

Basics of subjunctive, reviewed:

Subjunctive (present or past) is used in the following circumstances:

1. There is a 2-part sentence, with 2 subjects (people) doing 2 actions (connected by “que”)
 - a. Yo quiero que ella me **escuche**. (note that “escuche”) is subjunctive.
2. One of the verbs is a *subjunctive indicator* (conjugated in an indicative tense):
 - a. Wish / will / desire (querer, desear, mandar, “ojalá”, etc.)
 - b. Emotions (esperar, temer, enojarse, etc.)
 - c. Doubts (dudar, es dudoso, etc.)
 - d. Denial (negar, etc.)
 - e. Impersonal opinion (es importante, es lástima, etc.)
 - f. Negations (no creer, no pensar, etc.)
 - g. General (para que, a menos que, sin que, con tal de que, etc.)
3. Or the first clause (part) of the sentence refers to something that may not exist in the second clause:
 - a. *Busco un libro que **tenga** información sobre los candidatos* (such a book may not exist)
 - b. *¿Me recomienda un hotel que **esté** cerca del mar?* (Not sure which if any hotel fits the description).
 - c. With negative pronouns (nadie, ninguno/a, nada) the subjunctive can also be used: *Ella no conoce a nadie que **viva** en México.*
4. Or the second clause follows one of the subjunctive clauses (para que, con tal de que, a menos que, sin que, a fin de que, antes de que). *Yo trabajo para que mis hijos **coman**.*
5. Or the action in the main clause has not yet occurred, at which point you use the subjunctive in the secondary clause after the following conjunctions: (a pesar de que, aunque, cuando, después (de) que, en cuanto, hasta que, luego que, mientras que, siempre que, tan pronto com). *Vamos a comer la cena cuando tu papá **llegué**.* (We are expecting Dad and we will eat when he arrives).
6. The perfect subjunctive is formed by using the verb haber in the present or imperfect subjunctive (haya, hubiera) and adding the past participle (as with all other perfect tenses)
7. When to use the present versus past subjunctive:
 - a. If the first verb is in the present, use the present subjunctive
Mi mamá quiere que yo limpie mi habitación.
 - b. If the first verb is in the preterit, imperfect or conditional tense, use the past subjunctive.
Mi mamá me dijo que fuera al hospital
Mi mamá quería que yo trabajara más.
Mi mamá estaría triste si yo no fuera a la escuela.
 - c. Remember: we use the imperfect subjunctive as well in contrary-to-fact (if-then) sentences.
Si tuviera un millón de dólares, compraría un mono.

- d. To refer to an event that already completed, you may use a perfect subjunctive (haya + past participle)
- i. Mi mamá duda que yo haya terminado la tarea.
 - ii. Ella quería que yo hubiera hecho lo mejor posible.

Formation of the present subjunctive:

- Take the yo-form of the verb in the present tense. Remove the “o”. Flip the endings (ar:er, er/ir:ar). Stem-changing verbs continue to change, but the nosotros/vosotros also changes with a one-letter (o:u or e:i) change (duerma, duermas, duerma, durmamos, durmáis, duerman)
Example: salir (salga, salgas, salga, salgamos, salgáis, salgan)
- Exceptions: ir (vaya), ser (sea), saber (sepa), estar (esté), dar (dé). Add “s, mos or n” to form the different conjugations. (vaya, vayas, vaya, vayamos, vayáis, vayan)

Formation of the past subjunctive:

- Take the 3rd person (ellos) form of the verb in the preterite (comieron, tuvieron) *no exceptions*
- Take off “ron” (not a good cheerleading name) and add “-ra, -ras, -ra, -ramos, -rais, -ran”
Example: Tener (tuviera, tuvieras, tuviera, tuviéramos, tuvieráis, tuvieran)