20 Common Spanish Grammar Mistakes & How To Avoid Them 🚨📖

Learning Spanish? 🇪🇸Be careful with these common grammar mistakes that many beginners make! Let's break them down and learn how to fix them! 🚀

1️⃣SER VS. ESTAR CONFUSION 🤯

❌Yo estoy un estudiante.

✅Yo soy un estudiante. (I am a student.)

🔹Ser is used for permanent states (identity, profession, nationality).

🔹Estar is used for temporary states (emotions, location, conditions).

2️⃣POR VS. PARA MIX-UP ❗

❌Gracias para tu ayuda.

✅Gracias por tu ayuda. (Thanks for your help.)

🔹Por is used for cause, reason, or exchange.

🔹Para is used for purpose, destination, or goal.

3️⃣INCORRECT GENDER (EL VS. LA) 🎭

❌La problema

✅El problema (The problem)

🔹Some words don’t follow the typical o = masculine, a = feminine rule.

4️⃣FORGETTING TO MATCH ADJECTIVES & NOUNS 👗

❌Las casa roja

✅Las casas rojas (The red houses)

🔹Adjectives must match the gender and number of the noun.

5️⃣MISUSING GUSTAR ❤️

❌Yo gusto pizza.

✅Me gusta la pizza. (I like pizza.)

🔹Gustar means “to be pleasing,” so you must use an indirect object pronoun (me, te, le, nos, les).

6️⃣MISPLACING PRONOUNS IN NEGATIVE SENTENCES ❌

❌No lo quiero comprar.

✅No quiero comprarlo. (I don’t want to buy it.)

🔹Pronouns usually go before conjugated verbs but attach to infinitives.

7️⃣USING TENER INSTEAD OF SER FOR AGE 🎂

❌Yo soy 20 años.

✅Yo tengo 20 años. (I am 20 years old.)

🔹Use "tener" (to have) for age, not "ser" (to be).

8️⃣USING PRETERITE INSTEAD OF IMPERFECT 🕰

❌Cuando era niño, fui a la escuela cada día.

✅Cuando era niño, iba a la escuela cada día. (When I was a child, I used to go to school every day.)

🔹Use imperfect for repeated past actions & descriptions.

9️⃣DOUBLE NEGATIVES (INCORRECT PLACEMENT) 🔄

❌No tengo nada. (✔️ But awkward)

✅No tengo nada de dinero. (I don’t have any money.)

🔹Spanish allows double negatives, but word order matters.

🔟USING DE INSTEAD OF QUE IN COMPARISONS ⚖️

❌Ella es más alta de tú.

✅Ella es más alta que tú. (She is taller than you.)

🔹Use "que" for comparisons, not "de".

1️⃣1️⃣OMITTING PERSONAL "A" 👥

❌Veo mi madre.

✅Veo a mi madre. (I see my mother.)

🔹Use "a" before a direct object that is a person.

1️⃣2️⃣MISPLACING REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS 🛀

❌Yo lavo me las manos.

✅Yo me lavo las manos. (I wash my hands.)

🔹Reflexive pronouns (me, te, se, nos, se) go before the conjugated verb.

1️⃣3️⃣CONFUSING SABER VS. CONOCER 🧠

❌Yo sé a Juan.

✅Yo conozco a Juan. (I know Juan.)

🔹Saber = to know facts or skills.

🔹Conocer = to be familiar with people or places.

1️⃣4️⃣USING SUBJUNCTIVE INCORRECTLY 🏆

❌Quiero que tú vienes.

✅Quiero que tú vengas. (I want you to come.)

🔹The subjunctive is used after expressions of desire, doubt, or necessity.

1️⃣5️⃣USING PRESENT INSTEAD OF FUTURE 🔮

❌Mañana voy a la playa.

✅Mañana iré a la playa. (Tomorrow, I will go to the beach.)

🔹"Voy a" is okay, but using the future tense (-é, -ás, -á) is more precise.

1️⃣6️⃣FORGETTING DEFINITE ARTICLES WITH GENERAL NOUNS 📚

❌Me gusta chocolate.

✅Me gusta el chocolate. (I like chocolate.)

🔹Spanish requires "el" or "la" with general nouns.

1️⃣7️⃣USING "BIEN" INSTEAD OF "BUENO" 🔄

❌Es una bien idea.

✅Es una buena idea. (It’s a good idea.)

🔹"Bien" = well, "Bueno/a" = good.

1️⃣8️⃣CONFUSING LLEVAR VS. TRAER 🛍

❌Voy a traer mi mochila a la escuela.

✅Voy a llevar mi mochila a la escuela. (I will take my backpack to school.)

🔹Llevar = to take something away.

🔹Traer = to bring something closer.

1️⃣9️⃣MISPLACING "SOLO" AND "SOLAMENTE" ☀️

❌Tengo solamente una pregunta.

✅Solo tengo una pregunta. (I only have one question.)

🔹"Solo" comes before the verb for clarity.

2️⃣0️⃣INCORRECT WORD ORDER IN QUESTIONS ❓

❌¿Tú tienes hermanos?

✅¿Tienes hermanos? (Do you have siblings?)

🔹Drop "tú" in yes/no questions!

🔥READY TO LEVEL UP?