

SPANISH 1 LIFEPAC ONE

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Note to Students: Whenever you are prompted to listen to an audio portion of an exercise (indicated by the  icon), a blank has been provided for you to record the audio CD track number. This will aid you in quickly locating the correct track number when you review.

SPANISH 1: LIFE PAC ONE

INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH

OBJECTIVES

When you have completed this LIFE PAC®, you should be able to:

1. List several benefits of knowing a second language.
2. Define and give examples of basic parts of speech.
3. Understand and recognize cognates.
4. Spell words using the Spanish alphabet.
5. Understand and follow Spanish pronunciation rules.
6. Correctly identify and use classroom expressions and basic greetings and responses.
7. Correctly use the different forms of “you” in Spanish.
8. Identify Spanish-speaking countries on a map and list their capitals.
9. Demonstrate basic knowledge of the Pan-American Highway.

Did you know...

- Spanish is spoken in more than 20 countries?
- studying Spanish can help you understand English?
- in the United States, Spanish is the second most common language spoken?
- knowing Spanish will enhance your employment opportunities?
- when you travel to a Spanish-speaking country you will be better able to get around?
- your view of the world will be expanded?
- you will become aware of the differences in the various cultures of the world?
- knowing a second language helps you gain entrance to college?
- learning something completely different can be fun?

I. LEARNING A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Language learning can be enjoyable and interesting. It can open your eyes to the ways of other people in our world as well as prepare you to communicate with them. With your newly-developed skills you can open doors to avenues that will enhance your life.

In the future, the use of foreign languages in the business, social service and educational worlds is expected to increase. Many corporations are now expanding their international departments, which increases their need for people who can communicate with people in other countries. Many of these corporations now are developing businesses in Central and South America. This will increase the necessity of having bilingual people available, especially those who speak Spanish.

With the influx of immigrants coming into the United States from our southern neighbors, our social service departments need bilingual people to help immigrants establish themselves in our community. This is also true in the field of education. We need teachers to instruct the children of these immigrants and help prepare them to adjust to our society without losing their cultural identity. We also need teachers to teach Americans to communicate with people of other countries.



Answer the following questions.

1.1 What are three good reasons for learning a foreign language?

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

1.2 List three types of occupations where knowing a foreign language is helpful.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

1.3 Which is the best reason for you to be studying a foreign language? Why?



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Complete one of the following activities.

- 1.4
 - a. Write to a major corporation and request information on their international dealings.
 - b. Go to the library or get on the internet and look up the employment forecast for the next ten years. Find five jobs where it would be helpful to know a foreign language.
 - c. Request information in Spanish from the Consumer Information Office in Pueblo, CO.



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Helpful Hints for Language Learning

Here are several hints that will help you acquire a better knowledge of the Spanish language. Please read them and make them part of your study style.

A. **Cognates.** Words in English and Spanish with similar meaning, spelling, and pronunciation that are derived from Latin or Greek are **cognates**. Thousands of words are cognates in both languages. For example, some exact translations are **taxi** for “taxi,” and **hotel** for “hotel.” Then there are others which have minor spelling changes from one language to the other; for example, **minuto** is “minute,” **información** is “information,” **teléfono** is “telephone.” And then there are some that are evident because they have a similar word in English which may not be as common. For example, **sitio** is similar to “site” but means “place,” and **simpático** looks similar to “sympathetic” but means “nice.” Making associations with similar words will help increase your vocabulary bank in Spanish and in English.

While Spanish and English have many cognates, there are also “false cognates.” These are words that are spelled and pronounced similarly in both languages but do not have similar meanings. For example, the Spanish word **flor** means “flower,” not “floor.” The word **ropa** means “clothes,” not “rope,” and **pared** means “wall,” not “parade.” Therefore, don’t automatically assume that all Spanish words have a similar meaning to an English word they resemble.

B. **Word Families.** In many languages there are “word families.” An example of an English word family is “The **baker** **bakes** **baked** goods in the **bakery**.” The four words in bold type are all related to the verb “to bake.” The same thing happens in Spanish: “El **trabajador** **trabaja** en su **trabajo**.” “The worker works at his job (work).” Watch for words that have the same root. It will give you a clue as to the new word’s meaning.

