

Simple Present Tense

Regular Verbs in Spanish



Master -AR, -ER, and -IR verbs — your first step to speaking Spanish!

1. When to Use the Present Tense

The present tense in Spanish is used to express:

- **Actions happening at the moment of speaking** — e.g., "I am listening right now."
- **Habits, routines, and repeated actions** — e.g., "Every day I wake up at 7 am."
- **General statements of fact** — e.g., "Water boils at 100°C."

2. Spanish vs. English: Key Differences

 English	 Spanish
Verb endings rarely change Only adds "-s" for he/she/it. He speaks s · She eats s	Unique ending for every subject Each pronoun gets its own form. hablo · hablas · habla
Subject pronoun is mandatory You MUST say "I", "you", "he", etc. "I speak" — you can't drop "I".	Subject pronoun is optional The verb ending tells you who acts. "Hablo" = "I speak" — no pronoun needed!

3. Conjugation of Regular Verbs

How to conjugate: ① Find the infinitive → ② Drop the -AR/-ER/-IR ending → ③ Add the new ending

Table A: -AR verbs (Example: *hablar* — to speak) Stem = **habl-**

Subject (English)	Sujeto (Español)	Ending	Conjugated Verb
I	Yo	-o	Hablo
You (informal)	Tú	-as	Hablas
He / She / You (formal)	Él / Ella / Ud.	-a	Habla
We	Nosotros	-amos	Hablamos
You (Spain, plural)	Vosotros	-áis	Habláis
They / You (plural)	Ellos / Uds.	-an	Hablan

Table B: -ER verbs (Example: *comer* — to eat) Stem = **com-**

Subject (English)	Sujeto (Español)	Ending	Conjugated Verb
I	Yo	-o	Como
You (informal)	Tú	-es	Comes
He / She / You (formal)	Él / Ella / Ud.	-e	Come
We	Nosotros	-emos	Comemos
You (Spain, plural)	Vosotros	-éis	Coméis
They / You (plural)	Ellos / Uds.	-en	Comen

Table C: -IR verbs (Example: *vivir* — to live) Stem = **viv-**

Subject (English)	Sujeto (Español)	Ending	Conjugated Verb
I	Yo	-o	Vivo
You (informal)	Tú	-es	Vives
He / She / You (formal)	Él / Ella / Ud.	-e	Vive
We	Nosotros	-imos	Vivimos
You (Spain, plural)	Vosotros	-ís	Vivís
They / You (plural)	Ellos / Uds.	-en	Viven

4. Examples & Sentence Structure

Basic sentence structure in Spanish: **Subject + Verb + Object**

Spanish

English

Yo leo un libro hoy.	<i>I read a book today.</i>
Tú comes una manzana dulce.	<i>You eat a sweet apple.</i>
Él compra una camisa nueva.	<i>He buys a new shirt.</i>
Nosotros vemos una película bonita.	<i>We watch a beautiful movie.</i>
¿Hablas español?	<i>Do you speak Spanish?</i>

EXERCISES / EJERCICIOS

Practice makes perfect — try every sentence from scratch!



Exercise A: Conjugation — Fill in the blanks

Fill in the blanks with the correct conjugation of the verb in parentheses.

- Rachel _____ (*estudiar*) medicina.
- Mis abuelos _____ (*vivir*) en Alemania.
- En mis clases de inglés, yo _____ (*escribir*) mucho.
- Tú _____ (*cocinar*) muy sabroso.
- Nosotros _____ (*charlar*) con nuestros amigos.
- Ellos no _____ (*comprender*) mucho español.
- El banco _____ (*abrir*) a las 9:00 de la mañana.



Exercise B: Sentence Creation

Using the **Subject + Verb + Object** structure, write 3 sentences in Spanish using the verbs below. Then translate them into English.

- Verb: **comprar** (*to buy*)

ES: _____

EN: _____

2. Verb: **beber** (to drink)

ES: _____

EN: _____

3. Verb: **aprender** (to learn)

ES: _____

EN: _____



 **Exercise C: Write a Short Paragraph About Yourself**

Write 3–4 sentences introducing yourself. Include:

- Where you **live** (vivir)
- What you **study or learn** (estudiar / aprender)
- What you **eat or drink** regularly (comer / beber)

Remember: you can drop "yo" if you want!

 **Bonus: Common Errors to Avoid**

 Wrong	 Correct	Why?
Yo hablo	Yo hablo	<i>Spanish doesn't add -s for 1st person</i>

Ellos come	Ellos comen	<i>-ER verbs use -en, not -e for ellos</i>
Nosotros vive	Nosotros vivimos	<i>-IR verbs: nosotros ending is -imos</i>
Yo siempre I eat fish	Yo siempre como pescado	<i>Don't mix English & Spanish in one sentence!</i>



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