

Chapter 2

Part 1

Spanish for Reading Knowledge - Summer 2020 - Nicole Rodriguez

Objectives

- The Verb: “estar”
- Verb forms
- Present Tense
- Present Tense of -ar Verbs
- Comparisons of Equality
- Superlatives

The Verb: “estar”

- Estar like ser also means “to be”

estar- to be (temporary)			
yo	estoy	nosotros/as	estamos
tú	estás	vosotros/as	estáis
él/ella/Ud	está	ellos/ellas/Uds	están

Verb Forms

Present Tense

- The base form of verbs end in one of three endings: -ar, -er, -ir
- The present tense usually has 3 meanings
 - Example: Presentar = to present
 - Yo presento = I present, am presenting, do present
- Additionally, the present tense is sometimes used as an “historical present” to recount past events as if occurring now
 - Example:
 - Los romanos conquistan la península. The Romans conquer (conquered) the Peninsula.

Present Tense of -ar Verbs

- Regular -ar verbs can be conjugated as follows in the present tense:
- example:

Presentar	To Present
Yo present o	I present, am presenting
Tú present as	You present, are presenting
Él, ella, Ud. present a	he, she, you presents, is presenting
Nosotros present amos	We present, are presenting
Vosotros present áis	You present, are presenting
ellos, ellas, Uds. present an	They present, are presenting

Present Tense of -ar Verbs

- You take off the -ar of the verb stem and add the following endings:

Subject Pronoun	Ending
Yo	-o
Tú	-as
Él, ella, Ud.	-a
Nosotros	-amos
Vosotros	-áis
ellos, ellas, Uds.	-an

Comparisons of Equality

- To make comparisons in Spanish, we use
 - With nouns: tanto, -a, -os, -as... como
 - With adjectives: tan... como

- Examples:

En España no se hablan tantos idiomas como en México	Not as many languages are spoken in Spain as in Mexico.
En España hay tantas montañas como llanuras.	In Spain there are as many mountains as plains.
En el interior de España, el invierno es casi tan frío como en regiones situadas mucho más al norte de Europa.	In the interior of Spain, the winter is almost as cold as in regions situation more to the north of Europe.

Comparisons of Equality

- To make comparisons in Spanish with verbs, use:
 - tanto como
- Example:

Estudiamos tanto como Uds.	We study as much as you (people) do.
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Superlatives

See if you can find the pattern that indicates superlative qualities

La península Ibérica es la más occidental de las tres penínsulas meridionales de Europa.	The Iberian Peninsula is the western most of the three southern peninsulas in Europe.
Rusia, Francia y España son los países más extensos de Europa.	Russia, France, and Spain are the largest countries in Europe.
En el extremo sur se levanta la cadena montañosa más elevada de España.	In the extreme south arises the highest chain of mountains in Spain.

Superlatives

Continued

- To indicate superlative qualities: use más and only change the superlative to agree with the noun
 - La península más...; las penínsulas más...; el país más...; los países más...
- Más could also be replaced with menos (least)
 - example: Andalucía es la parte de España menos semejante al resto de Europa.
- Note: after a superlative, de is translated by in.
 - example: Galicia es la región más verde y lluviosa de España.

Superlatives

Continued

- One way to show the absolute superlative of adjectives is by dropping the final vowel of the adjective (if any) and adding -ísima, ísimo, ísimos
- Examples

España es un país hermosísimo.	Spain is a very beautiful country.
La Sierra Nevada es una cadena montañosa altísima.	The Sierra Nevada is a very high mountain chain.