

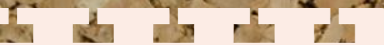


# SOS Spanish Basic Grammar Toolkit



@OpenUCT

by María Recuenco Peñalver  
and Mercedes Rodríguez-Rubio Camacho



This work license is described as  
Creative Commons Attribution  
4.0 International (CC BY 4.0).



# Contents for SLL1073F (part II)

1. Verb *gustar*
2. *También, tampoco (yo sí, yo no)*
3. *Muy, bastante, un poco*
4. Possessives
5. Present Tense - Irregular Verbs
6. *Poner, traer*
7. Reflexive verbs
8. Structures with *se*
9. Direct object pronouns
10. *Quantifiers: algún, ningún, mucho*
11. Place: prepositions and adverbs
12. Present perfect
13. *Saber / poder + infinitive*

## REMEMBER:

Spanish is a Romance language  
(comes from Latin) and works in a  
completely different way to African  
languages and English.

Be open to that.

Take it as a challenge.

Keep on keeping the eye on the prize\*

Enjoy it!!!

\*

Spanish  
is the second most  
commonly spoken  
native language  
in the world,  
ranking ahead of English  
and behind only Mandarin.



¡VAMOS!

# I Verb *gustar*

## Present

(A mí)	me			
(A ti)	te			
(A él / a ella)	le			o
(A usted)	le			as
(A nosotros/ a nosotras)	nos	gust	+	a
(A vosotros/ a vosotras)	os			amos
(A ellos/ a ellas)	os			áis
(A ustedes)	les			an
	les			

 optional

 compulsory

= Same  
functioning verbs:  
encantar, interesar,  
fascinar, aburrir,  
molestar, doler...

(A ti) te gustan los coches  
= You like cars (Cars are pleasing to you)

(A ellas) les gustas tú  
= They like you (You are pleasing to them)

(A mí) me gusta leer  
= I like reading (Reading is pleasing to me)

## Remember:

- ❑ Not used with personal pronouns (yo, tu, él, ella...)  
BUT: a + mí, ti, él, ella, usted...
- ❑ Needs indirect object pronoun (me, te, le, nos, os, les)
- ❑ Verb endings match object (what one likes), not subject (who likes it)

Gustar  
= to be  
pleasing to

2

# también vs tampoco

## También



also  
too

used after positive sentences

-Tengo frío [I am cold]

-Yo también (tengo frío). [Me too]

-Me gusta cantar. [I like singing]

-A mí también [Me too]  
(me gusta cantar)

## Tampoco



either  
neither

used after negative sentences

-No tengo frío. [I am not cold]

-Yo tampoco [Me neither]  
(tengo frío).

-No me gusta cantar. [I don't like singing]

-A mí tampoco [Me neither]  
(me gusta cantar).

2

# también vs tampoco

With opposite answers

-Tengo frío.  
-Yo no (tengo frío).

-I am cold.  
-I am not.

-No tengo frío.  
-Yo sí (tengo frío).

-I am not cold.  
-I am.

-A mí me gusta el helado  
-A mí no (me gusta el helado)

-I like ice cream  
-I don't.

-A mí no me gusta el helado.  
-A mí sí (me gusta el helado)

-I don't like ice cream.  
-I do.

3

muy, bastante,  
un poco

Quantitative adverbs are used with adjectives or with other adverbs to intensity quantity.

Adverbs are invariable, meaning, they don't agree in gender or number with the words they modify.

muy = very

bastante = quite

un poco = a bit, a little

examples



## MUY

Ellos son **muy** listos.  
They are **very** smart.

Ella es **muy** inteligente.  
She is **very** intelligent.

## BASTANTE

Estudiaron la lección con **bastante** rapidez.  
They prepared the lesson **quite** quickly.

Esta casa es **bastante** ruidosa.  
This house is **quite** noisy.

## UN POCO

Canto **un poco** mal.  
I sing a **bit** badly.

Estamos **un poco** cansadas.  
We are a **little** tired.



# 4 Possessives

Possessives are words used before nouns to indicate who or what possesses something.



Possessives match the object (possessed entity) in gender and number, and not the subject (possessor).

