

# Basic review principles: Spanish 1

- Nouns: either masculine or feminine. Masculine nouns generally end in -o and feminine nouns generally end in -a or -ión. el/un/los are used for masculine nouns and la/una/las are used for feminine nouns.
- Adjectives must agree in number and gender (for those adjectives that end in -o, -a). Adjectives usually *follow* the word they are describing.

The red chair = la silla roja  
The red book = el libro rojo

The red chairs = las sillas rojas  
The red books = los libros rojos

The green chair = la silla verde  
The green chairs = las sillas verdes

- (Subject) pronouns: (Object) pronouns

yo = I	me = me (these precede verbs)
tú = you (informal)	te = you (informal)
usted = you (formal)	lo = him, it
él = he	le = to him, to her
ella = she	la = her, it
nosotros/as = we	nos = us
ellos/ellas = they	los / las = them, you
ustedes = all of you	les = to them; to you (plural)

## 4. Verbs:

Verbs are action words. They must be conjugated according to who is doing the action. The following chart comprises the general endings for verbs in the present tense:

-o	-mos
-s	
-	-n

Verbs that end in -ar include an "a" in all forms except yo. Verbs that end in -er or -ir include an "e" in all forms (except "i" for nosotros -ir). When there are two verbs in a row, you generally do not conjugate the second verb: yo quiero bailar

## 5. Irregular verbs:

We have seen three types so far:

- Irregular yo-form (all forms are regular except the yo form, which has a slight change): hacer (hago), poner (pongo), salir (salgo), traer (traigo), ver (veo), conducir (conduzco), conocer (conozco), saber (sé), seguir (sigo), etc.
- Stem-changing verbs. The tú, él/ella, and ellos/ellas forms has a change in the main vowel, either e:ie, e:i, or o:ue. Example: yo cierro, tú cierras, él cierra, nosotros cerramos, ellos cierran
  - e:ie – cerrar, comenzar, empezar, entender, pensar, perder, preferir, querer
  - o:ue – dormir, encontrar, jugar\*, mostrar, poder, recordar, volver
  - e:i – pedir, repetir, servir, conseguir, seguir
- Totally irregular verbs. These must be memorized individually: ser, estar, ir, tener, venir, gustar, decir, "hay"
  - ser = used for identity (profession, nationality, religion, etc.), time, semi-permanent characteristics, possession, what something is made of
  - estar = used for location, condition (how you are) and ongoing actions
- Special meanings of verbs:
  - Some expressions require "tener" – frío, calor, hambre, sed, suerte, razón, etc.
  - Some weather expressions use "hacer" – calor, frío, sol, buen/mal, viento, etc.

## 6. Progressive (-ing) verbs:

To say that something is going on right now (we use "ing" in Spanish), first conjugate the verb "estar" and then add "ando" (-ar verbs) or "iendo" (-er / -ir verbs) to the next verb, such as:

nosotros estamos estudiando      ellos están comiendo      yo estoy escribiendo

## 6. Possession:

There is no "s" in Spanish. You must use "de" – el libro de Juan. The following pronouns also show possession:  
mi(s) = my      tu(s) = your      su(s) = your, his, her, their      nuestro(s)/a(s) = our