

Español Mundial Chapter 9

REVISION NOTES

1. The preterite tense (simple past)

The preterite tense is used to express completed actions in the past.

Regular Preterite Tense Formation			
	Hablar (to speak)	Comer (to eat)	Vivir (to live)
<i>Yo</i>	Hablé	Comí	Viví
<i>Tú</i>	Hablaste	Comiste	Viviste
<i>El/Ella/Usted</i>	Habló	Comió	Vivió
<i>Nosotros</i>	Hablamos	Comimos	Vivimos
<i>Vosotros</i>	Hablasteis	Comisteis	Vivisteis
<i>Ellos/Ustedes</i>	Hablaron	Comieron	Vivieron

You should pay particular attention to the placement of accents in the **1st** and **3rd** persons of **regular –AR verbs** (e.g. *hablé* and *habló*), which distinguishes them from correct forms in other tenses and moods.

Note: With –AR verbs, the 1st person plural (*nosotros*) form is the same in the present and preterite tenses.

With –ER and –IR verbs, the preterite tense endings are the same.

With some regular –AR verbs whose infinitive ends **–GAR, –CAR and –ZAR**, the **1st person only** requires a spelling change (but the accent remains) to retain the sound of the infinitive:

Examples: Jugar (to play) > **Jugué** (I played)
 Llegar (to arrive) > **Llegué** (I arrived)
 Pagar (to pay) > **Pagué** (I paid)
 Marcar (to score) > **Marqué** (I scored)
 Empezar (to begin) > **Empecé** (I began)
 Comenzar (to begin) > **Comencé** (I began)

2. Past tense expressions of time

Spanish	English
Ayer	Yesterday
Ayer por la tarde / por la mañana	Yesterday evening / morning
Anoche	Last night
Anteayer	The day before yesterday
La semana pasada	Last week
El mes pasado / el año pasado	Last month / year
Hace dos días	Two days ago
Hace poco	A little while ago

3. Three common irregular preterite tense verbs

Irregular Preterite Tense Verbs			
	Ir (to go)	Hacer (to do/make)	Ver (to see)
Yo	Fui	Hice	Vi
Tú	Fuiste	Hiciste	Viste
El/Ella/Usted	Fue	Hizo	Vio
Nosotros	Fuimos	Hicimos	Vimos
Vosotros	Fuisteis	Hicisteis	Visteis
Ellos/Ustedes	Fueron	Hicieron	Vieron

Note: There are no accents on irregular verbs in the preterite tense.

4. Reflexive and root-changing verbs in the preterite tense

Reflexive verbs in the preterite tense are formed as in the present tense with the inclusion of the reflexive pronouns (see **levantarse** below).

o > ue & e > ie root-changing verbs (e.g. acostarse & despertarse) do not change in the preterite (they are regular throughout), but **e > i root-changing verbs** (e.g. vestirse) do change in the preterite, but **only in the 3rd persons singular and plural** (see **vestirse** below).

Reflexive and e > i Root-Changing Verbs in the Preterite Tense		
	Levantarse (to get up)	Vestirse (to get dressed)
Yo	Me levanté	Me vestí
Tú	Te levantaste	Te vestiste
El/Ella/Usted	Se levantó	Se vistió
Nosotros	Nos levantamos	Nos vestimos
Vosotros	Os levantasteis	Os vestisteis
Ellos/Ustedes	Se levantaron	Se vistieron

5. Numbers 200 +

Spanish words	Figures
Doscientos/as	200
Trescientos/as	300
Cuatrocientos/as	400
* Quinientos/as	500
Seiscientos/as	600
* Setecientos/as	700
Ochocientos/as	800
* Novcientos/as	900
Mil	1000
Dos mil	2000
Tres mil etc.	3000 etc.

* Note irregular forms

Note: i. Numbers from 200 to 900 agree with nouns.

Examples: doscientos chicos; novecientas chicas.

ii. The apocopated form before a masculine noun (*uno* > *un*) still applies regardless of quantity.

Example: 3,761 boys = tres mil setecientos sesenta y **un** chicos.

iii. Date formats in Spanish are formed as with all numbers.

Examples: 1945 = Mil novecientos cuarenta y cinco.
2002 = Dos mil dos.
2015 = Dos mil quince.

In practice, of course, these are always written as figures as in English.

6. Playing Sports & Games

Remember that **tocar** is used for instruments in Spanish; for sports and games, **jugar + a** is used (remember, too, the spelling change in the 1st person preterite of **both** verbs: *tocar* > *toqué* & *jugar* > *jugué*).

Spanish	English
Jugar al béisbol	To play baseball
Jugar al fútbol	To play football
Jugar al ajedrez	To play chess
Jugar al billar (inglés)	To play pool (snooker)
Jugar a los dardos	To play darts
Jugar a las cartas	To play cards

7. Direct Object Pronouns

Singular		Plural	
<i>Me</i>	Me	<i>Us</i>	Nos
<i>You</i>	Te	<i>You</i>	Os
<i>He</i>	Lo	<i>They (masc.)</i>	Los
<i>She</i>	La	<i>They (fem.)</i>	Las

Direct object pronouns in Spanish are placed **before the conjugated verb**:

Examples: **Me** vieron = They saw me
Nos pagó = He/she paid us
La vi = I saw her

Prepositional forms (e.g. *a mí*, *a ti*, *a él*, *a ella*, etc.) can be added for emphasis **but should not substitute the direct object**.

Examples: **La** vi **a ella**, no **a él** = I saw her not him
Nos pagó **a nosotros**, no **a ti** = He/she paid us not you.