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Spanish

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 - Pronunciation guide
 - Cultural overview
 - Glossary

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**Instant
Immersion™**

Spanish

developed by Mary March, M.A.

written by Jenny Lona, Ph.D.



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Immersion™**

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Bienvenido welcome to **Instant Immersion™ Spanish!** An understanding of other cultures is critical in becoming part of a larger global community. Knowing how to communicate in other languages is one way to facilitate this process, and you have chosen a truly global language to learn. There are diverse Spanish-speaking cultures in Europe, Central and South America and the Caribbean, having a worldwide influence on cuisine, fashion, dance, theater, architecture, and arts. Of course, there are also many Spanish-speaking communities in the United States.

Now let's get down to learning some Spanish. Did you know a large percentage of English vocabulary has roots in Latin? Spanish gets a majority of its vocabulary from Latin, as well, so there are many similar words between the two languages. This means you already know the meaning of many Spanish words such as: *radio, problema, policía, concierto, televisión, posible, restaurante, música, banana, bicicleta, hospital, diciembre, especial*, and many more! You just have to learn the pronunciation. As you'll see, Spanish pronunciation isn't very difficult *difícil!*

This book will help you learn the basics of communicating in Spanish in a way that will be fun and easy for you. We include many popular phrases and expressions, and show you how these are used in real life through example conversations and stories. This book also provides an easy pronunciation system that will give you the confidence you need to speak Spanish. A wide range of interesting and valuable topics give you a firm grounding in the language, including how to order food like a local, how to travel comfortably within the country, and even what to do when things go wrong.



PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

Spanish is very consistent in its pronunciation, meaning that vowels and consonants or combinations of letters are pronounced in the same way no matter what word they appear in*. Spanish has many of the same sounds found in English, plus some special sounds you might not be used to hearing. The following chart will help you pronounce words in Spanish; throughout this book, the pronunciation of most new words is given to you, with the stressed syllable in capital letters.

Spanish vowels and consonants	Approximate equivalent in English	Notation in pronunciation key
a	long "a" as in "b <u>a</u> r"	a,ah
b	like English "b" but softer; don't close your lips all the way	b
c	before a, o, u: [k]; before e, i: [s] or in some places, [th] as in "three"	k,s
ch	as in " <u>ch</u> urch"	ch
d	softer than English "d;" more like "th" in " <u>th</u> en"	d,th
e	like "a" in " <u>t</u> ake," but shorter	eh
f	like English "f"	f
g	before a, o, u: [g] as in " <u>g</u> irl"; before e, i: like " <u>h</u> " in "help," but stronger	g,h
h	hache ALWAYS silent	
i	like "ee" as in "fe <u>e</u> t," but shorter	ee
j	jota like "h" in " <u>h</u> elp," but stronger expel more air to make the sound louder	h
k	like English "k" "k" doesn't occur in native Spanish words	k
l	like English "l"	l
ll	like "y" in "yes" in some places like "j" in " <u>j</u> am"	y
m	like English "m"	m
n	like English "n"	n
ñ	eñe a "nyuh" sound, like you hear in " <u>o</u> nion" or " <u>u</u> nion"	ny
o	like English "o" in "ph <u>o</u> ne," but shorter	o,oh
p	like English "p" but expelling less air	p
q	like English "k;" always followed by "u," but the "u" is silent	k
r	ere usually like "dd" in " <u>l</u> adder;" at the beginning of a word or between vowels, "r" makes a rolled "rrr" sound	r,rr
rr	erre a rolled "rrr" sound	rr
s	ese like English "s"	s
t	te like English "t" but expelling less air	t
u	like "oo" in " <u>m</u> oon," but shorter	oo
v	ve see "b" above; the two letters are pronounced exactly alike	b
w	doble ve like English "w" "w" doesn't occur in native Spanish words	w
x	equis generally [ks] as in " <u>a</u> x", occasionally a strong "h" sound see "j"	ks,h
y	i griega see the possible pronunciations of "ll" above; "y" has the same variation	y
z	zeta like English "s" or in some places, [th] as in "three"	s
ai/ay	These combinations are always pronounced like the English word "eye."	ai, ay

Although word stress is indicated for you in this book, there are three simple rules that can help you figure out where the stress falls in any Spanish word:

1. If the word ends in a **vowel, n, or s**, stress the next-to-last syllable.
2. If the word ends in a **consonant other than n or s**, stress the last syllable.
3. **Any exception to rules one and two has a written accent over the stressed vowel.**

*The one exception is "x" which is pronounced like a strong "h" in some Native American words.

