

Regular Verbs

Present

Spanish verbs are classified into three classes, or *conjugations*, according to the final letters of their infinitives. The present tense of regular verbs is formed by adding the personal endings to the *stem*, which is determined by dropping the *-ar*, *-er*, or *-ir* of the infinitive.

	1	2	3
	<i>hablar</i> to speak	<i>comer</i> to eat	<i>partir</i> to leave
yo	habl <i>o</i> I speak, am speaking, do speak	com <i>o</i> I eat, etc.	part <i>o</i> I leave, etc.
tú	habl <i>as</i> you speak, etc.	com <i>es</i> you eat, etc.	part <i>es</i> you leave, etc.
Ud.	habl <i>a</i> you speak, etc.	com <i>e</i> you eat, etc.	part <i>e</i> you leave, etc.
él(ella)	habl <i>a</i> he(he) speaks, etc.	com <i>e</i> he(he) eats, etc.	part <i>e</i> he(he) leaves, etc.
nosotros	habl <i>amos</i> we speak, etc.	com <i>emos</i> we eat, etc.	part <i>imos</i> we leave, etc.
Uds.	habl <i>an</i> you speak, etc.	com <i>en</i> you eat, etc.	part <i>en</i> you leave, etc.
ellos (ellas)	habl <i>an</i> they speak, etc.	com <i>en</i> they eat, etc.	part <i>en</i> they leave, etc.

1. Spanish has no equivalent for the English *am* (is, are) or *do* (does) in the present tense. The single verb *hablo* means *I am speaking*, *I do speak*, or *I speak*.
2. The pronoun subject of the Spanish verb is expressed by the ending of the verb. The verb must show this personal ending, even if a subject pronoun or noun is already present in the sentence. The subject pronouns (*yo*, etc.) are seldom used in actual practice, except for *Ud.* and *Uds.* Remember that there are two singular and two plural forms of the second person (you), for informal and formal use. The *tú* and *vosotros* forms of the verb may not be used with the subjects *Ud.* and *Uds.*, or vice versa.

Negative: All Spanish verbs form the negative by placing *no* before the verb.

He eats *come*; he does not eat *no come*.

Interrogative: All Spanish verbs in the interrogative are identical to the affirmative.

He eats *come*; does he eat? *¿come?*

Spanish verbs in the negative-interrogative are identical to the negative.

He does not eat *no come*; doesn't he eat? *¿no come?*

Para practicar

All regular verbs with infinitives ending in *-ar* form the present like *hablar*. Write the present tense of (1) *acabar* to finish, and (2) *tomar* to take.

(1) **acabar** yo _____
tú _____
Ud. _____
él _____
nosotros _____
Uds. _____
ellos _____

(2) **tomar** yo _____
tú _____
Ud. _____
ella _____
nosotros _____
Uds. _____
ellos _____

All regular verbs with infinitives in *-er* form the present like *comer*. Write the present tense of (1) *vender* to sell, and (2) *beber* to drink.

(1) **vender** yo _____
tú _____
Ud. _____
él _____
nosotros _____
Uds. _____
ellos _____

(2) **beber** yo _____
tú _____
Ud. _____
él _____
nosotros _____
Uds. _____
ellos _____

All regular verbs with infinitives in *-ir* form the present like *partir*. Write the present tense of (1) *vivir* to live, and (2) *recibir* to receive.

(1) **vivir** yo _____

tú _____

Ud. _____

él _____

nosotros _____

Uds. _____

ellos _____

(2) **recibir** yo _____

tú _____

Ud. _____

él _____

nosotros _____

Uds. _____

ellos _____

Change the infinitives below into the correct form of the present, according to the subject indicated:

yo

estudiar

comprender

temer

necesitar

partir

enseñar

vender

tú

hablar

asistir

abrir

beber

preguntar

tomar

escuchar

Ud.

contestar

abrir

aprender

entrar

leer

vivir

comer

Juan (what person?)

escribir

estudiar

acabar

temer

partir

comprender

vender

nosotros

aprender

asistir

tomar

escuchar

hablar

vivir

temer

hablar

asistir

beber

leer

tomar

llevar

enseñar

Uds.

comer

escribir

necesitar

entrar

acabar

leer

vivir

María y Juan (what person?)

temer llevar estudiar preguntar contestar comprender

partir

Aplicación

A. Write the verb forms in the person indicated by the pronoun:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. nosotros (tomar) _____ | 14. ellos (escribir) _____ |
| 2. él (aprender) _____ | 15. ella (abrir) _____ |
| 3. ellos (vender) _____ | 16. nosotros (enseñar) _____ |
| 4. yo (asistir) _____ | 17. yo (contestar) _____ |
| 5. tú (contestar) _____ | 18. nosotros (estudiar) _____ |
| 6. Ud. (beber) _____ | 19. yo (abrir) _____ |
| 7. nosotras (abrir) _____ | 20. ella (tomar) _____ |
| 8. ella (necesitar) _____ | 21. Ud. (preguntar) _____ |
| 9. nosotros (tomar) _____ | 22. ellas (leer) _____ |
| 10. ella (leer) _____ | 23. ellos (recibir) _____ |
| 11. yo (aprender) _____ | 24. tú (temer) _____ |
| 12. nosotros (temer) _____ | 25. nosotras (leer) _____ |
| 13. nosotros (recibir) _____ | |

B. Change each verb form to the corresponding person of the plural, and translate the plural verb into English:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. escribo _____ | 3. vivo _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| 2. él contesta _____ | 4. Ud. necesita _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

5. él bebe _____

13. temas _____

6. aprendes _____

14. ella pregunta _____

7. él vende _____

15. Ud. lee _____

8. asisto _____

16. tomo _____

9. Ud. enseña _____

17. recibo _____

10. abres _____

18. él estudia _____

11. Ud. comprende _____

19. necesito _____

12. ella escucha _____

20. escribes _____

Mastery Test

- estudiar* to study
- necesitar* to need
- contestar* to answer
- preguntar* to ask
- enseñar* to teach
- escuchar* to listen
- tomar* to take
- entrar* to enter

- trabajar* to work
- comprender* to understand
- beber* to drink
- vender* to sell
- aprender* to learn
- temer* to fear
- leer* to read
- creer* to believe

- esconder* to hide
- vivir* to live
- recibir* to receive
- asistir* to attend
- abrir* to open
- escribir* to write
- unir* to join, unite

Translate the following, using the above list of infinitives:

1. we answer _____

3. he is asking _____

2. you (pl., fam.) sell _____

4. they do sell _____

5. we do not need _____
6. we study _____
7. I am learning _____
8. do they listen? _____
9. he is not reading _____
10. you (s., for.) are not entering _____
11. we work _____
12. do you write? _____
13. they do ask _____
14. you (pl., for.) are taking _____
15. I sell _____
16. she does not work _____
17. they do not believe _____
18. they hide _____
19. he writes _____
20. do you fear? _____
21. we are living _____
22. he teaches _____

23. she fears _____
24. you (pl., fam.) receive _____
25. he is opening _____
26. they do not take _____
27. we attend _____
28. is he selling? _____
29. I study _____
30. I believe _____
31. they unite _____
32. they are not opening _____
33. you teach _____
34. he attends _____
35. we ask _____
36. do you (pl., for.) learn? _____
37. she drinks _____
38. are you (s., fam.) studying? _____
39. you (s., for.) live _____
40. they enter _____