**My** cars, **your** house,  
**their** radio, **his** dogs...



# Possessives

	<b>masc. sg.</b>	<b>femin. sg.</b>	<b>masc. pl.</b>	<b>femin. pl.</b>
<b>yo</b>	mi (coche)	mi (casa)	mis (coches)	mis (casas)
<b>tú</b>	tu (coche)	tu (casa)	tus (coches)	tus (casas)
<b>él / ella</b>	su (coche)	su (casa)	sus (coches)	sus (casas)
<b>usted</b>	su (coche)	su (casa)	sus (coches)	sus (casas)
<b>nosotros/as</b>	nuestro (coche)	nuestra (casa)	nuestros (coches)	nuestras (casas)
<b>vosotros/as</b>	vuestro (coche)	vuestra (casa)	vuestros (coches)	vuestras (casas)
<b>ellos / ellas</b>	su (coche)	su (casa)	sus (coches)	sus (casas)
<b>ustedes</b>	su (coche)	su (casa)	sus (coches)	sus (casas)

5

# Irregular verbs

**Stem of a verb** ➡ verb without the infinitive suffix (-ar, -er, -ir) from the infinitive form (i.e, verb non conjugated)

**Regular verbs** have no change in the stem when conjugated. The only change happening deals with the endings, depending on the subject (yo > o, etc...)

**Irregular verbs (or stem-changing verbs)** are verbs that, when conjugated, change their endings (depending on the subject, like regular verbs) AND get also changes in the stem.

There are some irregular verbs that are REALLY irregular (like, for every person), while other irregular verbs only have stem-changes in some subjects.

There is no possible human way for one to know when a verb is regular or irregular just by looking at the infinitive. They all finish in -ar, -er, -ir. You will have to check with someone or something. Dictionaries are your friends.

5

# Irregular verbs - Present

When it comes to the conjugation for Present Tense, we can differentiate verbs that share common irregularities:

- Irregular verbs ONLY in 1<sup>st</sup> person of singular (yo) ➡ estar, saber
- Stem-changing for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of singular and 3<sup>rd</sup> of plural
  - E to I ➡ pedir
  - E to IE ➡ cerrar
  - O to UE ➡ dormir
  - U to UE ➡ jugar
- Irregular verbs with two irregularities: 1<sup>st</sup> person sg. AND vowel change in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> person of singular and 3<sup>rd</sup> person of plural  
➡ decir, tener

Conjugated  
verbs



# 📌 Irregular ONLY 1<sup>st</sup> p. of singular (yo)

## ESTAR (to be)

Yo **estoy**  
Tú estás  
Él/ Ella está  
Usted está  
Nosotros/as estamos  
Vosotros/as estáis  
Ellos/as están  
Ustedes están

## SABER (to know)

Yo **sé**  
Tú sabes  
Él/ Ella sabe  
Usted sabe  
Nosotros/as sabemos  
Vosotros/as sabéis  
Ellos/as saben  
Ustedes saben

Other verbs:

➡ Poner, traer

➡ Hacer (yo hago)

➡ Salir (salgo)

➡ Conducir (conduzco)

# Stem-changing: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of singular + 3<sup>rd</sup> of plural

## E > I

Yo **pi**do  
Tú **pi**des  
Él/ella/usted **pi**de  
Nosotros/as **pi**dimos  
Vosotros/as **pi**dís  
Ellos/as/ustedes **pi**den

## E > IE

Yo **ci**erro  
Tú **ci**erras  
Él/ella/usted **ci**erra  
Nosotros/as **ci**rramos  
Vosotros/as **ci**rráis  
Ellos/as/ustedes **ci**erran

Pedir (to ask)  
Cerrar (to close)  
Dormir (to sleep)  
Jugar (to play)

## O > UE

Yo **du**ermo  
Tú **du**ermes  
Él/ella/usted **du**erme  
Nosotros/as **du**ermimos  
Vosotros/as **du**ermís  
Ellos/as/ustedes **du**ermen

## U > UE

Yo **ju**ego  
Tú **ju**egas  
Él/ella/usted **ju**ega  
Nosotros/as **ju**egamos  
Vosotros/as **ju**gáis  
Ellos/as/ustedes **ju**egan

Irregular 1<sup>st</sup> person sg. + vowel change in 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> person of singular and 3<sup>rd</sup> person of plural

### DECIR

(to say)

Yo digo

Tú dices

Él/ella/usted dice

Nosotros/as decimos

Vosotros/as decís

Ellos/as/Ustedes dicen

### TENER

(to have)

