughter

BEBÉ

el recién nacido
el chiquitín

BABY

newborn
toddler

Table 1.5 - Nicknames for Babies

Bicho, Bichito <i>Bug, Little bug</i>	Gordis, Gordito Gordita <i>Fatso</i>	Mocoso Mocosa <i>Snotty nose</i>	Pelón Pelona <i>Bald head</i>
Chiquitín, Chiquitina <i>Little bit</i>	Nene Nena <i>Baby boy</i> <i>Baby girl</i>	Príncipe Princesa <i>Prince</i> <i>Princess</i>	-----

NIÑO

la criatura
el niño
la niña
el varón
la hembra

CHILD

child
male child
female child
male
female

Table 1.6 - Nicknames for Kids

<p>Chamaco Chamaca (Mexico) (from Nahuatl, 'to mature')</p>	<p>Chino China (Colombia)</p>	<p>Cielo Cielito Sky</p>
<p>Chavo Chava (Mexico) (from Nahuatl, 'to grow')</p>	<p>Escuintle (Mexico) (from Nahuatl, 'dog')</p>	<p>Mi corazón Mi corazoncito My heart</p>

TÉRMINOS DE CARIÑO

mijo
mija
querido
querida
cariño
mi cielo
mi amor
la vieja

MATRIMONIO Y DIVORCIO

casarse
el matrimonio
casado/a
divorciado/a
la esposa
el esposo
el prometido
la prometida
el novio
la novia

TERMS OF ENDEARMENT

mi hijo (my son)
mi hija (my daughter)
dear (referring to a male)
dear (referring to a female)
honey/dear
my heaven
my love/dear
wife (literally, 'old woman')

MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE

to get married
marriage
married
divorced
wife
husband
fiancee
fiancée
fiancee
fiancée



: The word for “handcuffs” in Spanish is *esposas* (wives).

Expresiones útiles

Estoy casada.
Mi esposo se llama Miguel.
Estoy divorciado con dos hijos.

Useful Expressions

I am married.
My husband's name is Michael.
I am divorced with two children.

MISC.

menor
mayor
el anciano
la anciano
pequeño/a
grande
criar

OTRAS RELACIONES

la relación
la novia
el novio
el amigo
la pareja
el compañero
la compañera
el amante
la amante
el conocido
la conocida
ex-novio/a

Expresiones útiles

Mi mamá está mayor.
Él es mi hijito.
Mi padre está muerto.
Tengo cuatro hermanos.

Lo que puede escuchar

¿Es usted casado/a?
¿Tiene usted hijos?

MISC.

younger
older
old man
old woman
little
big
to raise

OTHER RELATIONSHIPS

relationship
girlfriend
boyfriend
friend
partner
companion (male)
companion (female)
lover (male)
lover (female)
acquaintance (male)
acquaintance (female)
ex- boyfriend/ ex-girlfriend

Useful Expressions

My mother is old.
He is my son.
My father is dead.
I have four siblings.

What you may hear

Are you married?
Do you have any kids?

OTRAS PERSONAS

los locales
los lugareños
los residentes
los extranjeros
los expatriados
los viajeros
los turistas
los misioneros
los jubilados
los nómadas digitales
los voluntarios
los estudiantes universitarios
los ancianos
las personas de la tercera edad
las personas mayores
los adultos mayores
el jefe/ la jefa
el patrón
la patrona
el jefe/la jefa de manzana
el jefe/la jefa de colonia
las personas sin hogar
los mendigos
los pobres
los ricos
los trabajadores
los obreros
la policía
los taxistas
los vendedores ambulantes

OTHER PEOPLE

the locals
the locals
the residents
foreigners
expats
travelers
tourists
missionaries
retirees
digital nomads
volunteers
university students
the elderly
senior citizens
senior citizens
senior citizens
boss
the boss (male)
the boss (female)
block leader of your community
block leader of your community
homeless
beggars
poor people
rich people
workers
construction/labor workers
the police
taxi drivers
street vendors



1.5 Animals Animales

MASCOTAS

la mascota
el gato/ la gata
el perro/ la perra
el cachorro / la cachorra
el gatito/ la gatita
el pez dorado
la pecera
la tortuga
el conejo
el lagarto
el canario
el perico
el pájaro

el loro
el pez
el cuy
el hámster
el jerbo

ANIMALES DE GRANJA

el cerdo
el cochino
la vaca
la vaca de leche
la alpaca
la llama
el cordero
el chivo
la cabra
el patito
la gallina

PETS

pet
cat
dog
puppy
kitten
goldfish
fishbowl
turtle
rabbit
lizard
canary
parakeet
bird (usually small ones)
bird (a generic name for all kinds of birds)
parrot
fish
guinea pig
hamster
gerbil

