Portfolio Activity – Grammar Music Video

1. What grammar topic did you choose?

Present Tense Conjugations of -ER and -IR verbs.

1. Why did you choose this topic?

For our video, I didn’t really have a large preference for which topic we did so I let Natalie choose. I think she needed a refresher on that part of conjugation, and I think it was also a good decision because -ER and -IR ended up being easier to create rhymes with.

1. How did you or your group work to create the lyrics for this song?

So initially, we had misread the assignment and thought it had to be entirely in Spanish but after rereading the assignment, we started going through rap songs we knew and ended up finding one that had a chorus that we could rhyme with -ER and -IR. We initially tried parodying the lyrics but then realized we were still making the assignment harder than it was and started just writing a chorus that sounded like the original and then adding freestyle lyrics that were more or less on beat.

1. Why did you choose the examples you chose in your song?

I think we kind of used the fact that in rap music a lot of verses are talking about talking. So instead of using a single or multiple verbs and giving their conjugations, we gave the context of when you would use each ending.

1. What do you feel that you learned or realized about the Spanish language in making this music video?

I learned it is hard to rhyme in Spanish, which should be a pretty obvious thing for someone learning a language, but I learned mechanically why it is difficult. In English, I can make rhymes because I have a wide enough vocabulary to describe the same action in different ways. If I want to talk about someone speaking I know the words “say”, “speak”, “shout”, “voiced”, etc. But in Spanish, I only know the word “hablar” which bottlenecks the rhymes I can create.