

The third person plural of a verb sometimes expresses a passive meaning by not referring to the actual subject:

Le quitaron su pasaporte.

His passport was taken away.

Envían los cheques por correo.

The checks are sent by mail.

And in the following construction with intransitive verbs, passive sentences are only used in the third person singular:

Se entra por allí.

You enter through there.

Se corre en la arena.

People run on the sand.

Se vive para trabajar.

One lives to work.

TIP

Bear in mind that constructions with **se** are much more common in conversational Spanish than the **ser + past participle** constructions. The true passive is considered somewhat more formal, and is used more often in literature than in everyday speech.



LA PRÁCTICA 2

Translate these sentences into passive constructions with **se**:

1. The room will get warm.

Se calentará el cuarto.

2. Two houses were built.

3. English is spoken here.

4. Lunch will be served at twelve.

5. One never knows.

6. The book was published in Mexico.

7. A message will be sent.

8. You go out this way.

9. The bill has been paid.

10. Houses are sold everywhere.

10

The Subjunctive

¿Cuánto sabe usted?

How Much Do You Know Already?



1. Conjugate the verb **pedir** in the present subjunctive.
2. How do you say *If she'd study, she'd pass the test* in Spanish?
3. Conjugate the verb **decir** in the imperfect subjunctive.
4. How do you form the present perfect subjunctive?
5. Use the subjunctive to say *I need someone who can work nights*.

The Present Subjunctive

Regular Verbs

Verbos regulares

Unlike the verb tenses in Spanish, which indicate when an action takes place, the subjunctive mood expresses important changes in the speaker's attitude or emotion. To form the present subjunctive in regular verbs, change the vowel **a** of the present indicative to **e** in **-ar** verbs, and the vowels **e** and **i** to **a** in **-er** and **-ir** verbs:

	Hablar (to speak)	Comer (to eat)	Escribir (to write)
(yo)	hable	coma	escriba
(tú)	hables	comas	escribas
(él, ella, Ud.)	hable	coma	escriba
(nosotros)	hablemos	comamos	escribamos
(vosotros)	habléis	comáis	escribáis
(ellos, ellas, Uds.)	hablen	coman	escriban

EJEMPLOS

Dudo que hablen español.

I doubt they speak Spanish.

Esperamos que coma la ensalada.

We hope she eats the salad.

Es importante que escribas rápido.

It's important you write quickly.

Whenever the **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir** verb is stem-changing in the present indicative, the present subjunctive will usually show the same changes:

(cerrar) Espero que cierren las puertas.

I hope they close the doors.

(volver) Nos encanta que vuelvas hoy.

We're happy you return today.

(mentir) Le aconseja que no mienta.

He suggests that you don't lie.

(pedir) Prefiero que se lo pida a él.

I prefer that you ask him for it.

However, although **morir** and **dormir** have the **o** → **ue** stem change, there is a **u** in the first person and second person plural forms (e.g., **muera**, **mueras**, **muera**, **muramos**, **muráis**, **mueran**).

In the present subjunctive, most verbs that end in **-iar** or **-uar** have an accent mark on the **í** or **ú** in all forms but the first person plural:

Vaciar (to empty)

vacíe, **vacíes**, **vacíe**, **vacíemos**, **vacíéis**, **vacíen**

Graduar (to graduate)

gradúe, **gradúes**, **gradúe**, **graduemos**, **gradúeis**, **gradúen**

TIP

Notice that the first person and third person singular forms are the same for all regular verbs in the present subjunctive. Also notice that regular **-er** and **-ir** verbs have the exact same endings.



LA PRÁCTICA 1

Write the correct form of the present subjunctive on the line provided:

1. Quiero que (**tú/estudiar**) idiomas. **estudies**
2. Le aconsejo que (**él/pensar**) en el futuro. _____
3. Espero que (**ellas/cerrar**) las ventanas. _____
4. Me encanta que (**Ud./vivir**) cerca de aquí. _____
5. Prefiero que (**ella/enviar**) el paquete. _____
6. Ojalá que (**Uds./quedarse**) en casa. _____

7. No creo que (**yo/volver**) muy pronto. _____
8. Me alegra que (**ellos/entender**) el inglés. _____
9. Necesito que (**tú/dormir**) en el dormitorio. _____
10. Es necesario que (**Uds./seguir**) las leyes. _____

Irregular Verbs

Verbos irregulares

If the verb is irregular in the simple present tense, the present subjunctive generally shows the same irregularities. Most irregularities in the present subjunctive occur in **-er** and **-ir** verbs, and all have the same stem as that of the first person singular in the present indicative:

Conocer (conozco)

conozca, conozcas, conozca, conozcamos, conozcáis, conozcan

Conducir (conduzco)

conduzca, conduzcas, conduzca, conduzcamos, conduzcaís, conduzcan

Caber (quepo)

quepa, quepas, quepa, quepamos, quepáis, quepan

Construir (construyo)

construya, construyas, construya, construyamos, construyáis, construyan

Ver (veo)

vea, veas, vea, veamos, veáis, vean

Other irregular verbs so conjugated are **parecer** (to seem), **destruir** (to destroy), **nacer** (to be born), **traducir** (to translate), **crecer** (to grow).

The following all have **g** changes in the irregular verb stem. The present indicative **yo** form is in parentheses:

Caer (caigo)	caiga, caigas, caiga, caigamos, caigáis, caigan
Decir (digo)	diga, digas, diga, digamos, digáis, digan
Hacer (hago)	haga, hagas, haga, hagamos, hagáis, hagan
Oír (oigo)	oiga, oigas, oiga, oigamos, oigáis, oigan
Poner (pongo)	ponga, pongas, ponga, pongamos, pongáis, pongan
Salir (salgo)	salga, salgas, salga, salgamos, salgáis, salgan
Tener (tengo)	tenga, tengas, tenga, tengamos, tengáis, tengan
Traer (traigo)	traiga, traigas, traiga, traigamos, traigáis, traigan
Venir (vengo)	venga, vengas, venga, vengamos, vengáis, vengán

Although their endings are regular, the stems of these verbs are irregular in the present subjunctive and therefore must be learned separately:

Haber (to have)	haya, hayas, haya, hayamos, hayáis, hayan
Ir (to go)	vaya, vayas, vaya, vayamos, vayáis, vayan
Saber (to know)	sepa, sepa, sepa, sepamos, sepáis, sepan
Ser (to be)	sea, seas, sea, seamos, seáis, sean

The verbs **dar** and **estar** are considered irregular because of the accent marks. The first and third person singular of **dar** have accents to differentiate them from the preposition **de**:

Dar	dé, des, dé, demos, deis, den
Estar	esté, estés, esté, estemos, estéis, estén

EJEMPLOS

Quiero que conozcas a mi familia.

