

The present tense of regular verbs, irregular verbs, and verbs with spelling changes

•1•

Before studying the present tense of Spanish verbs, let's review some grammatical terms you will find in the units related to verbs. To conjugate a verb in the present tense or in any other tense, you will need the root of a verb and the particular ending that expresses information about the action you wish to communicate. You will find the root (or radical) of the verb in its infinitive form. It is easy to spot an infinitive in English because it is preceded by the word *to*: *to shop*, *to learn*, *to receive*, etc. Infinitives in Spanish are not preceded by a particular word but can be recognized by one of three endings: **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir**. The infinitive endings are attached to the root of the verb: **habl + ar**, **beb + er**, **decid + ir**.

The three groups of infinitives are called the first, second, and third conjugation, respectively. To conjugate a verb in Spanish, drop the **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir** and replace it with the corresponding ending that agrees with the subject doing the action.

Vendo pólizas de seguro. *I sell life insurance.*

Because conjugation endings tell who the subject is, subject pronouns in Spanish are usually omitted. The **-o** of the form **vendo** reveals the subject is **yo** (*I*). But conjugated verb endings tell more than just who does the action. Usually, these endings tell the tense (or time) actions take place: the present, past, or future.

Sales muy temprano. *You leave very early.*

Sales (*you leave*) is like **vendo** (*I sell*); each indicates an action in the present. The **-es** ending can only refer to the person **tú** in the

present tense of the indicative mood. However, endings convey additional information. With **vendo** and **sales**, the speaker indicates that these actions are perceived as a fact or reality: *I sell; you leave*. This is called the indicative mood (**modo indicativo**) of the verb. The mood expresses the attitude of the speaker. The examples **vendo** and **sales** are in the indicative mood because these verbs communicate actions perceived as factual or real. Later on, you will study other moods, such as subjunctive, conditional, and imperative.

Thus, the endings attached to the stem of a verb hold a lot of information: who does the action, when it takes place, and the attitude or perception of the speaker.

Regular Verbs in the Present Tense

To form the present tense, drop the **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir** from the root (or radical) of the infinitive, and add the ending that corresponds to the subject. The following verbs can be used as models for all regular verbs in the present tense.

| comprar (to buy) | | aprender (to learn) | | recibir (to receive) | |
|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| SINGULAR | PLURAL | SINGULAR | PLURAL | SINGULAR | PLURAL |
| compro <i>I buy</i> | compramos <i>we buy</i> | aprendo <i>I learn</i> | aprendemos <i>we learn</i> | recibo <i>I receive</i> | recibimos <i>we receive</i> |
| compras <i>you (fam.) buy</i> | compráis <i>you buy</i> | aprendes <i>you (fam.) learn</i> | aprendéis <i>you learn</i> | recibes <i>you (fam.) receive</i> | recibís <i>you receive</i> |
| compra <i>he/she/it buys, you (for.) buy</i> | compran <i>they buy, you buy</i> | aprende <i>he/she/it learns, you (for.) learn</i> | aprenden <i>they learn, you learn</i> | recibe <i>he/she/it receives, you (for.) receive</i> | reciben <i>they receive, you receive</i> |

In the following conjugations, note the *subject pronouns*, as well as the English equivalents:

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| yo compro | <i>I buy, am buying, do buy</i> |
| tú compras | <i>you (familiar singular) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| él compra | <i>he buys, is buying, does buy</i> |
| ella compra | <i>she buys, is buying, does buy</i> |
| usted (Ud.) compra | <i>you (formal singular) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| nosotros compramos | <i>we (masculine) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| nosotras compramos | <i>we (feminine) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| vosotros compráis | <i>you (masculine plural) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| vosotras compráis | <i>you (feminine plural) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| ellos compran | <i>they (masculine) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| ellas compran | <i>they (feminine) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |
| ustedes (Uds.) compran | <i>you (formal plural) buy, are buying, do buy</i> |

Study the conjugations above and remember that:

- the first-person singular **yo** has the same ending in all three conjugations.
- in the **-er** and **-ir** verb categories all three third-person singular forms have the same endings.
- the subject pronouns are usually omitted in Spanish. Verb endings give information about the subject.