C. **Basic Rules.** There are some basic rules that will help you with your understanding of the Spanish language and increase your success.

- 1. Sometimes good Spanish makes terrible English and good English makes terrible Spanish. This means that it is often impossible to take a sentence from one language and translate it directly, word for word, to the other.

2. Once you learn how the language works you, you will be able to increase your ability to communicate by using a good dictionary to look up new words.
3. You need to study in small amounts of time to better reinforce the new skills you are learning. It is better to spend 15 minutes a day, after your initial introduction, studying the new concept than to spend an hour “cramming” the night before a test. The more times you review, the greater your success.
4. Try to use your new vocabulary often. For example, when you learn the names of objects, look at those objects and repeat the Spanish word for that object whenever you see it. This is an additional reinforcement technique.
5. Choose a study partner with whom you can practice, especially speaking. Seize the opportunity to **charlar**, or chat, even if only for a minute or two. This will increase your success and confidence.
6. Do not get upset when you make mistakes. The more you practice, the fewer mistakes you will make. You can learn from the mistakes. Always try your best.
7. Remember to master the information in each book before progressing to the next. You need to build the foundation block by block to support future learning.

D. **Terminology.** It is best to understand the parts of speech so that when you are reading a grammar explanation you can completely comprehend it.

1. **Noun** – a person, place, thing, or idea; e.g., book, thought, Spain
2. **Verb** – an action or state of being; e.g., to walk, to be, to think
3. **Adjective** – a word used to describe a noun; e.g., pink, big, many
4. **Adverb** – a word used to describe an adjective, a verb, or another adverb; e.g., happily, nicely, very
5. **Preposition** – a word that indicates the relation of a noun to a verb, adjective or another noun; e.g., in, out, behind, over, under
6. **Definite article** – the
7. **Indefinite articles** – a, an, and in Spanish, some
8. **Pronoun** - a word that takes the place of a noun; e.g., he, him, it, they, I, me.

You will learn more words as time goes on that will help your comprehension of the workings of the language.





Look at the following Spanish words and see if you can identify the English for them. Then tell what part of speech the English words are.

	Word	Meaning	English Part of Speech
1.5	a. actor	_____	_____
	b. accidente	_____	_____
	c. visitar	_____	_____
	d. entrar	_____	_____
	e. ordinario	_____	_____
	f. atleta	_____	_____
	g. clase	_____	_____
	h. persona	_____	_____
	i. profesor	_____	_____
	j. televisor	_____	_____
	k. inteligente	_____	_____
	l. fruta	_____	_____
	m. bicicleta	_____	_____
	n. garaje	_____	_____
	o. república	_____	_____
	p. biología	_____	_____
	q. decidir	_____	_____
	r. dividir	_____	_____
	s. autor	_____	_____
	t. sincero	_____	_____



Review the material in this section in preparation for the Self Test. The Self Test will check your mastery of this particular section. The items missed on this Self Test will indicate specific areas where restudy is needed for mastery.

SELF TEST 1

Answer the following questions. (5 pts. each)

1.01 In approximately how many countries is Spanish spoken as the first language?

1.02 How would your knowledge of Spanish help you in your future career?

1.03 Why is Spanish important in the United States?

1.04 What are cognates?

1.05 What is a word family?

1.06 Give an example of an English word family.

1.07 List three important rules to understand when learning a foreign language. (5 pts. each)

a.

b.

c.

1.08 **Define the following.** (3 pts. each)

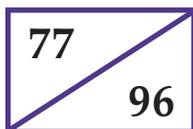
- a. noun
- b. adjective
- c. verb
- d. pronoun
- e. adverb

1.09 **Give an English example of each of the parts of speech in question 1.08.** (3 pts. each)

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.
- e.

1.010 **Write the parts of speech under each word in the following sentence.** (3 pts. each)

Michael rides the bike quickly to school.



Score _____

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