Insistimos en que nos veas.

Espera que construyan la pared.

Le exigen que lo haga.

Dudamos que tenga veinte años.

Es importante que sepan la verdad.

Sugiero que sea más estudioso.

Prefiere que le demos todo.

I want you to know my family.

We insist that you see us.

She hopes that they build the wall.

They demand that he does it.

We doubt she is twenty years old.

It's important they know the truth.

I suggest that you be more studious.

He prefers that we give it all to him.

TIP

The present subjunctive is translated into English in a variety of ways:

¿Quiere Ud. que se discuta algo?

Do you want to discuss something?

Dudo que sea la verdad.

I doubt that it's the truth.

No permitiremos que ellas vengan.

We will not allow them to come.



LA PRÁCTICA 2

Change each present tense indicative form to the subjunctive:

1. él va vaya
2. Uds. parecen _____
3. tú sales _____
4. ella oye _____
5. ellos están _____
6. yo digo _____
7. nosotros conducimos _____
8. Ud. viene _____
9. él cae _____
10. alguien es _____

Verbs with Spelling Changes

Verbos con cambios de deletreo

In the present subjunctive, **-ar** verbs have three basic spelling changes in the verb stem:

• **G → GU**

PEGAR (to hit, to stick)

Esperamos que pegue a la pelota.

• **C → QU**

PESCAR (to fish)

Me alegro que pesquen allí.

• **Z → C**

EMPEZAR (to begin)

Quiero que empecemos a las dos.

Other verbs that undergo such spelling changes are **agregar** (to add), **entregar** (to deliver), **pagar** (to pay), **pecar** (to sin), **masticar** (to chew), **sacar** (to remove), **comenzar** (to begin), **lanzar** (to throw), **rezar** (to pray).

Note that **-er** and **-ir** verbs also have three basic spelling changes in the present subjunctive:

• **G → J**

RECOGER (to pick up)

Es importante que recojamos la basura.

• **GU → G**

SEGUIR (to follow)

Es necesario que siga el camino.

• **C → Z**

VENCER (to conquer)

Quizás venzan sus problemas.

Other such verbs are **encoger** (to shrink), **proteger** (to protect), **escoger** (to choose), **perseguir** (to chase), **distinguir** (to distinguish), **conseguir** (to obtain), **torcer** (to twist), **convencer** (to convince), **ejercer** (to exercise).

Spelling changes such as **C → Z** do not affect irregular verbs in the present subjunctive (e.g., **hacer**: **hago**, **hagas**, etc.). Also, **-ar** verbs with stems ending in **j** do not change to **g** before the letter **e** (e.g., **empujar**: **empuje**, **empujes**, etc.).



LA PRÁCTICA 3

Fill in the blanks with the correct forms of the present subjunctive:

	Singular	Plural
1. REZAR	<u>rece, reces, rece</u>	<u>recemos, recéis, recen</u>
2. PROTEGER	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
3. SACAR	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
4. PERSEGUIR	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
5. PAGAR	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
6. CONVENCER	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

TIP

Other than the stem changes, irregular verb endings are generally the same in the present subjunctive:

-AR verbs	-e, -es, -e, -emos, -éis, -en
-ER and -IR verbs	-a, -as, -a, -amos, -áis, -an

	Singular	Plural
7. ESCOGER	_____	_____
8. MASTICAR	_____	_____
9. CONSEGUIR	_____	_____
10. EMPUJAR	_____	_____

Using the Present Subjunctive

Uso del presente de subjuntivo

Unlike the indicative mood, which is based on fact and certainty, the subjunctive is used to express an action as a mere supposition, wish, or condition. It is often referred to as the “unreal” mode, used to express those delicate shades of meaning behind one’s message. The basic forms of the subjunctive include the present, the present perfect, the imperfect, and the past perfect.

The present subjunctive is used extensively in Spanish, usually in dependent noun clauses introduced by the conjunction **que**. These dependent clauses follow main clauses that express a variety of messages—from emotion and doubt to insistence and advice:

Yo dudo que puedan jugar bien. *I doubt (that) they can play well.*

MAIN DEPENDENT

CLAUSE CLAUSE

Notice how the two clauses refer to two different subjects. If the subject of the two verbs (that of the main clause and that of the dependent clause) are one and the same, the infinitive is generally used instead of the subjunctive:

Queremos ir.

We want to go.

Queremos que tú vayas.

We want you to go.

In Spanish, the present subjunctive is used when the speaker refers to present or future time. Perhaps the most common use of the present subjunctive is after verbs of DESIRE or COMMAND:

Preferimos que él maneje despacio.

We prefer that he drives slowly.

Quiero que me escribas.

I want you to write to me.

Manda que se vayan ahora.

She orders that they leave now.

Other such verbs are **exigir** (to demand), **desear** (to desire), **pedir** (to ask for), **insistir** (to insist), **sugerir** (to suggest), **rogar** (to beg), **avisar** (to advise), **esperar** (to hope), **aconsejar** (to counsel), **recomendar** (to recommend), **permitir** (to allow), **decir** (to tell), **proponer** (to propose), **convencer** (to convince), **impedir** (to prevent), **advertir** (to warn), **suplicar** (to implore), **dejar** (to allow).

The present subjunctive also follows expressions that express an EMOTION or ATTITUDE:

Me sorprende que no tenga carro. *It surprises me you don't have a car.*
Tememos que él llegue tarde. *We fear that he'll arrive late.*
Le gusta que compremos dulces. *He likes that we're buying candy.*

Other similar verbs are **alegrarse** (to be happy), **tener miedo** (to fear), **lamentarse** (to mourn), **extrañarse** (to find strange), **sentir** (to be sorry), **avergonzarse** (to be ashamed), **molestarse** (to be bothered), **enojarse** (to be angry).

The present subjunctive also follows verbs of DOUBT, DENIAL, and REFUSAL, or verbs that are used negatively or interrogatively expressing belief or understanding:

Dudamos que lo compren. *We doubt that they'll buy it.*
Ella niega que lo tenga él. *She denies that he has it.*
Te prohíbe que manejes el carro. *He prohibits you from driving the car.*

Other such verbs are **no pensar** (to not think), **no creer** (to not believe), **no imaginarse** (to not imagine), **no estar seguro** (to not be sure).