FARM ANIMALS

pig
pig
cow
dairy cow
alpaca
llama
lamb
billy goat / kid
goat
duckling
hen

el pavo
la oveja
el gallo
el pollo
el pollito
el ganso
el pato
el toro
el buey
el potro
el becerro
el mulo
el burro
el caballo

turkey
sheep
rooster
chicken
chick
goose
duck
bull
ox
colt
calf
mule
donkey
horse

ANIMALES DE ZOOLOGICO

la jirafa
el hipopótamo
el rinoceronte
el camello
el avestruz
el mono
el gorila
el elefante
el oso
el oso panda
el oso pardo
el tigre
el león
el lobo
el zorro
el cocodrilo
el caimán
la serpiente
las aves

ZOO ANIMALS

giraffe
hippopotamus
rhinoceros
camel
ostrich
monkey
gorilla
elephant
bear
panda bear
brown bear
tiger
lion
wolf
fox
crocodile
alligator
snake
birds

ANIMALES DEL BOSQUE

la iguana
la lagartija
el lagarto

FOREST ANIMALS

iguana
small wall lizard
lizard

el garrobo
la serpiente
la culebra
la salamandresa
la rana
el sapo
el coquí
la ardilla
el tlacuache
la zarigüeya
el venado

ANIMALES ACUÁTICOS

el camarón
la gamba
el salmón
el atún
la ballena
la trucha
la mantarraya
el tiburón
la foca
la piraña
la ostra
el calamar
el pulpo
el mejillón
la langosta
el langostino
la almeja
la medusa
la raya venenosa
el cangrejo
el cangrejo ermitaño
la tortuga
la tortuga de mar
la carpa
el delfín
la anguila
el coral

black spiny-tailed iguana
snake
snake
gecko (Mexico)
frog
toad
tiny frog only found in Puerto Rico
squirrel
possum (Mexico)
possum
deer

AQUATIC ANIMALS

shrimp
prawn (large shrimp)
salmon
tuna
whale
trout
manta ray
shark
seal
piranha
oyster
squid
octopus
mussel
lobster
king prawn
clam
jellyfish
stingray
crab
hermit crab
turtle
sea turtle
carp
dolphin
eel
coral

INSECTOS

el gusano
la araña
la mariposa
la polilla
la avispa
la abeja
la hormiga
la luciérnaga
la babosa
la sanguijuela
la oruga
la tarántula
el caracol
la garrapata
la pulga
el piojo
la mosca
el alacrán
el chapulín
el grillo
la cigarra
la cucaracha
la abeja
la hormiga
el escarabajo
la mariquita
la termita

PÁJAROS

los pájaros
las aves
el buitre
el pavo
el tucán
el cisne
el halcón
el águila
el búho

INSECTS

worm
spider
butterfly
moth
wasp
bee
ant
firefly/ lightning bug
slug
leech
caterpillar
tarantula
snail
tick
flea
louse
fly
scorpion
grasshopper
cricket
cicada
cockroach
bee
ant
beetle
ladybug
termite

BIRDS

birds (small birds)
birds (all kinds)
vulture
turkey
toucan
swan
falcon
eagle
owl

la cigüeña
el gorrión
la gaviota
el pelícano
el murciélago
el pavo real
el colibrí
el petirrojo
el loro
la cacatúa
el pato
el cardenal
el ganso
el flamenco
el cuervo/ la corneja
el cóndor

MISC.

el veterinario
la veterinaria
el juguete
la correa
el collar
la cadena
la caja de arena
el cepillo
la jaula
la perrera
la casa de perro
el hueso de perro

stork
sparrow
seagull
pelican
bat
peacock
hummingbird
robin
parrot
cockatoo
duck
cardinal
goose
flamingo
crow
condor

MISC.

veterinarian (female)
veterinarian (female)
toy
leash
collar
chain
litter box
brush
cage
dog house
dog house
dog bone



El Chupacabra

Puerto Rico was the first sighting of the legendary goatsucker, el *chupacabra* in 1995. The chupacabras is a beast that sucks the blood from farm animals, mostly goats. The meaning of this word comes from the Spanish word *cabra* 'goat' and *chupa* 'suck'. This beast has become a part of Hispanic folklore, especially in Mexico.



