

Here is a concise introduction to conjugation in the indicative voice.

Regular verbs

Consider first the present tense and the past perfect. (Past perfect is **completed** action: "Yesterday, I was hit by lightning ..").

hablar

habl-	o	as	a	amos	an
habl-	é	aste	ó	amos	aron

comer

com-	o	es	e	emos	en
com-	í	iste	ió	imos	ieron

vivir

viv-	o	es	e	imos	en
viv-	í	iste	ió	imos	ieron

-er and -ir are identical except for Nos. in present.

Traditionally, we should include the second person plural, for Vosotros (familiar). However, this is rarely used now except in some parts of Spain.

Even when verbs are **very** irregular, most of the irregularity is in the present tense.

estar

	estoy	estás	está	estamos	están
estuv-	e	iste	o	imos	ieron

haber

	he	has	ha,hay	hemos	han
hub-	e	iste	o	imos	ieron

saber

	se	sabes	sabe	sabemos	saben
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sup- e iste o imos ieron

ser

soy eres es somos son
fui fuiste fue fuimos fueron

Except for ser, these verbs have the same endings in the past perfect, just with a stem change.

For the other three tenses, all endings are the same regardless of the verb. These are

-past imperfect
-conditional
-future

paimp	a	as	a	amos	an
cond	a	as	a	amos	an
fut	é	ás	á	emos	án

These are distinguished from each other, and from the present tense for -ar verbs, by the stem

In the past imperfect -ar, the form is the infinitive + ab.

Thus: hablaba, hablabas ...

For -er and -ir verbs, the stem is the infinitive plus i.

Thus: comía, comías ...

Ser is also irregular in the past imperfect tense. It uses e- for the stem.

Thus: era, eras, era, éramos, eran
(note the accent for Nos.)

The last two tenses are the conditional and the future.

Again:

cond	a	as	a	amos	an
fut	é	ás	á	emos	án

Future tense is rarely used, but we include it anyway.
(Use instead ir + the verb)

These tenses are all distinguished by the form of the stem.

Conditional: infinitive + í

Thus: comería, comerías .. comeríamos

Future: infinitive + accented vowel (or emos in the case of Nos.)

Thus: viviré, vivirás .. viviremos