Remember that the subjunctive never makes a direct statement or asks a direct question, because it is usually part of a dependent noun clause; that is, one that depends on the meaning of the main clause. Notice how the verb of the main clause often causes another person or thing to act (or not act) in the dependent clause:

(Yo) prefiero MAIN NOUN CLAUSE (subject) (I'd prefer	que (ella) lo haga. DEPENDENT NOUN CLAUSE (object) that she does it.)
(Nosotros) exigimos MAIN NOUN CLAUSE (subject) (We order	que (tú) no manejes. DEPENDENT NOUN CLAUSE (object) that you don't drive.)

When used with the subjunctive, the following verbs often include an indirect object pronoun:

PEDIR: Nos pide que lleguemos temprano. *She asks us to arrive early.*
PERMITIR: Te permito que me llames. *I allow you to call me.*
SUGERIR: Le sugirieron que se vaya. *They suggested that he leave.*

Other such verbs are **sorprender** (to surprise), **mandar** (to send), **extrañar** (to miss), **gustar** (to like), **decir** (to say), **convencer** (to convince), **advertir** (to warn), **aconsejar** (to advise), **exigir** (to demand), **prohibir** (to prohibit), **rogar** (to beg).

The verb **decir** may be followed by a dependent clause in either the subjunctive or the indicative, when it simply reports what someone says:

Subjunctive:	Nos dice que comamos mucho.	<i>He tells us to eat a lot.</i>
Indicative:	Nos dice que come mucho.	<i>He tells us he eats a lot.</i>

Several verbs in Spanish can be followed either by the subjunctive in a noun clause or by an infinitive and still keep the same meaning. Notice how the indirect object pronoun is required when the verb is used with the infinitive:

Permíto que compres la motocicleta.	}	<i>I give you permission to buy the motorcycle.</i>
Te permíto comprar la motocicleta.		

Others are **sugerir** (to suggest), **molestar** (to bother), **impedir** (to prevent), **prohibir** (to prohibit), **recomendar** (to recommend).

Dejar (to allow), **hacer** (to do, cause), and **obligar** (to force) are a few verbs that often take a direct object pronoun before a subjunctive clause:

Lo obligan a que trabaje.	<i>They force him to work.</i>
Las dejamos que salgan.	<i>We allow them to leave.</i>

The verbs in the main clause of a sentence in the present subjunctive may be in the present, present perfect, or future tense, or in the imperative mood:

Queremos que le <u>digan</u>.	<i>We want you guys to tell her.</i>
Han dudado que <u>puedas</u> cocinar.	<i>They have doubted that you can cook.</i>
Insistiré que no <u>maneje</u>.	<i>I will insist that he does not drive.</i>
Dígame que <u>ponga</u> la silla aquí.	<i>Tell him to put the chair here.</i>

Unlike the subjunctive, verbs in the indicative mood refer to factual or real experiences in the life of the speaker. They include the verbs of sense and perception, such as **ver**, **saber**, and **oír**:

<i>I know you love me.</i>	Yo <u>sé</u> que me quieres.
<i>We see that he's leaving.</i>	Vemos que se <u>va</u>.





LA PRÁCTICA 4

Write the correct form of the present subjunctive on the line provided:

1. No creemos que el Sr. Mora (SER) de Guatemala. sea
2. Ella quiere que Ud. (VENIR) a la fiesta. _____
3. Mi mamá no permitirá que yo (IR) contigo. _____
4. Prefiero que él (VOLVER) el sábado. _____
5. Les ruego que ellos no lo (HACER) por mí. _____
6. Esperamos que Joaquín (LLEGAR) a tiempo. _____
7. Siento que tú (ESTAR) enfermo. _____
8. No niegan que él lo (MERECE). _____
9. Ella duda que yo (TENER) tanto dinero. _____
10. Les pido que Uds. no (ABRIR) las ventanas. _____

First fill in the correct present subjunctive form on the line provided, and then translate the sentence:

11. Ella no cree que él la (QUERER). quiera
She doesn't believe he loves her.
12. Me sorprende que tú no (ENTENDER). _____

13. No me gusta que Uds. me (GRITAR). _____

14. Recomiendo que ella (DORMIR) más. _____

15. Mandamos que ellos (IRSE). _____

16. Insisten en que nosotros (SALIR) ahora.

17. No pienso que tú le (CONOCER).

18. Se alegran que Ud. (PAGAR) la cuenta.

19. ¿Desea que yo le (SERVIR) algo de comer?

20. Nos dice que (LEER) más libros en español.



LA PRÁCTICA 5

Each word is in the first person singular form of the present subjunctive, such as **vaya**, **duerma**, and **estudie**. However, all are either irregular or have some other stem or spelling change. Your task is to unscramble them.

1. enitam **mienta**
2. eavlvu _____
3. antneied _____
4. aicag _____
5. seacjo _____
6. actruyons _____
7. asequ _____
8. aayh _____
9. agoi _____
10. ocnacoz _____
11. sae _____

12. tnaeg _____
13. ajeroc _____
14. pugee _____
15. ecer _____
16. smueqa _____
17. apsgeir _____
18. dpuea _____

The Present Perfect Subjunctive

El perfecto de subjuntivo

The present perfect subjunctive is formed by combining the present subjunctive of the verb **haber** with the past participle.

		Hablar (to speak)	Comer (to eat)	Escribir (to write)
(yo)	haya	hablado	comido	escrito
(tú)	hayas	hablado	comido	escrito
(él, ella, Ud.)	haya	hablado	comido	escrito
(nosotros)	hayamos	hablado	comido	escrito
(vosotros)	hayáis	hablado	comido	escrito
(ellos, ellas, Uds.)	hayan	hablado	comido	escrito

The present perfect subjunctive is used in the same way that the present subjunctive is used: in a dependent clause when the main clause expresses doubt, emotion, desire, etc. The present perfect, however, indicates that the action in the dependent clause occurs before the action of the main clause:

TIP

The present subjunctive is also used after impersonal verbs or expressions:

Ojalá que lleguen pronto.

One can only hope they arrive soon.

Dudo que ellos hayan llegado.

I doubt they (have) arrived.

Esperamos que hayas dormido.

We hope you (have) slept.

No creen que haya terminado.

They don't believe that he (has) finished.