Some commonly used regular verbs appear in the following lists.

| -ar | | -er | | -ir | |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------|
| bajar | to step down | beber | to drink | abrir | to open |
| cocinar | to cook | comer | to eat | compartir | to share |
| comprar | to buy | comprender | to understand | cubrir | to cover |
| conversar | to talk | correr | to run | decidir | to decide |
| cooperar | to cooperate | creer | to believe | discutir | to discuss |
| dibujar | to draw | leer | to read | escribir | to write |
| escuchar | to listen | responder | to answer | repartir | to distribute |
| limpiar | to clean | romper | to break | subir | to climb, to go up |
| preparar | to prepare | temer | to fear | sufrir | to suffer |
| sacar | to take out | vender | to sell | vivir | to live |
| sumar | to add (up) | | | | |
| trabajar | to work | | | | |

ejercicio

1-1

La familia Gómez. Escribe la forma del presente del verbo entre paréntesis.

- Pedro Gómez _____ (vivir) con su familia en mi edificio de apartamentos.
- Lucía, la esposa de Pedro, no _____ (trabajar) todos los días.
- La hija, Mercedes, _____ (estudiar) en la universidad.
- Lucía y su esposo _____ (planear) una visita a Mercedes esta semana.
- Pedrito, el hijo, ahora _____ (subir) a su apartamento.
- Pedrito _____ (sacar) a su perro a caminar todos los días.
- Y tú, ¿_____ (conversar) con los Gómez?
- Pedro _____ (necesitar) una persona para cuidar su apartamento esta semana.

ejercicio

1-2

Práctica. Escribe en español.

- I prepare dinner. _____
- The children climb the stairs. _____
- My cats drink milk. _____
- The customer adds up the bill (**la cuenta**). _____

5. Carli's mother talks to the reporter (el/la reportero[a]). _____

6. The actress fears the critics. _____

7. Your friends eat fajitas. _____

When Is the Present Tense Used in Spanish?

The present tense is used in Spanish:

- to describe an action happening now. Often, it is translated with the *-ing* form in English.

Ahora, **veo** a Anna.
Louis **llega** a la puerta.

Now I see Anna.
Louis is arriving at the gate.

- to express actions that take place regularly, in a habitual way, although the actions may not be occurring in the present. Expressions of time and other adverbs are often used to indicate that these actions take place routinely in the present.

Normalmente, compro las frutas
en el supermercado.

Usually I buy fruit at the supermarket.

- to describe events that will take place in the near future. A reference to the future may appear in the context or sentence.

Mañana discuto el plan con ustedes
en la reunión.

Tomorrow I will discuss the plan at the meeting.

Este verano, viajo a Alemania.

I will travel to Germany this summer.

- to ask questions, especially questions requesting permission or someone's opinion or preference.

¿**Bebes** café o té?
¿**Abro** la puerta?
¿**Compramos** la casa?

Do you drink coffee or tea?
Shall I open the door?
Do we buy the house?

Keep in mind the auxiliary verb *do* in English is not translated. In Spanish, an auxiliary verb is not needed to ask a question.

Often the context or words surrounding a verb help pin down information about the time the action takes place. The following are some expressions of time used frequently to refer to actions that take place customarily in the present:

vocabulario

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| al mediodía | at noon | nunca | never |
| de vez en cuando | from time to time | por la mañana | in the morning or this morning |
| el lunes, el martes, etc. | on Monday, on Tuesday, etc. | por la noche | in the evening or at night |
| esta semana | this week | por la tarde | in the afternoon |
| este mes | this month | siempre | always |
| hoy | today | todos los días | every day |
| los lunes, los martes, etc. | on Mondays, on Tuesdays, etc. | | |

ejercicio

1-3

Y en tu caso... ¿Es verdadero o falso?

