

# 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 día, ¿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.