Yo tengo

Tú tienes

Él/ella/usted tiene

Nosotros/as tenemos

Vosotros/as tenéis

Ellos/as/Ustedes tienen

# 6 Verbs *poner* and *traer*

## Present Tense

**Poner** (to put)

**Traer** (to bring)

Yo  
Tú  
Él/Ella  
Usted  
Nosotros/as  
Vosotros/as  
Ellos/Ellas  
Ustedes

pongo  
pones  
pone  
pone  
ponemos  
ponéis  
ponen  
ponen

traigo  
traes  
trae  
trae  
traemos  
traéis  
traen  
traen



Very irregular in 1<sup>st</sup>  
person of singular

Other subjects:  
same endings as  
regular verbs in -er

# 7 Reflexive verbs

Used to express actions where subject and (direct) object are the same, e.g. someone or something is performing an action on or for itself.

Verbs of personal care or daily routines are reflexive, but many other verbs can be reflexive as well.

Reflexive verbs require reflexive pronouns. The "se" in the infinitive changes (gets conjugated) for every person too.

Lavarse ➡ to wash yourself (reflexive)  
Lavar ➡ to wash (something else, not reflexive)

Hablar ➡ to talk  
Hablarse ➡ to talk to one's self

**Ducharse** (to shower)

Yo	me	ducho
Tú	te	duchas
Él/ella	se	ducha
Usted	se	ducha
Nosotros	nos	duchamos
Vosotros	os	ducháis
Ellos/ellas	se	duchan
Ustedes	se	duchan

optional ➡

➡ compulsory

# 7 Reflexive verbs

Reflexive pronouns in reflexive verbs indicate that the object of the verb is also the subject, meaning the subject is performing the action on him/herself.

Pronouns are placed immediately before simple conjugated verbs.

Nosotros nos duchamos todos los días.  
(We shower every day)

Ellos no se lavan con agua fría.  
(They do not wash themselves with cold water)

# 8 Se structures

Used to focus on what is done (action), and not who performs it, either because we don't know the subject or because we decide not to refer to it.

**se + verb**  
**in third person of singular or plural**  
(depending on the noun after the verb)

En mi casa se come pescado.  
En mi casa se comen empanadas.

En mi casa se come a las dos.

No noun after verb

verb always in  
singular.



We don't use *se* with verbs like *gustar* or reflexive verbs:

A los españoles les gusta el fútbol.  
(Spaniards like football)

En España la gente se levanta muy tarde.  
(In Spain people wake up very late)

At home, we eat fish /  
fish is eaten.

At home, we eat pies /  
pies are eaten.

At home, we eat at 2.

# 9 Direct object pronouns ↴

## Subject

Who or what realizes an action.

**El perro** ladra.  
(The dog barks)

**Mis hermanos**  
bailan tango.  
(My siblings can dance tango)

## Direct object

Noun, group of nouns or pronoun that receives the action of the verb.

Leo **el periódico**.  
(I read the newspaper)

Comemos **paella** los domingos.  
(We eat paella on Sundays)

	Masculino	Femenino
Yo		me
Tú		te
Él, ella, usted	lo	la
Nosotros/-as		nos
Vosotros/-as		os
Ellos/ellas/ustedes	los	las

# 9 Direct object pronouns

These pronouns **replace** the direct object of the sentence when it's clear what is being talked about, so we do not repeat the noun.

Tengo el coche roto y lo necesito para trabajar.

(My car is broken and I need it to work)

Me gustan las gafas, ¿las compro?  
(I like the glasses, should I buy them?)

The direct object pronoun comes **before** the conjugated verb.

The direct object pronouns agree in gender and number with the noun that they replaced

# 10 Quantifiers

⇒ algún/alguno/alguna/  
algunos/algunas

⇒ ningún/ninguno/  
ninguna

A / any can become **algún** (masculine)  
or **alguna** (feminine) in questions:

¿Hay **alguna** farmacia por aquí?  
(Is there any pharmacy around?)