1.6 Body Parts Partes del cuerpo

Table 1.7 – Body Parts

Face	Upper Body	Lower Body	Internal Organs
la cara - <i>face</i> la nariz - <i>nose</i> la boca - <i>mouth</i> la mejilla - <i>cheek</i> el cachete - <i>cheek</i> los labios - <i>lips</i> el hombro- <i>shoulder</i> la barbilla - <i>chin</i> el mentón - <i>chin</i> la barba - <i>beard</i> el bigote- <i>mustache</i> la lengua - <i>tongue</i> las cejas - <i>eyebrows</i> la pestaña - <i>eyelash</i> la garganta- <i>throat</i> los dientes- <i>teeth</i> las muelas- <i>molars</i> los ojos - <i>eyes</i> el pelo - <i>hair</i> el cabello - <i>hair</i> la frente - <i>forehead</i> el pulgar - <i>thumb</i>	la espalda - <i>back</i> el codo - <i>elbow</i> el dedo - <i>finger</i> el brazo - <i>arm</i> el cuello - <i>neck</i> el seno - <i>breast</i> el pecho - <i>chest</i> la cintura - <i>waist</i> la cadera - <i>hip</i> las nalgas - <i>buttocks</i> el ombligo - <i>navel</i>	la pantorrilla - <i>calf</i> la pierna - <i>leg</i> la muñeca - <i>wrist</i> el talón - <i>heel</i> el pie - <i>foot</i> el tobillo - <i>ankle</i> el muslo - <i>thigh</i> el dedo del pie- <i>toe</i> la rodilla - <i>knee</i> el tobillo - <i>ankle</i>	los órganos internos - <i>internal organs</i> el cerebro - <i>brain</i> el seso - <i>brain</i> los pulmones - <i>lungs</i> el corazón - <i>heart</i> los riñones - <i>kidneys</i> el intestino grueso - <i>large intestine</i> el hígado - <i>liver</i> el músculo - <i>muscle</i> el intestino delgado – <i>small intestine</i> el estómago - <i>stomach</i> la panza – <i>belly</i> la barriga – <i>belly</i> el vientre - <i>belly</i> las amígdalas- <i>tonsils</i> el abdomen- <i>abdomen</i>

Other Body- Related Vocabulary

la sangre <i>blood</i>	los huesos <i>bones</i>	los músculos <i>muscles</i>	las venas <i>veins</i>	la piel <i>skin</i>	las células <i>cells</i>
---------------------------	----------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------	------------------------	-----------------------------

Expresiones útiles

¡Abre los ojos!
 ¡Cierre la boca!
 Me duele la cabeza.
 Me gustan tus ojos.

Useful Expressions

Open your eyes!
Close your mouth!
My head hurts.
I like your eyes.

MISC.

el alma
 la consciencia
 el espíritu

MISC.

soul
consciousness
spirit

Table1.8 - Skin and Skin Color

<u>Skin color</u>	blanco, blanca - <i>white</i> la piel bronceada - <i>tanned skin</i> la piel marrón - <i>brown skin</i> la piel pálida - <i>pale skin</i> la piel clara - <i>light skin</i> la piel morena - <i>brown skin</i> la tez clara - <i>light skin</i> moreno, morena - <i>dark skin</i> negrito, negrita - <i>brown skin</i> prieto, prieta - <i>brown skin</i>
<u>Skin</u>	los hoyuelos - <i>dimples</i> las pecas - <i>freckles</i> los lunares - <i>moles</i> las arrugas - <i>wrinkles</i> las verrugas - <i>warts</i> los granos - <i>pimples</i> los barros - <i>pimples</i> las espinillas - <i>pimples</i>

Table 1.9 - Body Descriptions

<u>Height</u>	<p>alto, alta - <i>tall</i> bajo, baja - <i>short</i> pequeño, pequeña - <i>small</i> grande - <i>big</i> promedio - <i>average</i></p>
<u>Size</u>	<p>flaco, flaca - <i>skinny</i> delgado, delgada - <i>skinny</i> gordo, gorda - <i>fat</i> rechoncho, rechoncha - <i>chubby</i> panzón, panzona - <i>big belly</i> chato, chata - <i>flat, as in flat nose</i> grande - <i>large</i> enorme - <i>enormous</i> mediano, mediana - <i>medium</i></p>
<u>Weight</u>	<p>pesado. pesada - <i>heavy</i> liviano, liviana - <i>light</i> bajo peso - <i>underweight</i> sobrepeso - <i>overweight</i> libras - <i>pounds</i> kilogramos - <i>kilograms</i></p>

Expresiones útiles

Peso 60 libras.
He ganado peso.
¿Cuánto pesas?
Necesito perder peso.
Peso 80 kilogramos.
He aumentado 5 libras.

Useful Expressions

I weigh 60 pounds.
I've gained weight.
How much do you weigh?
I need to lose weight.
I weigh 80 kilograms.
I've gained 5 pounds.



: Go to Chapter 8 to learn more about weight and sizes.