LA PRÁCTICA 6

Change these sentences from the present to the present perfect subjunctive:

1. Prefiero que no se lo diga. **Prefiero que no se lo haya dicho.**
2. ¿Crees que tengas razón? _____
3. Dudamos que llueva mucho. _____
4. Teme que no le escriban. _____
5. Me alegro que Ud. venga. _____
6. Ella quiere que esperemos aquí. _____
7. Nos sorprende que no lo sepas. _____
8. Les pido que me llamen. _____
9. Mandan que no lo haga. _____
10. ¿Piensas que él sea honesto? • _____

Impersonal Expressions and the Present Subjunctive

Las expresiones impersonales y el presente de subjuntivo

Impersonal expressions in Spanish are those phrases that do not include a specific subject, such as **es posible**, **es útil**, **es fantástico**, etc. When these are combined with a dependent noun clause, the subjunctive is used to express a state or event that is unreal, uncertain, or not actually true:

Es posible que vengan mis amigos.

It's possible my friends are coming.

Es importante que limpiemos la casa.

It's important we clean the house.

Es dudoso que regrese el domingo.

It's doubtful he'll return on Sunday.

Impersonal expressions used with the subjunctive include those that express an emotion, opinion, or attitude:

Es malo que no tengan seguro.

It's not good that they don't have insurance.

Es mejor que vivamos aquí.

It's better that we live here.

Es una lástima que no sepas inglés.

It's a shame that you don't know English.

Some expressions are used with the subjunctive only when they are in the negative, implying that the action in the dependent clause is uncertain or not true:

No es cierto que
No es obvio que
No es verdad que } **viajen.**

It isn't sure that
It isn't clear that
It isn't true that } *they're traveling.*

Impersonal expressions are followed by the infinitive when the subject is not clearly identified in the dependent clause:

Es imposible montar ese caballo.

It is impossible to ride that horse.

Es imposible que yo monte ese caballo.

There's no way I'm riding that horse.

TIP

Spanish is full of expressions that work well with the subjunctive:

más vale que (*it's better that*)

ojalá que (*I hope that*)

tal vez (*perhaps*)

Some expressions implying doubt may be followed by either the subjunctive or the indicative in a dependent clause, depending on what the speaker is actually trying to say:

No creo que hablan japonés.

I believe without a doubt they don't speak Japanese.

No creo que hablen japonés.

I believe, but I'm not really sure, if they speak Japanese.

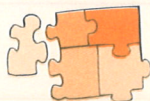
Since **dudar** (*to doubt*) already implies uncertainty, when it is used in the negative, the verb in the dependent clause is in the indicative:

No dudo que funciona bien.

I don't doubt it works well.

No es dudoso que cuesta mucho.

I don't doubt it costs a lot.



POR SU CUENTA

Use these other impersonal expressions that are used with the subjunctive to share your feelings and opinions about any topic you desire to discuss:

Es bueno (*good*)

que vivamos en los Estados Unidos.

Es curioso (*odd*) que

Es difícil (*unlikely*) que

Es dudoso (*doubtful*) que

Es fácil (*easy*) que

Es imposible (*impossible*) que

Es injusto (*wrong*) que _____

Es inútil (*useless*) que _____

Es justo (*fair*) que _____

Es necesario (*necessary*) que _____

Es peor (*worse*) que _____

Es preciso (*necessary*) que _____

Es probable (*probable*) que _____

Es raro (*strange*) que _____

Es triste (*sad*) que _____

Es útil (*useful*) que _____



LA PRÁCTICA 7

Use each impersonal expression to create a sentence in the subjunctive:

1. Los gatos corren en el jardín. (Es malo)

Es malo que los gatos corran en el jardín.

2. Mis abuelos se enferman mucho. (Es triste)

3. No hace calor en el garaje. (Es raro)

4. Aprenden mucho español. (Es importante)

5. Ellos vienen al mediodía. (Es probable)

6. Puedo conducir el autobús. (No es cierto)

7. Mandamos las cartas por correo. (Es preciso)

8. Él siempre trae amigos traviesos. (Es una lástima)

9. Su madre es la nueva profesora. (Es dudoso)

10. Tenemos todo listo para mañana. (Ojalá)

The Past Subjunctive

The Imperfect Subjunctive

El imperfecto de subjuntivo

The base form of the past or imperfect subjunctive is taken from the third person plural of the preterit, which includes all stem changes and irregularities. The **-ron** ending is simply dropped and the following are added:



Trabajar (First Form)

(trabajaron)

(yo)	-ra	(trabajara)
(tú)	-ras	(trabajaras)
(él, ella, Ud.)	-ra	(trabajara)
(nosotros)	-ramos	(trabajáramos)
(vosotros)	-rais	(trabajarais)
(ellos, ellas, Uds.)	-ran	(trabajaran)

A second imperfect subjunctive form exists in Spanish, but it is seldom used in everyday speech. These forms are interchangeable with the previous ones:

Trabajar (Second Form) (trabajaron)		
(yo)	-se	(trabajase)
(tú)	-ses	(trabajases)
(él, ella, Ud.)	-se	(trabajase)
(nosotros)	-semos	(trabajásemos)
(vosotros)	-seis	(trabajaseis)
(ellos, ellas, Uds.)	-sen	(trabajasen)

The imperfect subjunctive is used in the same way as the present subjunctive—in dependent noun clauses following a main clause expressing anything other than a statement of fact. The verb in the main clause, however, is in the imperfect, preterit, past perfect, or conditional tense:

Pedían que lo hiciera.

Pidieron que lo hiciera.

Habían pedido que lo hiciera.

Pedirían que lo hiciera.

They were asking him to do it.

They asked him to do it.

They had asked him to do it.

They would ask him to do it.

EJEMPLOS

Queríamos que él lo hiciera.

Había insistido que yo manejara.

Tuve miedo que no llegaran.

We wanted him to do it.

She had insisted that I drive.

I was afraid they wouldn't arrive.

As was the case for the present subjunctive, the subjects in the main and dependent clauses must be different in order for the imperfect subjunctive to be used; otherwise, the infinitive follows the main clause:

Ella quería que trabajaras.

Ella quería trabajar.

*She wanted **you** to work.*

She wanted to work (herself).

When used with the imperfect subjunctive, the expression **Ojalá** means *I wish* instead of *I hope*:

Ojalá vinieran.

Ojalá vengan.

I wish they'd come.

I hope they come.

TIP

Notice that the first person plural form in the imperfect subjunctive requires an accent mark, and the first and third person singular forms are the same.