- _____ 1. Desayuno a las ocho todos los días.
- _____ 2. Miro los programas de noticias por el cable por la tarde.
- _____ 3. Trabajo ocho horas.
- _____ 4. Escribo mensajes electrónicos todos los días.
- _____ 5. Preparo la cena de lunes a viernes.
- _____ 6. Como muchas frutas y vegetales frescos.

ejercicio

1-4

En español. Usa el presente.

1. Today Martha and Linus are celebrating their anniversary. _____
2. Their relatives (**los parientes**) arrive on time. _____
3. Some friends are talking in the living room. _____
4. In the backyard, the children listen to Latin music. _____
5. The smell (**el olor**) of enchiladas circulates through the house. _____
6. The children drink lemonade. _____

ejercicio

1-5

Preguntas personales. Usa el presente.

1. ¿Vives en el campo o en una ciudad? _____
2. ¿Lees novelas de misterio o de ciencia-ficción? _____
3. ¿Hablas de política o de deportes con tus amigos? _____
4. ¿Bebes té o café? _____
5. ¿Trabajas de día o de noche? _____
6. ¿Compartes tu tiempo libre con tu perro o con tu gato? _____

Other Uses of the Present Tense

The present is also used:

- to tell facts considered unquestionable or universal truths.

Cinco más quince **son** veinte. *Five plus fifteen is twenty.*

- to describe a past event, making it more vivid. This is called the historical present.

En 1969 el primer hombre **llega** a la luna. *The first man gets to the moon in 1969.*

- to express hypothetical actions introduced by **si**.

Si llega el tren, salimos. *If the train arrives, we leave.*

- to refer to possible consequences from an action that took place in the past with **casi...** (*almost*) and **por poco...** (*nearly*).

Sacó la pistola y casi me **mata**. *He drew the gun and nearly killed (kills) me.*

ejercicio

1-6

¿Verdadero o falso? Un poco de historia: los hispanos en los Estados Unidos.

- _____ 1. Los españoles fundan la ciudad de San Agustín en la Florida.
- _____ 2. Francisco Vázquez de Coronado llega a Texas.
- _____ 3. Ponce de León descubre el río Colorado.
- _____ 4. Cristóbal Colón llega a México en el siglo XVI.
- _____ 5. Los hispanos colonizan parte de los Estados Unidos antes que los ingleses.

One More Use of the Present Tense

The present tense is used:

- to express actions that began in the past and continue in the present with the construction **hace** + expression of time + **que** + verb in the present tense.

Hace tres años que esperamos una respuesta. *We have been waiting for an answer for three years.*

This construction has two other variations that carry the same meaning:

- verb in the present tense + **hace** + expression of time

Esperamos una respuesta hace tres años. *We have been waiting for an answer for three years.*

- verb in the present tense + **desde hace** + expression of time

Esperamos una respuesta desde hace tres años. *We have been waiting for an answer for three years.*

Note the following questions using each of these constructions. They all have the same meaning:

| | |
|---|---|
| ¿Cuánto tiempo hace que observas las estrellas? | } <i>How long have you been watching the stars?</i> |
| ¿Desde hace cuánto tiempo observas las estrellas? | |
| ¿Desde cuándo observas las estrellas? | |

ejercicio**1-7**

En español. Responde a las preguntas.

1. ¿Cuánto tiempo hace que estudias español? _____
2. ¿Desde hace cuánto tiempo usas la computadora? _____
3. ¿Cuántos años hace que los Estados Unidos son una nación independiente? _____
4. ¿Cuánto tiempo hace que usamos la Internet? _____
5. ¿Desde cuándo escuchas música clásica? _____

ejercicio**1-8**

Tu propia experiencia. En español, completa la oración con tu información personal.

1. Hace una semana que _____.
2. Desde hace un año _____.
3. Hace diez días _____.
4. Desde hace un año, no _____.
5. Hace tres meses _____.

ejercicio**1-9**

¿Verdadero o falso? La tecnología y su uso.