When the noun is known, we can avoid  
the repetition:

Sí, hay **algunas** (farmacias).  
(Yes, there are some)

Like *un / uno*, when *algún* or  
*ningún* is replacing the noun,  
we need to use the full form,  
*alguno, ninguno*

When the answer or the question is  
negative, we use **ningún/ninguno/-a** (any):

No, no hay **ninguna**.  
(No, there isn't any)

You don't need to use *no* when  
*ningún/ninguno/a* is before the verb:

¿Alguno de tus hermanos estudia español? -  
Sí, pero **ninguno** en UCT.  
(Does any of your siblings study Spanish?  
Yes, but none at UCT)

# 10 Quantifiers

⇒ mucho/mucha/  
muchos/muchas  
poco/poca/  
pocos/pocas

As adjectives, they need to agree with the noun they accompany in gender and number:

✓ **Mucho/-a/-os/-as** = much, many, a lot of

Hay **muchos** chicos / Hay **mucha** **nieve**  
(There are a lot of boys / There is a lot of snow)

✓ **Poco/-a/-os/-as** = little, few

Tenemos **poco** tiempo / Tenemos **poca** **información**  
(We have little time/ We have little information)

# II Place: prepositions and adverbs

A (to/movement to)



Vamos al teatro.

(We go to the theatre)

En (in/at, location)



Estamos en el hospital.

(We are in the hospital)

De/desde (from, movement from or procedence)



Venimos del cine.

(We are coming from the cinema)

Soy de Ciudad del Cabo.

(I am from Cape Town)

Entre (between)

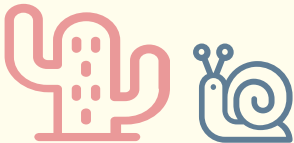


El libro está entre el ordenador y el reloj.

(The book is between the computer and the clock)

## ii Place: prepositions and adverbs

a la derecha de  
(to the right)



El caracol está a la derecha del  
cactus

(The snail is to the right of the cactus)

a la izquierda de  
(to the left)



El caracol está a la izquierda de  
los árboles

(The snail is to the left of the trees)

lejos de (far)



El caracol está lejos del  
pelicano

(The snail is far from the pelican)

cerca de (close)



El caracol está cerca de la flor

(The snail is close to the flower)

# 12 Present perfect

Present perfect (Pretérito perfecto) is one of the Spanish past tenses.

It's formed using the auxiliary verb *haber* in present and the past participle of the main verb.

The verb *haber* gets conjugated for every person but doesn't carry any meaning.

**He estado** en Barcelona  
(I **have been** in Barcelona)



	Presente verbo haber	+ participio
Yo	he	
Tú	has	
Él/ella/usted	ha	hablado
Nosotros/-as	hemos	leído vivido
Vosotros/-as	habéis	
Ellos/ellas/ ustedes	han	

# Forms of the participle

Participle doesn't  
change its ending

## Verbs in -ar

cantar  
bailar  
trabajar

**-ado**

cantado  
bailado  
trabajado

## Verbs in -er

leer  
beber  
comer

**-ido**

leído  
bebido  
comido

## Verbs in -ir

vivir  
subir  
dormir

**-ido**

vivido  
subido  
dormido

Irregular  
forms

abrir - abierto  
descubrir - descubierto  
escribir - escrito  
hacer - hecho  
morir - muerto  
poner - puesto  
romper - roto  
volver - vuelto  
decir - dicho

**You can't split the present perfect:**

Hemos ya llegado

Ya hemos llegado / Hemos llegado ya

# Uses

- To express actions that have happened recently or have consequences in the present:

He trabajado mucho este mes.

(I have worked a lot this month)

Hace un rato he hablado con mi jefe

(I have spoken to my boss a while ago)

- To talk about past experiences without saying when they took place:

¿Has comido enchiladas alguna vez?

(Have you ever eaten enchiladas?)

Frequently in combination with:  
este (mes, año),  
esta (semana, tarde), hoy, últimamente...

# 13 Saber and poder

		Saber	Poder
<b>Saber</b>	<b>Poder</b>		
We use saber + infinitive to talk about learned abilities:	We use poder + infinitive to talk about the capacity to do something:		
<b>Sé conducir</b> (I can drive)	Hoy <b>puedo nadar</b> (I am able / allowed to swim)		
		Yo	sé puedo
		Tú	sabes puedes
		Él/ella/usted	sabe puede
		Nosotros/-as	sabemos podemos
		Vosotros/-as	sabéis podéis
		Ellos/ellas/ ustedes	saben pueden

We hope  
you find this  
helpful

Spanish Section

School of Languages and Literatures

Faculty of Humanites



*¡Hasta la vista, amigos!*



# Thanks!

Do you have any questions?

[youremail@freepik.com](mailto:youremail@freepik.com)

+91 620 421 838

[yourcompany.com](http://yourcompany.com)



CREDITS: This presentation template was created by Slidesgo, including icons by Flaticon, and infographics & images by Freepik.

**Please keep this slide for attribution.**