The imperfect subjunctive forms of the verbs **querer**, **deber**, and **poder** are often used to express requests or suggestions in a polite manner:

¿Quisieran ordenar más fruta?

Would they like to order more fruit?

Debiéramos ir al mercado.

It might be best if we go to the market.

¿Pudieras hacerme un favor?

Would you please do me a favor?



LA PRÁCTICA 8

Change these dependent noun clauses from the present subjunctive to the imperfect subjunctive:

1. que yo estudie que yo estudiara
2. que él quiera _____
3. que ustedes den _____
4. que tú reconozcas _____
5. que nosotros salgamos _____
6. que ellas tengan _____
7. que Ud. sea _____
8. que yo haga _____
9. que ellos piensen _____
10. que él diga _____

Translate these sentences using either the present subjunctive or imperfect subjunctive. Use the main verb provided:

11. *They suggested that I practice.* (SUGERIR)

Sugirieron que practicara.

12. *I hope you (form. sing.) have good luck.* (ESPERAR)

13. *He begged me to dance with him.* (SUPLICAR)

14. *We prefer that you (inf. sing.) do the job.* (PREFERIR)

15. *I did not believe that they left.* (CREER)

16. *They asked him to serve the food.* (PEDIR)

17. *We insisted that they pay.* (INSISTIR)

18. *He fears that we won't arrive on Tuesday.* (TEMER)

19. *They denied that it was true.* (NEGAR)

20. *She was happy that you (form. pl.) came.* (ALEGRARSE)

The Past Perfect Subjunctive

El pluscuamperfecto de subjuntivo

The past perfect subjunctive (or pluperfect subjunctive) is formed in Spanish by combining the imperfect subjunctive of the verb **haber** with the past participle of the main verb. This compound tense is often used in place of the imperfect subjunctive in a dependent noun clause:

	Hablar (to speak)	Comer (to eat)	Escribir (to write)
(yo)	hubiera hablado	comido	escrito
(tú)	hubieras hablado	comido	escrito
(él, ella, Ud.)	hubiera hablado	comido	escrito
(nosotros)	hubiéramos hablado	comido	escrito
(vosotros)	hubierais hablado	comido	escrito
(ellos, ellas, Uds.)	hubieran hablado	comido	escrito

Like the past perfect indicative, this tense is used to indicate an event that took place prior to something in the past. The main verb is usually expressed by the imperfect, preterit, or past subjunctive:

Se alegró que hubieras llamado.
Dudaba que hubiéramos comido.

She was happy that you had called.
They doubted that we had eaten.

The past perfect subjunctive is sometimes used to express a contrary-to-fact wish in the past after the expression **Ojalá que**:

Ojalá que lo hubieran comprado. *I wish they had bought it.*

The past perfect subjunctive is also used in conditional sentences, which will be presented in the next section:

Me hubiera casado contigo si me hubieras preguntado.

I would have married you if you would have asked me.

A future subjunctive tense exists in Spanish, but it is primarily found in literature. It carries the same meaning as the present subjunctive:

	Hablar (to speak)	Comer (to eat)	Escribir (to write)
(yo)	habl are	com iere	escrib iere
(tú)	habl ares	com ieres	escrib ieres
(él, ella, Ud.)	habl are	com iere	escrib iere
(nosotros)	habl áremos	com iéremos	escrib iéremos
(vosotros)	habl arais	com iereis	escrib iereis
(ellos, ellas, Uds.)	habl aren	com ieren	escrib ieren



LA PRÁCTICA 9

Fill in the correct form of the verb **haber**:

Todos hablan de Katrina y su nuevo medicamento...

- Espero que lo _____ tomado. haya
- Esperaba que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Me alegro que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Me dijo que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Era posible que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Me dicen que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Puede ser que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Yo dudaba que lo _____ tomado. _____
- No es cierto que lo _____ tomado. _____
- Yo temía que lo _____ tomado. _____

Conditional Sentences

Oraciones condicionales

Conditional sentences are often used with the subjunctive. A conditional sentence consists of two clauses—a dependent clause beginning with *if* (**si** clause), and a main clause. One example would be the present tense in the **si** clause and the future tense in the main clause, which expresses a simple future action that may or may not occur:

Si tienes una fiesta, llegaré temprano.
If you have a party, I will arrive early.

TIP

With conditional sentences, the order of the two clauses can be reversed and keep the same meaning. Notice how these structures are similar in both languages:

Si yo hubiera estudiado, habría pasado el examen.

If I would have studied, I would have passed the exam.

Habría pasado el examen si yo hubiera estudiado.

I would have passed the exam if I had studied.

However, if there is some unreal or contrary-to-fact situation taking place in present time, the imperfect subjunctive is used in the **si** clause, and the conditional tense is used in the main clause. Notice how the action is based entirely on supposition:

Si trabajaras, te pagaría. *If you (would) work, I would pay.*

To express this same unreal or contrary-to-fact situation in past time, the past perfect subjunctive is used in the **si** clause, and the conditional perfect or past perfect subjunctive is used in the main clause:

Si hubieras trabajado, te habría pagado.

Si hubieras trabajado, te hubiera pagado.

} *If you would have worked,
I would have paid you.*

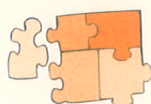


LA PRÁCTICA 10

Write correct verb forms on the lines provided as you create conditional sentences in present and past time:

1. Iría a la playa si ella _____ nadar. (SABER) supiera
2. Si me pagaran todo, yo les _____ el dinero. (PRESTAR) _____
3. Si fuera posible, yo _____ hasta el sábado. (QUEDARSE) _____
4. Habríamos celebrado si ellos _____ . (GANAR) _____
5. Si pones el DVD, yo lo _____ contigo. (VER) _____
6. Si hubiéramos comenzado ayer, ya _____ . (ACABAR) _____

7. Traeré los discos compactos si Marta _____. (VENIR) _____
8. Si hubieras salido a la hora, tú no ____ tarde. (LLEGAR) _____
9. Yo le habría llamado si Ud. _____ en casa. (ESTAR) _____
10. Habría plantado flores si él _____ el tiempo. (TENER) _____



EL REPASO

Use only the first-person singular (*yo* form) to complete this chart:

TENSE	Hablar	Aprender	Venir
present	hablo	aprendo	vengo
preterit	hablé		
imperfect			
future			
conditional			
pres. perfect			
past perfect			
pres. subjunctive			
imperf. subjunctive			
past perf. subjunctive			

The Subjunctive in Adverbial Clauses

El subjuntivo en las cláusulas adverbiales

An adverbial clause, like an adverb, modifies a verb in the areas of time, manner, place, and direction. It is generally introduced by an adverbial conjunction:

Comimos cuando llegaron.