- _____ 1. Usamos la Internet desde el siglo (*century*) pasado.
- _____ 2. Enviamos mensajes de texto (*text messages*) desde hace cincuenta años.
- _____ 3. Desde hace dos décadas usamos el teléfono.
- _____ 4. Hace más de dos siglos que existe el telescopio Hubble.
- _____ 5. Viajamos en avión de los Estados Unidos a otros continentes desde hace casi un siglo.

Irregular Verbs in the Present Tense

Many Spanish verbs do not follow the patterns of the regular verbs you have just studied. Instead, they change the root (or radical) of the verb, the conjugation endings, or both. Because they follow different patterns, they are considered *irregular* verbs. Since irregular verbs are so commonly used, a good strategy to identify and learn them is to focus on similarities, grouping them into patterns. Study the following groups of irregular verbs in the present:

- Verbs with irregular first-person singular only; all other forms in the present are regular.

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| caber | to fit | quepo | saber | to know | sé |
| caer | to fall | caigo | salir | to leave | salgo |
| dar | to give | doy | traer | to bring | traigo |
| estar | to be | estoy | valer | to be worth | valgo |
| hacer | to do | hago | ver | to see | veo |
| poner | to put | pongo | | | |

ejercicio

1-10

Práctica. En español.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. I give. _____ | 5. I bring. _____ |
| 2. They put. _____ | 6. I fall. _____ |
| 3. You (Uds.) see. _____ | 7. You (tú) do. _____ |
| 4. We fit in. _____ | 8. I go out. _____ |

The compounds of these verbs are also irregular in the **yo** form only; they add the consonant **g** between the radical and the verb ending. Compounds are easy to spot because they show a prefix (**des-**, **dis-**, **com-**, **con-**, etc.) preceding the radical. Here is a list of frequently used compounds of **hacer**, **poner**, and **traer**:

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| componer | to compose | compongo | proponer | to propose | propongo |
| deshacer | to undo | deshago | rehacer | to remake | rehago |
| disponer | to arrange | dispongo | reponer | to replace | repongo |
| distraer(se) | to distract | distraigo | suponer | to suppose | supongo |

ejercicio

1-11

En español.

- I write (**componer**) songs for my friends. _____
- I propose a toast (**el brindis**). _____
- They replace the money in my account. _____

4. You (**Ud.**) distract the audience. _____
5. The girls undo the puzzle (**el rompecabezas**). _____

ejercicio**1-12**

Pareados. *Escribe la letra de la respuesta más lógica.*

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| _____ 1. Sé | a. a mis compañeros de trabajo. |
| _____ 2. Distraigo | b. que trabajas mucho. |
| _____ 3. No quepo | c. música para mis canciones. |
| _____ 4. Compongo | d. en esa trampa (<i>trap</i>) a menudo. |
| _____ 5. Propongo | e. de la conferencia ahora. |
| _____ 6. Pongo | f. una solución para tu problema. |
| _____ 7. Salgo | g. el agua en un vaso. |
| _____ 8. Caigo | h. en estos pantalones. |

Other Verbs with Irregular Forms in the First Person

- Verbs that end in a vowel followed by **-cer** and **-cir** change **c** to **zc** in the first-person singular only. They are conjugated like **conocer**.

Conozco muy bien a Margo.

I know Margo very well.

-er verbs like **conocer**

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| agradecer | to thank, to be grateful | agradezco |
| aparecer | to appear | aparezco |
| complacer | to please | complazco |
| crecer | to grow | crezco |
| establecer | to establish | establezco |
| merecer | to deserve | merezco |
| ofrecer | to offer | ofrezco |
| padecer | to suffer | padezco |
| permanecer | to remain | permanezco |
| pertenecer | to belong | pertenezco |
| reconocer | to recognize | reconozco |

-ir verbs like **traducir**

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| traducir | to translate | traduzco |
| conducir | to drive, to lead | conduzco |
| producir | to produce | produzco |

ejercicio

1-13

Práctica. Escribe la forma correspondiente del verbo entre paréntesis.