1.7 The Weather

El tiempo

Vocabulario

el tiempo
el clima
la temperatura
el sol
el calor
el frío
la lluvia
la nieve
la luna
el viento
la brisa
la sombra
las nubes
el arcoíris
el relámpago
el trueno
los desastres naturales
los incendios forestales
la bruma
la neblina
la tormenta
el tifón
la aguanieve
el huracán
la helada

Vocabulary

weather
climate, weather
temperature
sun
heat
cold
rain
snow
moon
wind
breeze
shade
clouds
rainbow
lightening
thunder
natural disasters
forest fires
mist
fog
storm
typhoon
sleet
hurricane
frost

TABLE 1.10 - Weather Expressions

Good Weather Conditions	Moderate Weather Conditions	'Bad' Weather Conditions
Hace buen tiempo. <i>It's good weather.</i> <i>It's nice weather.</i>	Está fresco. <i>It's cool.</i>	Hace mal tiempo. <i>It's bad weather.</i>
Hace calor. <i>It's hot.</i>	Está húmedo. <i>It's humid.</i>	Hace frío. <i>It's cold.</i>
Hace mucho calor. <i>It's very hot.</i>	Llueve/ Está lloviendo. <i>It is raining.</i>	Hace mucho frío. <i>It's very cold.</i>
Hace sol. <i>It's sunny.</i>	Hace viento. <i>It's windy.</i>	Relampaguea. <i>It's lightning.</i>
Hace mucho sol. <i>It's very hot.</i>	Está lloviznando. <i>It's drizzling.</i>	Truena. <i>It's thundering.</i>
	Nieva. Está nevando. <i>It's snowing.</i>	Hay tormenta. <i>It's storming.</i>

Adjetivos meteorológicos en español

Es un día _____ .

- soleado
- nublado
- ventoso
- sombrío
- lluvioso

Spanish Weather Adjectives

It's a _____ day.

- *sunny*
- *cloudy*
- *windy*
- *gloomy*
- *rainy*

Table 1.11 - Extreme Weather Conditions

Natural Disasters and Extreme Weather
la tormenta <i>storm</i>
la tormenta de nieve <i>blizzard</i>
el huracán <i>hurricane</i>
el terremoto <i>earthquake</i>
la sequía <i>drought</i>
la inundación <i>flood</i>
el diluvio <i>flood</i>
el tsunami <i>tsunami</i>
la granizada <i>hailstorm</i>



1.8 Temperature Temperatura

Cómo expresar la temperatura

In most Spanish-speaking countries, Celsius is used over Fahrenheit.

grados

Celsius

Fahrenheit

How to Express Temperature

degrees

Celsius

Fahrenheit

Decir la temperatura

Estamos a 25 grados Celsius.

Saying the temperature

It's 25 degrees Celsius.

Table 1. 12 – Converting Fahrenheit to Celsius

Fahrenheit to Celsius Conversion Example

If it is 100 °F outside in Managua, Nicaragua, what would the temperature be in Celsius?

Formula:

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = (^{\circ}\text{F} - 32) \div 1.8$$