We ate when they arrived.

Salta como un conejo.

He jumps like a rabbit.

The subjunctive, however, is used after certain adverbial conjunctions when they express uncertainty in the mind of the speaker or an indefinite future time. Notice how the sequence of tenses is the same for adverbial clauses as it is for noun clauses:

- **para que** so that

Llegaré temprano para que podamos ver la película.

I'll arrive early so that we can see the movie.

- **antes (de) que** before

Ricardo estudiaba antes de que tomaran el examen.

Ricardo was studying before they took the exam.

- **en caso (de) que** in case that

Voy a comprar un paraguas en caso de que llueva.

I'm going to buy an umbrella in case (that) it rains.

- Other conjunctions include:

a fin de que	in order that
sin que	without
a menos que	unless
con tal (de) que	provided that

Some conjunctions in Spanish are followed by the subjunctive when the verb in the adverbial clause expresses vagueness or uncertainty, but are followed by the indicative when the action in the clause expresses certainty or fact:

La caja llegará donde la enviemos.

The box will (hopefully) get to wherever we intend to send it.

La caja llegará donde la enviamos.

The box will get to where we send it.

- Other such conjunctions are:

según	according to
como	how
a pesar de que	in spite of
mientras	while
aunque	although
siempre que	provided that
de modo/manera que	so that

Most time-related conjunctions that introduce an adverbial clause are followed by the subjunctive when the main clause either includes a command or refers to future time:

Llámeme cuando se vayan.

Call me when(ever) they leave.

Conversaremos hasta que termine el juego.

We'll chat until (whenever) the game is over.

- Other similar conjunctions include:

después de que	<i>after</i>
luego que	<i>as soon as</i>

In time-related adverbial clauses, however, the indicative is used when either the sentence relates to past time, or when the action in the clause is consistent or habitual:

Se quedó en su casa hasta que acabó la tormenta.

He stayed in his home until the storm was over.

Ordenamos ensaladas cuando nos juntamos.

We (usually) order salads when we get together.

The conjunctions **con tal (de) que** and **a menos que** are unique in that they are followed by the present perfect subjunctive if the verb of the dependent clause expresses an action that takes place before the action of the main clause:

Vamos a viajar con tal de que hayas pagado los boletos.

We will go on the trip provided that you have paid for the tickets.

However, these same conjunctions are followed by the present subjunctive if the action in the dependent clause takes place at the same time as the main clause action:

Vamos a viajar con tal de que pagues los boletos.

We will go on the trip provided that you (will) pay for the tickets.

As with noun clauses, if the subject is the same in the main and dependent clause of an adverbial sentence, then the infinitive is used:

Van a estudiar antes de tomar el examen final.

They're going to study before taking the final exam.



LA PRÁCTICA 11

Write the correct form of the subjunctive on the line provided.

1. Limpiaron todo antes de que (LLEGAR) mi novia. llegara
2. Ella lo hace para que nosotros no (TENER) que hacerlo. _____
3. El gato vendrá cuando la señora lo (LLAMAR). _____
4. Van al desierto aunque (LLOVER). _____
5. Practiquen la canción hasta que la (SABER). _____
6. Salí sin que Uds. me (DESPEDIR). _____
7. Trajo un sombrero en caso de que (SALIR) sol. _____
8. Mientras tú (MENTIR), no te escucharé. _____
9. Lo haré a menos que (SURGIR) un problema. _____
10. Nosotros no vamos aunque los otros (IR). _____

Translate each of the sentences in the above exercises into English:

11. ***They cleaned everything before my girlfriend arrived.*** _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____

The Subjunctive in Adjectival Clauses

El subjuntivo en cláusulas adjetivas

An adjectival clause, like an adjective, modifies a noun. In Spanish, it often consists of a relative clause introduced by the word **que** (a relative pronoun) followed by a verb in either the indicative or subjunctive mood:

Quiero un empleado que sepa usar la computadora.

I want an employee who knows how to use the computer.

The key for usage is the ANTECEDENT, or the noun being described in the main clause. If it is clearly identified and part of reality, the indicative is used; however, if it is unknown, uncertain, or nonexistent, then the subjunctive is used:

Vamos a ver la película que me compraste.

(existent)

Let's see the movie you bought me.

Vamos a ver una película que me haga llorar.

(nonexistent)

Let's see a movie that might (possibly) make me cry.

The subjunctive is also used when adjectival clauses modify negative or undetermined antecedents:

No hay ningún plato en el menú que le **guste** ordenar.

There isn't a dish on the menu that he might (possibly) like to order.

No conozco a nadie que **haya viajado** a Chile.

I don't know anyone who might (possibly) have traveled to Chile.

Besides **que**, relative words such as **donde** and **quien** may also be used to introduce an adjectival clause:

Buscamos un restaurante donde sirvan comida cubana.

We're looking for a restaurant where they serve Cuban food.

Bear in mind that the subjunctive is based on DOUBT, DESIRES, EMOTION, DENIAL, and other INDEFINITE MESSAGES from the speaker. Notice the difference between these two sentences:

Busca una casa que tiene garaje.

*She needs a house that has a garage.
(The speaker is sure that one exists)*

Busca una casa que tenga garaje.

She needs a house that (possibly) has a garage. (The speaker is unsure)





LA PRÁCTICA 12

Finish each sentence by creating an adjectival clause in the subjunctive:

1. Mercedes busca un carro (tener cuatro puertas).

Mercedes busca un carro que tenga cuatro puertas.

2. Ellas querían un apartamento (estar cerca del mercado).

3. Hablaré con una persona (entender inglés).

4. No conocemos a nadie (vivir en San Antonio).

5. ¿Prefieres comprar algo (no costar tanto)?

6. No había ninguna persona (saber usar la máquina).

7. Santiago quiere tomar las clases (ser más divertidas).

8. Siempre he deseado amigos (tocar un instrumento).

9. Escoge las galletas que nos (gustar).

10. Le encanta cualquier ropa (venir de Italia).



11

The Imperative

¿Cuánto sabe usted?

How Much Do You Know Already?



