

# What to say in a small store.

## Asking for the price of something

### Conversation 1

Customer - Disculpe, ¿cuánto cuesta esto?

Store clerk - Cuesta setenta pesos.

### Conversation 2

Customer - Disculpe, ¿qué precio tiene el arroz?

Store clerk - Déjeme lo checo.

**Disculpe, ¿qué precio tiene el arroz?**

**Déjeme lo checo.**



**Conversation 3** 

**Customer** - Buen díá, ¿cuánto cuesta el kilo de tortillas?

**Store clerk** - Buenas, el kilo de tortillas **está en veinte pesos**.

**Customer** - **¿Me da un kilo, por favor?**

**Store clerk** - Claro, aquí tiene. **¿Algo más?**

**Customer** - Sí, también **me da una lata de frijoles**. **¿Cuánto cuesta?**

**Store clerk** - La lata **está en quince pesos**.

**Customer** - Perfecto, **deme una**, por favor.



## Glossary

**Disculpa / Disculpe** - Excuse me (see the "cultural nuances" section for more details)

**¿Cuánto cuesta esto?** - How much is this?

**Qué precio tiene + noun** - This is a **SUPER** common alternative to 'cuánto cuesta + noun'.

You can use the two interchangeably, **BUT** 'qué precio tiene?' is an **EXCELLENT** way of mixing things up a bit,

I mean, you don't wanna be saying 'cuánto cuesta?' for literally everything, do ya?

**Déjeme lo checo.** - 'Déjeme' is the Spanish equivalent of 'let me' but conjugated in the formal 'usted' form (so it's more polite).

You might also hear -

**Dejáme lo checo.** - This is the informal 'tú' form.

**Deja lo checo** - This is even more casual and colloquial (but also very common!).

'Checar' itself is also **VERY** Mexican, and if it sounds familiar, well, it **IS** actually an anglicism... I think you can probably guess where it comes from ;)

Mexicans use it **A LOT** and in much the same sense as the English.

In more formal situations, you're going to hear the following - **Lo reviso en seguida. // Lo reviso y le confirmo. // En un momento se lo confirmo.**

**Buenas** - This is a **REALLY** useful colloquial greeting, similar to 'hi' or 'hey' in English.

You're also going to hear '*buen día*' a lot in the morning.

**Ésta en** - '*Ésta en*' is used to tell the customer the price of something per kilo; the price of goods obviously fluctuates, which is why '*estar*' is used instead of '*ser*'.

The structure is usually as follows -

**item in question + está en + number**

El kilo de huevo **está en** treinta pesos.

A kilo of eggs **costs** 30 pesos.

Or simply:

El huevo **está en** treinta.

Eggs **are** 30 pesos (the kilo).

You're also going to hear '*está a*' (i.e., '*El huevo está a veinte*').

And which to use?

Well, it's really a matter of personal preference!

The same applies with '*a cómo está*' and '*en cuánto está*'; they're **BOTH** used to ask the price of something per kilo (I'll give you more examples in the "tianguis" section), but which one you plump for is really up to you!

**¿Me das/da + an item or product?** (slightly less polite, but still correct) - Can I have + an item or product?

**Deme / Dame** - These are the imperative forms of the verb 'dar', so they both mean 'give me'.

I know, I know, we'd **NEVER** say this in English, but Spanish is a much more direct language, and saying 'give me' isn't considered all that rude!



## GAP FILL 1

**Customer** - Disculpe, ¿cuánto . . . . . esto?

**Store clerk** - Cuesta cien pesos.

**Customer** - ¿Y qué . . . . . tiene el jabón?

**Store clerk** - . . . . . lo checo.

## MISSING WORDS

cuesta / precio / déjeme

## GAP FILL 2

**Customer** - Buen día, ¿cuánto cuesta el kilo de tomate?

**Store clerk** - Buenas, el kilo de tomate está . . . . . veinte pesos.

**Customer** - ¿Me . . . . . dar un kilo y medio, por favor?

**Customer** - Ah, y también . . . . . una lata de atún, porfa.

**Store clerk** - Sí, claro.

## MISSING WORDS

deme / en / puede

## **ANSWERS + TRANSLATIONS**

### **GAP FILL 1**

**Customer** - Disculpe, ¿cuánto **CUESTA** esto?

**Store clerk** - Cuesta cien pesos.

**Customer** - ¿Y qué **PRECIO** tiene el jabón?

**Store clerk** - **DÉJEME** lo checo.

### **GAP FILL 2**

**Customer** - Buen día, ¿cuánto cuesta el kilo de tomate?

**Store clerk** - Buenas, el kilo de tomate está **EN** veinte pesos.

**Customer** - ¿Me **PUEDE** dar un kilo y medio, por favor?

**Customer** - Ah, y también **DEME** una lata de atún, porfa.

**Store clerk** - Sí, claro.

### **Conversation 1**

**Customer** - Excuse me, how much does this cost?

**Store clerk** - It costs seventy pesos.

### **Conversation 2**

**Customer** - Excuse me, how much does the rice cost?

**Store clerk** - Let me check.

### **Conversation 3**

**Customer** - Morning, how much is a kilo of tortillas?

**Store clerk** - Morning, it's twenty pesos a kilo.

**Customer** - Can I get a kilo, please?

**Store clerk** - Sure, here you go. Anything else?

**Customer** - Yeah, can I get a can of beans too? How much are they?

**Store clerk** - They're fifteen pesos.

**Customer** - Perfect, I'll take one, please.