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = (100 - 32) \div 1.8$$

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = 68 \div 1.8$$

$$^{\circ}\text{C} = 37.7$$

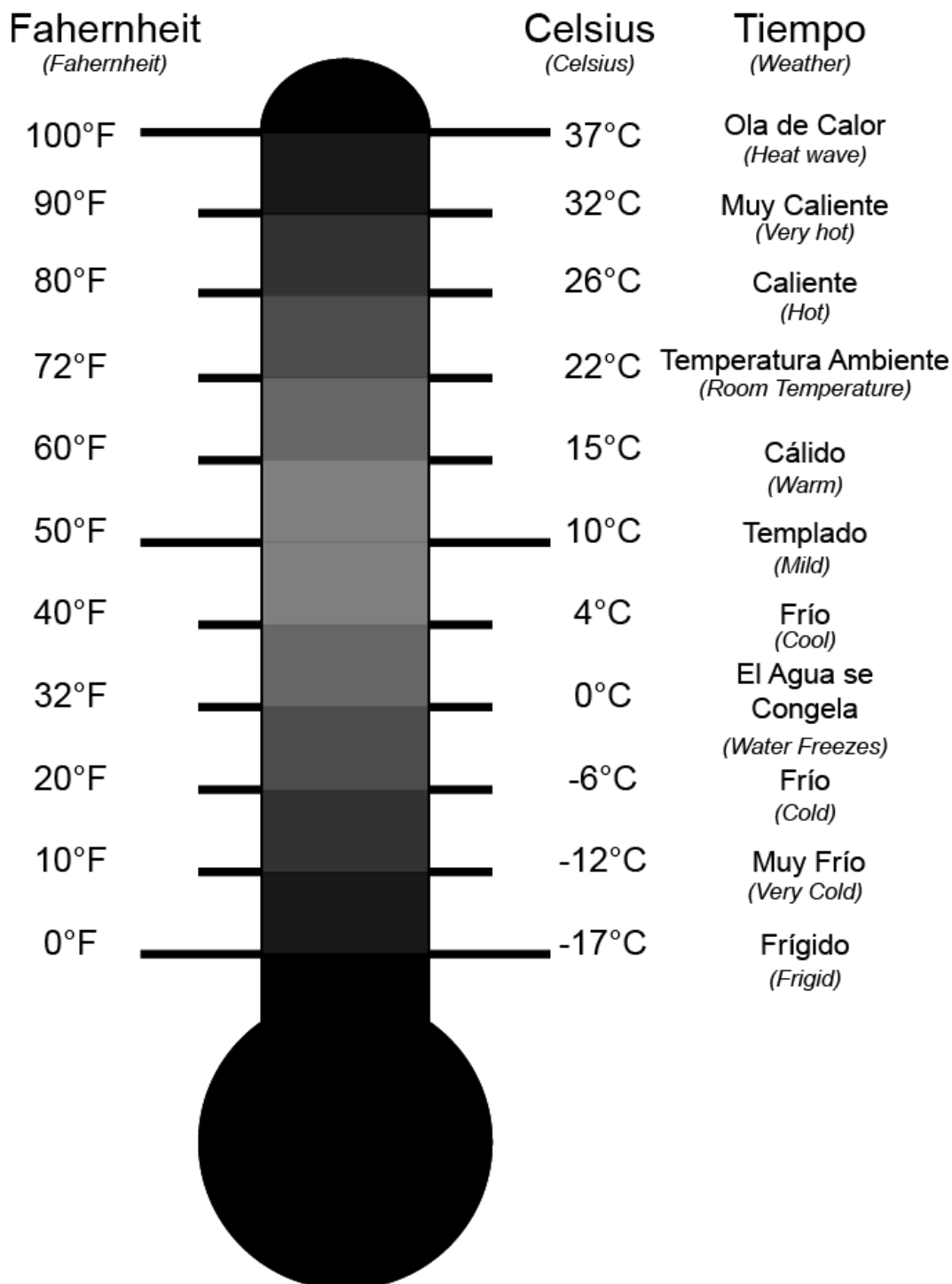
In other words, **100°F = approximately 37°C**

TEMPERATURA EXTERIOR

(Outdoor Temperature)

Conversión Gráfico

(Graphic Conversion)





Temperature Expressions (*hacer, estar, hay*)

In Spanish you can express the weather by using the verbs *hacer*- to make, *estar*- to be or *hay*- there is/there are.

Expresiones con “estar”

¿Qué tiempo hace?

Hace buen tiempo.

Hace mal tiempo.

Hace frío.

Hace sol.

Hace viento.

Hace calor.

Expressions with “estar”

What's the weather like?

The weather is good.

The weather is bad.

It's cold.

It's sunny.

It's windy.

It's hot.

Expresiones con “estar”

“*Estar*” can be used with both verbs and adjectives to describe the current condition.

Está lloviendo muy fuerte.

Está soleado.

Está tormentoso.

Está muy húmedo.

Está bochornoso.

Expressions with “estar”

It's raining very hard.

It's sunny.

It's stormy.

It's very humid.

It's muggy.

Expresiones con “Hay”

“*Hay*” (There is) is a helping verb that is used to describe the weather.

Haber is used as *hay* when talking about the weather and it's mostly for factual statements such as “There is a hurricane” or “There is a storm”.

It's usually translated as “it is”. For instance, “*It is foggy*” is *Hay niebla*. Literally, “There is fog.” *Hay* is most often paired with the noun form of the weather.

Hay tormenta.

Hay una inundación.

Hay lluvia.

Hay niebla.

Expressions with “Hay”

There's a storm./ It's stormy.

There's a flood.

There's rain.

It's foggy/There's fog.

It can be a bit confusing to get used to which helping verb to use. If you think of *hacer* for adjectives, *estar* for verbs and *haber* for nouns, you'll usually get it right.

Expresiones útiles

Preguntar por el tiempo en Español

¿Qué tiempo hace hoy?
What's the weather like today?

¿Cómo está el clima hoy? or ¿Cómo está el tiempo hoy?
How is the weather today?

¿Cómo está afuera? or ¿Cómo está por fuera?
What's it like outside?

¿Cómo es el clima en Colombia ?
What's the weather like in Colombia?

¿Hace frío afuera?
Is it cold outside?

Usar el presente progresivo -ing

¿Está lloviendo afuera?
Está nevando.
Está lloviendo.
Está haciendo frío.
Está haciendo calor.
Estoy sudando.

Useful Expressions

Asking About the Weather in Spanish

Using the Present Progressive -ing

Is it raining outside?
It is snowing.
It is raining.
It is getting cold.
It is getting hot.
I am sweating.