- Yo _____ (conducir) el coche.
- Marta y tú _____ (salir) de casa juntos (*together*).
- Yo no _____ (conocer) a esa familia.
- ¿Quién _____ (ofrecer) más por este cuadro?
- ¡Yo no _____ (merecer) este regalo!
- Las asistentes del director _____ (obedecer) sus órdenes.
- ¡Tú _____ (pertenecer) a una familia muy famosa!
- Marcia _____ (conocer) a los padres de Luisa.

ejercicio

1-14

¿Y yo? Escribe en español. Usa el presente.

- I deserve a raise. _____
- Do I go out now? _____
- I am grateful for your friendship. _____
- I do not belong to this group. _____
- I translate the instructions. _____
- I seldom impose my ideas! _____
- I remain quiet (**callado**[a]). _____

Other Frequently Used Verbs with Irregular Forms in the Present Tense

Study the conjugations of the verbs that follow. They have irregular forms in the present tense:

| decir (<i>to say</i>) | ir (<i>to go</i>) | oír (<i>to hear</i>) |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| digo decimos | voy vamos | oigo oímos |
| dices decís | vas vais | oyes oís |
| dice dicen | va van | oye oyen |

| ser (to be) | tener (to have) | venir (to come) |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| soy somos | tengo tenemos | vengo venimos |
| eres sois | tienes tenéis | vienes venís |
| es son | tiene tienen | viene vienen |

Note that **haber** is also irregular. One meaning of **haber** is *to have*. However, in the present as well as in other tenses, **haber** is more frequently used as an impersonal verb in the third-person singular form. The present tense form is **hay**. It means *there is* and *there are*.

Hay tres sillas en la sala.

There are three chairs in the living room.

Hay una posibilidad solamente.

There is only one possibility.

Compounds of **tener** have the same irregular forms.

Verbs like **tener**

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| contener | to contain | contengo |
| detener | to detain | detengo |
| mantener | to maintain | mantengo |
| obtener | to obtain | obtengo |
| retener | to retain | retengo |
| sostener | to sustain | sostengo |

ejercicio

1-15

En español.

1. There is one person. _____
2. There are ten programs. _____
3. I'm going now. _____
4. I do not hear music. _____
5. Do you (Ud.) see the bus? _____
6. I tell the truth. _____
7. You (Uds.) have time. _____
8. They stop the car. _____

ejercicio

1-16

¡Mira quién baila! Escribe la forma correspondiente del presente.

1. Mi amiga Alicia _____ (estar) en el estudio para ver el programa *¡Mira quién baila!*
2. Aquí, en el estudio, _____ (haber) muchos aficionados (*fans*) al baile.
3. Todos los aficionados _____ (llegar) al estudio para ver esta competencia de baile.
4. Marcos _____ (ser) uno de los participantes y yo _____ (decir) que Marcos va a ganar hoy.

5. Muchas personas _____ (venir) para escuchar la música.
6. Marcos _____ (tener) a su hermana aquí y baila con ella.
7. Si vienes al programa, tú _____ (oír) los comentarios de los jueces.
8. ¡Todos ustedes _____ (ir) a querer bailar aquí, en el estudio!

Verbs with Spelling Changes in the Present Tense

In the present tense, certain verbs have spelling changes. These are determined by Spanish rules of pronunciation to preserve the sound appearing in the infinitive. The following groups of verbs have spelling changes before the verb ending **-o**, in the **yo** form only.

- Verbs ending in **-ger** or **-gir** change **g** to **j** before the **-o** ending.

| coger (to catch, grab) | | exigir (to demand) | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---------------------------|----------|
| cojo | cogemos | exijo | exigimos |
| coges | cogéis | exiges | exigís |
| coge | cogen | exige | exigen |

Verbs like **coger**

| | | |
|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| encoger | to shrink | encojo |
| escoger | to choose | escojo |
| proteger | to protect | protejo |
| recoger | to pick up | recojo |

Verbs like **exigir**

| | | |
|----------------|------------|---------------|
| dirigir | to direct | dirijo |
| fingir | to pretend | finjo |

Other **-gir** verbs have stem changes as well. Check the sections on stem-changing verbs in Unit 2.