1. How do you say to a group of people *Don't bring anything.*
2. Give two ways to give the command *Let's study.*
3. Conjugate the verb **escoger** in the command for **usted**.
4. How do you say, *All of you, don't leave?*
5. Change **póntelas** to a negative command.

Formal Commands

El imperativo

Unlike the indicative and subjunctive, the imperative mood is solely used to express requests and commands. Verbs in the imperative that are directed at **usted** or **ustedes** are called FORMAL COMMANDS. Their forms are the same as the third person singular and plural forms of the present subjunctive:

Speak	Hable, Hablen	Tell	Diga, Digan
Eat	Coma, Coman	Read	Lea, Lean
Write	Escriba, Escriban	Sleep	Duerma, Duerman

EXAMPLES

Venga más tarde.

¡Sirvan los refrescos!

Estudie la lección.

Come later (you).

Serve the soft drinks (all of you)!

Study the lesson (you).

To form negative formal commands, simply place **no** before the affirmative form. To be more polite in Spanish, the words Ud. or Uds. are added:

Traiga la silla Ud.
No traiga la silla Ud.

Please bring the chair.
Please don't bring the chair.

Escriban las palabras Uds.
No escriban las palabras Uds.

Write the words.
Please don't write the words.

The first person plural form of the subjunctive is also considered an imperative, except for the word **vamos**, which replaces **vayamos**, for *let's go*:

Abramos las ventanas.
No cerremos las puertas.
Vamos (not Vayamos) al parque.

Let's open the windows.
Let's not close the doors.
Let's go to the park.

The first person plural command form does not require Ud. or Uds., because it actually implies *Let's*. Also, the **vamos a + infinitive** construction may replace the first person plural affirmative command form, because it can mean the same thing:

Caminemos.

Vamos a caminar.

} *Let's walk*

Vendamos la casa.

Vamos a vender la casa.

} *Let's sell the house.*

With affirmative command forms, object pronouns (whether direct or indirect) are attached to the end, and a written accent is usually placed over the syllable originally stressed:

Traígalos.
Pregúntele.

Bring them.
Ask him.

Cerrémosla.
Expliquémoslo.

Let's close it.
Let's explain it to them.

However, when **nos** (reflexive pronoun) or **se** (indirect object pronoun) are added to the first-person plural command form, the final **s** is dropped and an accent is written over the stressed syllable:

Levantemo (s) + nos = Levantémonos
Digamo (s) + se + lo = Digámoselo
Pongamo (s) + nos + las = Pongámonoslas

Let's get up.
Let's tell it to him.
Let's put them on.

Remember that with negative command forms, all object pronouns are placed before the verb instead of after:

No me llame.

Do not call me.

No nos sentemos.

Let's not sit down.

No se vayan Uds.

Please don't go.

No accent mark is needed when a single object pronoun is added to a one-syllable command form:

DAR (to give)

Deme la llave.

Give me the key.



LA PRÁCTICA 1

Translate these sentences in the imperative into English:

1. No traiga nada. *Don't bring anything.*
2. Piénselo. _____
3. Comprémoslas. _____
4. No fumen Uds. _____
5. Vamos a salir. _____
6. Prende la luz. _____
7. No me diga. _____
8. Callémonos. _____
9. Cante Ud. _____
10. No la firme. _____

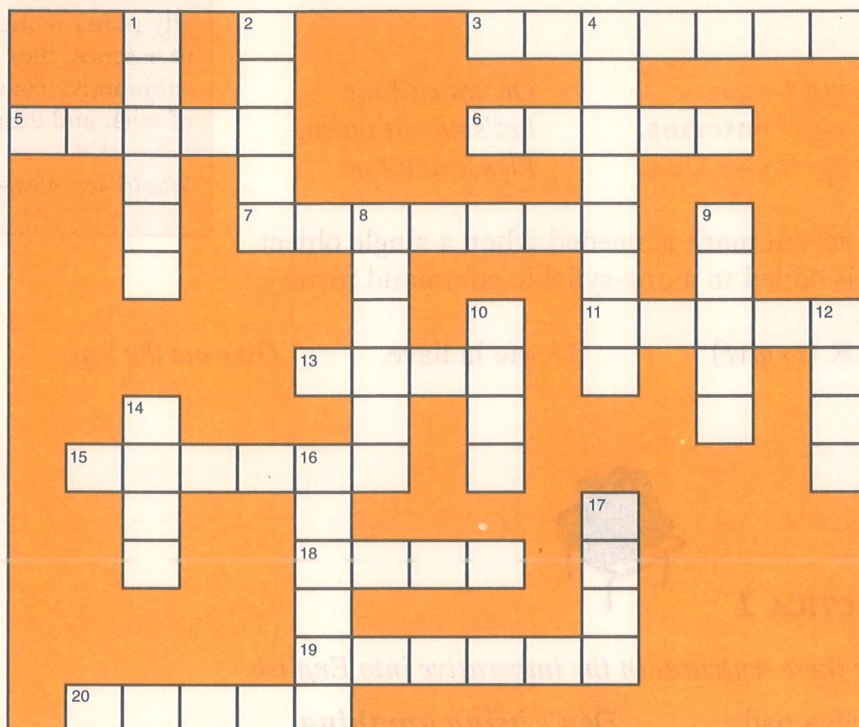
TIP

Formal commands are actually polite requests because, in essence, they are typical subjunctive constructions of wish and desire:

Venga Ud.

Would you please come?

CROSSWORD 7



Translate these into Spanish:

Across

- 3. write
- 5. move
- 6. come
- 7. listen
- 11. own
- 13. say
- 15. buy
- 18. ask for
- 19. bring
- 20. run

Down

- 1. close
- 2. call
- 4. answer
- 8. walk
- 9. put
- 10. go
- 12. open
- 14. eat
- 16. repeat
- 17. do

Informal Commands

El imperativo informal

Informal or familiar commands in Spanish are directed at **tú** and **vosotros**, meaning that the speaker is probably addressing family, children, or friends. **Tú** commands are formed by dropping the final **s** of the second person singular of the present indicative:

Speak	hablas → Habla	Close	cierras → Cierra
Run	corres → Corre	Move	mueves → Mueve
Write	escribes → Escribe	Ask for	pides → Pide

However, there are eight verbs which have irregular affirmative **tú** command forms and therefore need to be memorized:

Say	Di	(decir)	Leave	Sal	(salir)
Do, Make	Haz	(hacer)	Be	Sé	(ser)
Go	Ve	(ir)	Have	Ten	(tener)
Put	Pon	(poner)	Come	Ven	(venir)

EJEMPLOS

Ven aquí, hermanito.