BWEHnos DEEas
¡Buenos días!
Good morning!

Instant Immersion™ Spanish has 16 chapters. You can work through the book chapter by chapter or skip around to the topics that most interest you. Study the expressions and vocabulary before reading the dialogue or story. Say them out loud to practice your pronunciation. Read through the dialogue or story as many times as you need to. Then read it out loud. Do the exercises, and check your answers in the Answer Key at the back of the book. Finally, get in a Spanish mood! Put up posters of Spanish-speaking places, enjoy your favorite Spanish or Latin American foods, listen to some flamenco or salsa, whatever it takes... and have fun learning Spanish!



meh da iGWAL
Me da igual.
I don't care.



BAMos
Vamos.
Let's go.



OHMbre
hombre
man

ehl
él
he

maNYAna
mañana
morning

EHya
ella
she

mooHAIR
mujer
woman

aBLAR
hablar
to speak

KCOmo ehsTA oosTETH
¿Cómo está Usted?
How are you?

toMAR
tomar
to take

eer
ir
to go

oosTETH
usted
you

KYEHreh
quiere
want

ehsTOY beeEHN
Estoy bien.
I'm fine.



aIMWEHRso
almuerzo
lunch

(kcoMEHR)
comer
to eat

SEHna
cena
dinner

dehsaYOOo
desayuno
breakfast



DIALOGUE

ehs maNYAna OOna mooHEHR ehLEHna ee oon OHMbre Pablo HABlan
Es mañana. Una mujer Elena y un hombre Pablo hablan.
it is a and a

BWEHnos DEEas, PABlo Komo ehSTA oosTETH
Elena: “Buenos días, Pablo. ¿Cómo está usted?”

BWEHnos DEEas ehLEHna ehSTOY beeEhn ee oosTETH
Pablo: “Buenos días, Elena. Estoy bien. Y usted?”

ehsTOY beeEhn DOHNdeh KYEHreh oosTETH
Elena: “Estoy bien. ¿Dónde quiere usted
where

toMAR ehl dehsaYOOno?
tomar el desayuno?”
the

meh da iGWAL PohDEHmos eer al kaFEH ehn ehl ohTEL
Paul: “Me da igual. Podemos ir al café en el hotel.
we can to the

KYEHro koMEHR oon pan DOOLseh
Quiero comer un pan dulce.”
I want

yo tamBYEHN EhnTOHNseh BAmos.
Lise: “Yo también. Entonces, ¡vamos!”
I too then

PRACTICE

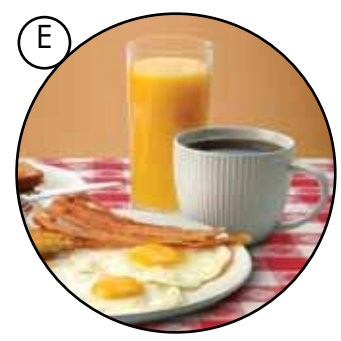
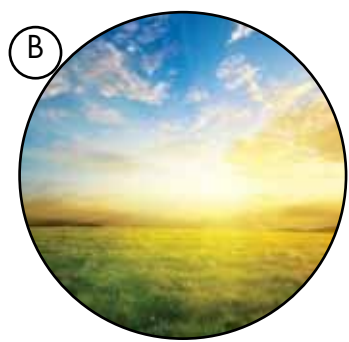
Fill in the blanks using the words below.

desayuno	cena	quiere	tomar
almuerzo	dónde	usted	dónde

- ¿ _____ quiere usted tomar la _____ ? 8 p.m.
- ¿Dónde _____ tomar el _____ ? 8 a.m.
- ¿Dónde quiere usted el _____ ? 12 p.m.
- ¿ _____ quiere usted comer?

MATCHING

MATCH THE SENTENCE WITH THE PICTURE



- _____ 1. Una mujer y un hombre hablan.
- _____ 2. Yo también. Entonces, ¡vamos!
- _____ 3. Me da igual.
- _____ 4. Es mañana.
- _____ 5. ¿Dónde quiere (Ud.) tomar el desayuno?

_____ 6. Quiero comer.

FOCUS: SUBJECT PRONOUNS

SINGULAR

yo
yo I

too
tú you / singular / familiar

oosTETH
usted / (Ud.) you / sing. / formal

ehl
él he / it, masculine

EHya
ella she / it, feminine

PLURAL

noSOtrohs
nosotros / as we

voSOtrohs
vosotros / as y'all / plural / familiar

oosTEthehs
ustedes / (Uds.) you all / pl. / formal

EHyos
ellos they / masculine

EHyas
ellas they / feminine