Preguntar a alguien cómo se siente

Asking Someone How He/She Feels

If you want to ask how someone's feeling, use the verb 'tener' (to have). You can say ¿Tienes ____? For instance, "Are you feeling hot?" would be ¿Tienes calor? To which they might respond, "Si, tengo calor."

Tengo frío. *I am cold.*
Tengo calor. *I am hot.*

¿Tienes frío? *Are you cold?*
¿Tienes calor? *Are you hot?*

Expresiones útiles

Es un hermoso día hoy, no?
¿Cómo va a estar el clima hoy?
¿Está pronosticado lluvia hoy?

Useful Expressions

It is a beautiful day, isn't it?
What's the weather going to be like today?
Is rain in the forecast today?

Dicen que va a llover más tarde.
¿Sabes qué tiempo va a hacer hoy?

Parece que va a salir el sol.
¡Qué frío hace!
¡Uh! Está helado.
¡Qué calor hace!
Me estoy muriendo de calor.

Modismos

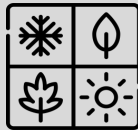
¡Llueve a cántaros!
Llueve a mares.

*They say it is going to rain later on.
Do you know what the weather is going to
be like today?*

*It looks like the sun is going to come out.
Oh! How cold it is.
Uh! It's freezing.
It is so hot!
I am dying of heat.*

Idioms

*It's raining cats and dogs.
It's pouring down.*



1.9 Seasons Estaciones

Vocabulario

las estaciones
la temporada
la primavera
el verano
el otoño
el invierno
los tiempos de lluvia
la temporada de lluvias

Expresiones útiles

¿Cuándo es la temporada de mangos?
Estamos en el verano.
Mi estación favorita es la primavera.

Vocabulary

*seasons
season/time (for growing, etc.)
spring
summer
fall
winter
rainy season
rainy season*

Useful Expressions

*When is mango season?
We are in summer.
My favorite season is spring.*



1.10 Telling Time

Decir la hora

Vocabulario

el reloj
la hora
de la mañana
de la tarde
de la noche
el mediodía
la medianoche
tarde
temprano

Vocabulary

clock/watch
hour
in the morning (AM)
in the evening (PM)
at night (PM)
noon
midnight
late
early



: Mañana means 'morning' and 'tomorrow' in English.

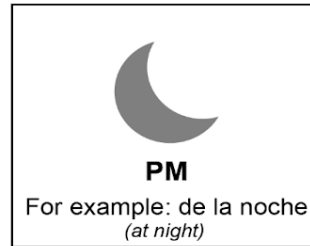
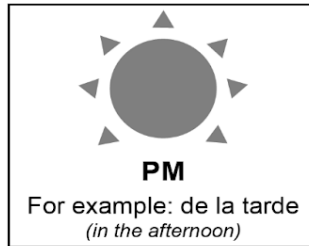
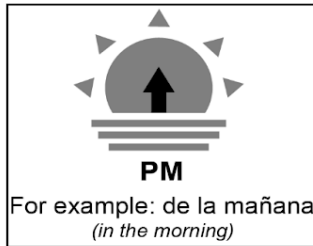
Phrases You'll Need When Telling Time in Spanish

¿Qué hora es?
Es la
Son las
¿A qué hora?
A la
A las
y cuarto
y media
menos cuarto

What time is it?
It's (for times 12:31- 1:30)
It's (for times 1:31- 12:30)
At what time?
At (for times 12:31- 1:30)
At (for times 1:31- 12:30)
a quarter after
half past
a quarter to

¿Qué hora es?

(What time is it?)



Ejemplos

(Examples)

11:50 AM Son las doce menos diez de la mañana
(It's ten to twelve in the morning)

01:30 PM Es la una y media de la tarde
(It's half past one in the afternoon)

04:15 PM Son las cuatro y cuarto de la tarde
(It's a quarter past four in the afternoon)

12:45 AM Es la una menos cuarto de la tarde
(It's a quarter to one in the afternoon)

I. Easy Way/ Informal Way

→ For times from 1:00 to 1:59 use:

Es la + hour. (The hour on the dot)

For example: Es la una.

It's 1:00.

Es la + hour + y + minutes (Minutes after the hour)

For example: Es la una y veinte.

It's 1:20.

→ For times from 2:00 to 12:59 use:

Son las + hour (The hour on the dot)

For example: Son las cinco.

It's 5:00.