- Verbs ending in **-guir** change **gu** to **g** before the **-o** ending.

| distinguir (to distinguish) | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| distingo | distinguimos |
| distingues | distinguís |
| distingue | distinguen |

Verbs like **distinguir**

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| extinguir | to extinguish |
|------------------|---------------|

Other **-guir** verbs have stem changes as well. Check the sections on stem-changing verbs in Unit 2.

- Verbs ending in **-cer** and **-cir** change **c** to **z** before the **-o** ending.

| convencer (<i>to convince</i>) | |
|---|-------------|
| convenzo | convencemos |
| convences | convencéis |
| convence | convencen |

Verbs like **convencer**

| | | |
|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| ejercer | to practice (a profession) | ejerzo |
| vencer | to overcome | venzo |

Some **-cer** and **-cir** verbs may have stem changes as well: **e** changes to **i** and **o** to **ue**.

| | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|
| elegir | to correct | elijo |
| torcer | to twist | tuerzo |

ejercicio

1-17

“Yo también...” Marlo hace todo lo que Ramón hace. Write the present tense of the yo form of the verb in italics.

1. *Exige* una explicación. _____
2. *Escoge* los colores. _____
3. *Extingue* el fuego. _____
4. *Recoge* los periódicos. _____
5. *Vence* los obstáculos. _____
6. *Protege* sus derechos (*rights*). _____
7. *Convence* a sus amigos. _____
8. No *finge*. _____

Dar, Haber, Hacer, and Tener in Expressions with a Special Meaning

In this unit, you studied **dar**, **haber**, **hacer**, and **tener**, verbs with irregular forms in the present. These verbs appear frequently in idiomatic expressions. Many are formed with a conjugated verb + an infinitive, called **formas perifrásticas** or **perífrasis verbales** in Spanish.

Other idiomatic verbal expressions will appear in other units. Learn them as lexical (vocabulary) items.

Note the use of the present tense in the examples with **dar**, **haber**, **hacer**, and **tener** that follow. Keep in mind that, in different contexts or surrounded by expressions of time referring to the past or the future, these idioms may also be used in other tenses.

• **Dar**

dar un abrazo *to hug, to embrace*

Le da un abrazo a su amigo. *He hugs his friend.*

dar gritos *to shout*

La multitud da gritos. *The crowd screams.*

dar la hora *to strike the hour*

El reloj da la una. *The clock strikes one.*

• **Haber**

hay que + infinitive *to be necessary* (to express obligation)

Hay que estudiar para aprender. *It is necessary to study in order to learn.*

haber sol *to be sunny*

Hay sol por la mañana. *It is sunny in the morning.*

haber neblina *to be foggy*

Hay neblina esta mañana. *It is foggy this morning.*

ejercicio

1-18

En español. Usa los verbos dar, haber, hacer y tener en tus respuestas.

1. It is not foggy this morning. _____
2. The clock strikes ten thirty. _____
3. It is sunny now. _____
4. The audience screams at the stadium. _____
5. The captain gives a hug to the goalkeeper (**portero**). _____

ejercicio

1-19

Tu lista. Escribe cinco cosas que hay que hacer para tener amigos.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

- **Hacer** in expressions that refer to weather conditions

hacer calor, hacer fresco *to be hot, to be cool*

Hace fresco, no hace calor.

It is cool; it is not hot.

hacer viento *to be windy*

Hace viento.

It is windy.

hacer un viaje *to take a trip*

Lina hace un viaje a las Bahamas.

Lina takes a trip to the Bahamas.

- **Hacer** in other expressions

hacer una visita *to pay a visit*

Marcus hace una visita a su tío.

Marcus visits his uncle.

hacer daño *to harm, damage*

Beber mucha agua no te hace daño.

Drinking a lot of water does not harm you.

hacer caso a *to notice, pay attention (to)*

Los niños no hacen caso al maestro.