Come here, little brother.

Cambia la música, por favor.

Please change the music.

Pon el libro en la mesa.

Put the book on the table.

The **vosotros** or second person plural informal command is formed by dropping the final **r** of the infinitive and adding **d**:

Look	Mirad	(mirar)
Drink	Bebed	(beber)
Serve	Servid	(servir)

With reflexive verbs, affirmative **tú** commands maintain their forms, whereas with **vosotros** the commands lose their final **d** when the pronoun **os** is attached. The verb **irse** (*to leave*) is the only exception (**Id + os = Idos**):

INFINITIVE	Tú	Vosotros
Levantarse (<i>to rise</i>)	Levántate	Levanta(d) + os = Levantaos
Dormirse (<i>to fall asleep</i>)	Duérmete	Dormi(d) + os = Dormíos
Ponerse (<i>to put oneself</i>)	Ponte	Pone(d) + os = Ponéos

Negative commands in the familiar second person singular and plural require the use of these present subjunctive forms:

	AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
tú	Maneja	No manejes
vosotros	Manejad	No manejéis
tú	Come	No comas
vosotros	Comed	No comáis
tú	Di	No digas
vosotros	Decid	No digáis

Remember that with affirmative command forms, all direct, indirect, and reflexive pronouns are attached to the verb at the end. With negative command forms, all object pronouns are placed before the verb.

AFFIRMATIVE	NEGATIVE
Abridla	No la abráis
Dile	No le digas
Sírvelos	No los sirvas
Póntelas	No se las pongas
Vendédmelo	No me lo vendáis

Notice also that the affirmative informal command may be irregular, but its negative verb form is still derived from the present subjunctive:

Hazlo.

Do it.

No lo hagas.

Don't do it.

Idos.

Leave.

No os vayáis.

Don't leave.

TIP

Don't forget that **ver** and **ir** have the same affirmative **tú** command form:

Ve la película.

See the movie.

Ve al baño.

Go to the bathroom.



LA PRÁCTICA 2

Change these informal command phrases from the negative to the affirmative:

1. No tengas fiesta hoy. **Ten fiesta hoy** _____
2. No te sientes. _____
3. No entres. _____
4. No la cierres. _____
5. No salgas. _____
6. No te pongas la gorra. _____
7. No contestes. _____
8. No le digas todo. _____
9. No te levantes. _____
10. No vayas a tu cuarto. _____

Indirect Commands

El imperativo indirecto

When a command is being given to one person, but is meant to be carried out by another, it is called an INDIRECT COMMAND. Indirect commands are formed by combining the word **que** with the present subjunctive third person singular or plural:

Que venga.

Tell him to come.

Que hablen.

Let them speak.

Que lo haga él.

Have him do it.

Notice how the translations of indirect commands may vary in English, and how a subject pronoun may be added at the end for emphasis. Also, unlike direct commands, the object pronouns are placed before the verb:

Que me esperen afuera.

Have them wait for me outside.

Que no se lo diga.

Don't let him tell it to her.

Que se bañen.

Tell them to bathe.

When indirect commands include **se** constructions with indirect object pronouns, they are often used as direct commands. Notice how the speaker is talking to *you*:

Que no se les pierdan las carteras. *Don't lose your purses.*
Que no se te olvide el libro. *Don't forget your book.*
Que no se les escapen los perritos. *Don't let the puppies run away.*



LA PRÁCTICA 3

Use the words to create complete indirect commands:

1. ¿Los chicos? *Let them eat the meat.* **Que coman la carne.**
2. ¿La lección? *Tell them to prepare it.*
3. ¿Catalina? *Have her pay the bill.*
4. ¿El dinero? *Don't let him give it to them.*
5. ¿Tus primos? *Let them come back on Sunday.*
6. ¿Los estudiantes? *Tell them not to stay there.*
7. ¿El trabajo? *Let Camacho do it.*
8. ¿Mis hijas? *Have them call me tomorrow.*
9. ¿La Sra. Pérez? *Tell her not to wait in the car.*
10. ¿La pareja? *Let them get married.*

Other Command Forms

Otras formas del imperativo

The Spanish verb infinitive is often used as an imperative, particularly in its written form—on notices, in recipes, with instructions, etc.

No fumar. *Do not smoke.*
Enviar su nombre y dirección. *Send your name and address.*
Añadir sal y pimienta. *Add salt and pepper.*

The following expressions use the infinitive to make more courteous requests in the imperative:

Haga(me) el favor de salir por la puerta trasera.

Please leave through the back door.

Favor de firmar aquí.

Please sign here.

Tengan la bondad de sentarse ahora mismo.

Everyone please be seated now.

¿Podrían quedarse en silencio, por favor?

Will you please be quiet?

Tenga la amabilidad de cerrar la puerta.

Please close the door.



LA PRÁCTICA 4

Turn these formal and informal commands into courteous expressions using the infinitive:

1. Traígame el pastel.

Favor de traerme el pastel.

2. No suban por la escalera.

3. Pon la carta en el sobre.

4. Vaya a la tienda con Laura.

5. No comas la fruta seca.

6. Díganos la verdad.

7. Hagan Uds. el trabajo.

8. No escuche la radio.

9. Pon los cubiertos en la mesa.

10. Vengan acá.

12

The Verb Infinitive

¿Cuánto sabe usted?

How Much Do You Know Already?



1. How do you say *I want to listen* in Spanish?
2. Use the construction **verb + en + infinitive** in a sentence.
3. What's the difference between **Debe ir** and **Debe de ir**?
4. How do you say *I saw them arrive* in Spanish?
5. Use **en lugar de** before an infinitive in a sentence.

The Infinitive After Conjugated Verbs

El infinitivo precedido por verbos conjugados

The infinitive is often used after conjugated verb forms in Spanish. Notice how the verb + infinitive construction does not always translate the word *to* into English:

INFINITIVE	VERB + INFINITIVE	
trabajar (to work)	Queremos trabajar contigo.	<i>We want to work with you.</i>
volver (to return)	Deben volver a la una.	<i>They should return at one o'clock.</i>
coser (to sew)	No sabía coser.	<i>I didn't know how to sew.</i>
hacer (to do)	¿Puedes hacerlo?	<i>Can you do it?</i>
tomar (to take)	Preferiría tomar el tren.	<i>He'd prefer to take the train.</i>