Son las + hour + minutes

For example: Son las cinco y cuarenta (Minutes after the hour)

It's 5: 40

II. Formal Way of Telling Time

Here is the formal way of expressing the minutes:

15 minutes after or a quarter after = y cuarto

For example: **1:15**

Es la una y cuarto. (formal)

Es la una y quince. (informal)

15 minutes to or a quarter to = menos cuarto

For example: **12:45**

Es la una menos cuarto. (formal)

Son las doce y cuarenta y cinco. (informal)

half past the hour = y media

For example: **1:30**

Es la una y media. (formal)

Es la una y treinta. (informal)

minutes after the 30 mark = menos (the minutes to the hour)

For example: **1:50**

Son las dos menos diez. (formal)

Es la una y cincuenta. (informal)

→ For times from 12:31 to 1:30 use:

Es la + hour. (The hour on the dot)

For example: Es la una.
It's 1:00.

Es la + hour + y + minutes (Minutes after the hour)

For example: Es la una y veinte.
It's 1:20.

→ For times from 12:31 to 1:31 use:

Son las + next hour + menos + subtract the minutes to the hour

For example: Son las dos menos veinte.
It's 1:40.

The same formulas apply for *At what time*.

For example:

A la → A la una. At 1:00

A las → A las dos. At 2:00



: *Una* is used instead of *uno* because numbers have number and gender in Spanish and in this case *una* is referring to the feminine phrase *la hora* 'time' in Spanish.

Expresiones útiles

Perdón, ¿qué hora es?

¿Me da usted la hora, por favor?

Preguntando por la hora

¿Qué hora es?

La hora, ¿por favor?

¿Qué hora tienes?

¿A qué hora abren?

¿A qué hora cierran?

¿A qué hora llegamos?

¿A qué hora empieza?

¿A qué hora termina?

¿A qué hora puedo venir?

Useful Expressions

Excuse me, what time is it?

Can you give me the time, please?

Asking for the time

What time is it?

The time, please?

What time do you have?

What time do you open?

What time do you close?

What time do we get there?

What time does it start?

What time does it end?

What time can I come?

Expresiones útiles

Tengo clase a las nueve de la mañana.

Es mediodía.

Ven a mi casa a las tres de la tarde.

Useful Expressions

I have class at 9:00 in the morning.

It's noon.

Come to my house at 3:00pm



The 24-Hour Clock

In most Spanish-speaking countries, time is usually shown using the 24-hour clock (military time) on official schedules and timetables. It is important that expats understand and learn how to read *la hora militar* (military time) so that there won't be any misunderstandings and hiccups such as missing your bus because the timetable reads 9:00 and you think it means 9:00 am when in reality it means 7:00am. Typically, the 24-hour clock or military time, is used in public announcements used for expressing the arrival and departure of buses, trains, and airplanes. Also, for the scheduling of TV programs, movies, sporting events, etc. Expats will mostly see military time used on the doors of businesses to announce office hours and business hours of operation. You may see timetables and hours of operation written as:

7:45 a.m. = 07h45

2:45 p.m. = 14h45

5:30 p.m. = 17h30

In order to calculate military time, add 12 to the 12-hour system time for the hours between noon and midnight. Here are some examples:

10:00 am = 10:00 military time

10:00 pm = 22:00 military time

For example:

¿A qué hora llega el autobús?

At what time does the bus arrive?

El autobús llega a las veintitrés veinticinco. (23:25)

The bus arrives at 11:25p.m



Hora vs. Tiempo (Hour vs. Time)

Que hora es translates literally to 'What hour is it'. The word *tiempo* is used in other contexts such as weather. For example. *Hace buen tiempo* (The weather is nice.) or 'how much time' such as *Cuanto tiempo hace para llegar al aeropuerto?* (How long will it take to get to the airport?).



: In some parts of Latin America, the terms *am* and *pm* are occasionally used in spoken language and written or seen on signs.

Palabras asociadas al tiempo

ahora
ahora mismo
hoy
ayer
anteayer
mañana
pasado mañana
un día para otro
un día sí un día no
Es de día.
Es de noche.
luego
tarde
atrasado
retrasado
de vez en cuando
siempre
un momento

Sayings Related to Time

Más vale tarde que nunca.
“Better late than never.”

El tiempo es oro.
“Time is money (gold).”

Expresiones útiles

Vuelvo enseguida.
Ya vengo.
Ya voy.
Llego a tiempo.
Llego temprano.
Llegué a la escuela a tiempo.
Perdón que llego tarde.

Words Associated with Time

now
right now
today
yesterday
the day before yesterday
tomorrow
the day after tomorrow
overnight
every other day
It's daytime.
It's nighttime.
later
late
late/delayed
delayed
sometimes
always
one moment

Useful Expressions

I'll be right back.
I'll be right back.
Here I come.
I'm on time.
I'm early.
I arrived at school on time.
I'm sorry for being late.

Estoy atrasado con la renta este mes.
El vuelo está retrasado.
Perdona el retraso.
No me tardo.
Disculpa la demora.
Lo hago luego.
Es tarde. Tengo que irme.
Llegas tarde.
No llegues tarde.
No tardes demasiado.
No demores.