The children do not pay attention to the teacher.

hacer el papel de *to play the role of*

El actor hace el papel de Hamlet.

The actor plays the role of Hamlet.

- **Tener**

To express obligation with a conjugated verb use the formula **tener + que + infinitive**.

Tenemos que salir.

We must leave.

tener frío *to be cold*

Tengo frío.

I am cold.

tener hambre *to be hungry*

¿Tienes hambre?

Are you hungry?

tener miedo *to be afraid*

No tienen miedo a las serpientes.

They are not afraid of snakes.

tener razón *to be right*

Yo tengo razón.

I am right.

tener sed *to be thirsty*

¿Tienes sed?

Are you thirsty?

tener prisa *to be in a hurry*

Mi esposo tiene prisa.

My husband is in a hurry.

tener la culpa (de) *to be to blame*

El sospechoso tiene la culpa de este accidente.

The suspect is to blame for this accident.

tener lugar *to take place*

La reunión tiene lugar los domingos.

The meeting takes place on Sundays.

ejercicio

1-20

Y en tu caso... ¿Es verdadero o falso?

- _____ 1. Tengo miedo a los fantasmas (*ghosts*).
- _____ 2. Nunca tengo prisa.
- _____ 3. Tengo que hacer la cama todos los días.
- _____ 4. Hago caso a las buenas sugerencias de mis amigos.
- _____ 5. No tengo mucho sueño ahora.
- _____ 6. Siempre hago una visita a mi familia en diciembre.

ejercicio

1-21

En español.

- 1. Are you (**tú**) hungry? _____
- 2. We are thirsty. _____
- 3. Lori pays a visit to her cousin. _____
- 4. Mario hugs his friend. _____
- 5. They are in a hurry. _____
- 6. You (**tú**) are right this time. _____
- 7. I am not afraid. _____
- 8. Are you (**Ud.**) cold? _____

ejercicio

1-22

Conecta la letra. Escribe la letra de la expresión apropiada.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| _____ 1. ¡Quiero dos hamburguesas! | a. Tengo razón. |
| _____ 2. Obedezco a mi médico. | b. Hago caso. |
| _____ 3. Bebo dos vasos de agua. | c. Hago una visita. |
| _____ 4. Estoy en lo cierto. | d. Tengo prisa. |
| _____ 5. Tengo diez minutos nada más. | e. Tengo hambre. |
| _____ 6. Quiero dormir. | f. Tengo sueño. |
| _____ 7. Voy a ver a mi amigo. | g. No tengo la culpa. |
| _____ 8. Soy inocente. | h. Tengo sed. |

ejercicio

1-23

La vida diaria. Traduce. Usa el vocabulario útil.

I hate Mondays. We start another week with the same routine. I talk to my neighbors about the weekend, our family, and our habits at home. My husband sometimes helps me with the household chores. He vacuums the floors and he sweeps the terrace. Juan, Lidia's husband, washes the clothes. They have a new washing machine and a dryer! And Juan likes to iron his shirts. Marta's husband, Mauricio, prepares dinner almost every night. He has a new grill on the patio, a gift from Marta for his birthday. Now, Marta does not cook! My other neighbor, Susana, lives with her mother-in-law and she helps, too. I need more help from my husband, my mother, or the electric appliances. I work too hard!

vocabulario útil

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|----------------------------|
| birthday | el cumpleaños | mother-in-law | la suegra |
| cleaning | la limpieza | routine | la rutina |
| custom; habit | la costumbre; el hábito | to iron, press | planchar |
| dryer | la secadora | to sweep | barrer |
| electric appliances | los aparatos electrodomésticos | to vacuum | pasar la aspiradora |
| grill | la parrilla | to wash | lavar, limpiar |
| habit | el hábito; la costumbre | vacuum cleaner | la aspiradora |
| hate | detestar; odiar | washing machine | la lavadora |
| household chores | los quehaceres de la casa/domésticos | weekend | el fin de semana |