*I am late with the rent this month.
The flight is delayed.
I am sorry for taking so long.
I won't be long.
Excuse the delay.
I will do it later.
It's late. I have to leave.
You're late.
Don't be late.
Don't take too long.
Don't take too long./ Don't delay.*



1.11 Days and Months Días y meses

Días de la semana

lunes
martes
miércoles
jueves
viernes
sábado
domingo

Days of the Week

*Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday
Sunday*



Tuesday is “Bad Luck Day,” and Tuesday the 13th

Over the decades in parts of Latin America, Tuesdays have been considered days of misfortune. In fact, unlike in the United States, where Friday the 13th is considered a bad luck day, in Latin America, Tuesday the 13th is considered a bad luck day. Here are a few sayings that illustrate this:

Para un hombre desgraciado, todos los días son martes.
For a miserable man, every day is Tuesday.

Martes, ni te cases, ni te embarques, ni de tu familia te apartes.

On Tuesdays, don't get married, embark on a journey, or separate from your family.

En trece y martes, ni te cases, ni te embarques.

On Tuesday the thirteenth, don't get married nor embark on a journey.



Meses del año

enero
febrero
marzo
abril
mayo
junio
julio
agosto
septiembre
octubre
noviembre
diciembre

Months of the Year

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December



: The days of the week and the months of the year are not capitalized in Spanish.



Street Names in Latin America

Many streets of Latin America are named after important dates in history and important historical figures or important people.

For example: **La calle trece de septiembre**

September 13th Street

(date of The Battle of Chapultepec of 1810 in Mexico)



Calle Bolívar

Bolívar Street

(Named after the famous Latin American independence leader)

Avenida Miguel Hidalgo

Miguel Hidalgo Avenue

(Named after the famous priest of colonial Mexico)

Cómo escribir la fecha en Español

How to Write the Date in Spanish

Formula:

el + (number) + de + month

el 12 de mayo

the 12th of May



How to Write the Date in Spanish

This is the format used to write 'December 2, 2021':

Latin America : dd/mm/yyyy (for example, 02/12/2021)

US: mm/dd/yyyy (for example, 12/2/2021)

Be aware of this, especially on legal documents and food expiration dates.

Notice, while in English ordinal numbers are used to express the date, (the fifth of June), Spanish uses cardinal numbers, (the five of June = el cinco de junio)

Palabras relacionadas con “Día”

el día
diario
el mes
la semana
semanal
los fines de semana
al comienzo de la semana
a mediados de la semana
al final de la semana
la quincena
un puente

Words Related to ‘Day’

day
daily
month
week
weekly
weekend
at the beginning of the week
in the middle of the week
at the end of the week
biweekly paycheck
long weekend

(For example: Having three consecutive days off due to a holiday for example, Saturday, Sunday and Monday can be considered *un puente*. It literally means ‘bridge’.)

Expresiones útiles

Nos vemos el lunes.
Trabajo los viernes.
¡Qué tengas un buen fin de semana!
Todos los viernes voy al mercado.
La tienda no abre los martes.

Esta semana hay un puente.
Vamos a la playa el viernes.

Useful Expressions

We’ll see each other on Monday.
I work on Fridays.
Have a good weekend!
Every Friday I go to the market.
The store does not open on Tuesdays.
This week there’s a 3-day weekend.
Let’s go to the beach on Friday.



: The first day on the Spanish calendar is Monday.

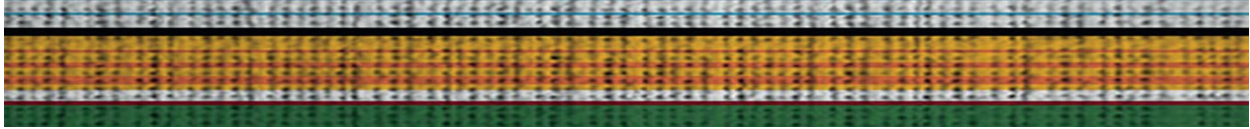
Now You Try It!



1.12 Practice

	Go to Section
1. Spell your first and last name in Spanish.	1.1
2. Write the cost of your rent or home in Spanish.	1.2
3. Write your cell phone number in Spanish.	1.2
4. Mention the people in your family using: <i>"Tengo un"</i> or <i>"Tengo una"</i> (I have a).	1.4
5. What's the temperature right now where you live?	1.7
6. What's the weather like today?	1.7
7. What time is it now? (The formal and informal way)	1.9
8. What time does the local grocery store open?	1.9
9. What is today's date? (day, month, and year)	1.10
10. When is your birthday?	1.10

**The end of Chapter 1-
The BASICS**



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