

Spanish for Beginners — Workbook

This workbook turns the course into daily speaking practice. Each section maps to one course module and mixes drills you say out loud, fill-in worksheets, and checklists you can reuse every week. Work through it out loud with a phone recorder, real menus, and your own travel plans so the Spanish you practice is the Spanish you will actually use.

Sounds and Survival Phrases

Drill the five vowels, the stress rules, and your first greetings until pronunciation and small talk feel automatic.

Exercise: The Vowel Purity Drill

Record yourself on your phone saying the chain a-e-i-o-u five times, then the words casa, mesa, vino, hola, and mucho. Play it back and compare each vowel against native recordings on Forvo. Re-record until your vowels stay short and pure with no English glide.

- Which vowel do you tend to glide or lengthen the most (often o into oh-w or e into ay-ee)?

- Did the h in hola stay completely silent in your recording?

- After comparing to Forvo, which single word still needs the most work?

Worksheet: Stress Rule Worksheet

For each word below, write which syllable is stressed and state which rule decides it (ends in vowel/n/s, ends in other consonant, or has a written accent). Then say it aloud.

hablo — stressed syllable and rule

hablar — stressed syllable and rule

espanol (español) — stressed syllable and rule

telefono (teléfono) — stressed syllable and rule

ciudad — stressed syllable and rule

joven — stressed syllable and rule

cafe (café) — stressed syllable and rule

Exercise: Rehearse Your First Exchange

Memorize the greeting dialogue from Lesson 3 (Hola, buenos días. ¿Cómo estás? ...). Practice both roles out loud until you can run the whole exchange without reading, swapping in your own real name.

- Which line was hardest to say smoothly, and why?
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- Did you remember to respond to ¿y tú? rather than freezing?
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- What one extra question (for example ¿De dónde eres?) could you add to extend it?
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Checklist: Pronunciation and Greetings Mastery

- I can say all five vowels short and pure with no glide
- I know the j/g, ñ, ll, and rolled rr sounds and the silent h
- I can apply both stress rules and read an accent mark correctly
- I can greet someone by time of day and exchange names
- I know por favor, gracias, perdón, and no entiendo by heart

Building Sentences with Verbs

Conjugate regular verbs and the four key irregular verbs, and lock in when to use tú versus usted.

Worksheet: Conjugation Grid

Fill in the present-tense form for each subject. Cover the answers from the course and write from memory first, then check.

hablar — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

comer — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

vivir — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

ser — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

estar — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

ir — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

tener — yo / tú / él / nosotros / ellos

Exercise: Ser or Estar Decision Drill

For each English sentence, decide whether to use ser or estar, then write and say the full Spanish sentence. Use the DOCTOR (ser) versus PLACE (estar) memory aids to justify each choice.

- I am from Canada. — ser or estar, and why?
-

- The bank is here / nearby. — ser or estar, and why?
-

- I am tired today. — ser or estar, and why?
-

- She is a doctor. — ser or estar, and why?
-

Exercise: Build Five Sentences About Your Day

Write five true sentences about your real day using only present-tense verbs. Include at least one tengo que (I have to), one voy a (I am going to), and one regular -ar verb. Then say them aloud.

- Which sentence used the ir + a future, and did the a + el contract to al correctly?

- Did any tener expression (hambre, sed, años) come out word-for-word wrong before you fixed it?

- Which sentence are you confident you could say to a real person tomorrow?

Checklist: Verb Foundations Mastery

- I can conjugate regular -ar, -er, and -ir verbs in the present tense
- I know the forms of ser, estar, ir, and tener
- I can choose ser versus estar correctly in common situations
- I can build a future with voy a plus a verb
- I know when to use tú and when to default to usted

Spanish for Travel and Daily Life

Practice numbers, prices, time, ordering, shopping, and directions with the exact phrases you will need on a trip.

Exercise: Numbers and Prices Out Loud

Say the numbers 0 to 20 from memory, then read these prices aloud in Spanish: 15, 32, 45, 78, 100. Finally, role-play asking ¿Cuánto cuesta? and answering with a price.

- Which teen number (once to quince) or combined number (treinta y dos) tripped you up?

- Could you say a price and add es muy caro or barato naturally?

- Did you remember to use cuestan for more than one item?

Worksheet: Restaurant Script Worksheet

Plan a full restaurant visit in Spanish from arrival to paying. Fill in each line with a real phrase you would say, using Quisiera and por favor for politeness.

Asking for a table for your group

Asking for the menu (la carta)

Ordering a drink

Ordering a main dish (Para mí, ...)

One dietary or allergy phrase you may need

Asking for the check (la cuenta)

Worksheet: Directions Listening Sheet

Write the Spanish for each direction phrase, then have a partner or a text-to-speech tool read them at random so you practice recognizing them by ear, not just on the page.
straight ahead

to the right / to the left

turn right (gire / doble)

the first street / the second street

next to / across from / near

¿Where is the bathroom?

I am lost

Checklist: Travel Readiness Mastery

- I can count to 100 and say a price out loud
- I can tell time using es la una and son las ...
- I can order food and ask for the check politely
- I can ask for and recognize basic directions
- I can buy a ticket and tell a taxi where to go

Conversation and a Study System That Sticks

Build question-asking skills, set up your input and flashcard tools, and design a daily routine you will actually keep.

Exercise: Question Word Sprint

Write one real question using each question word: ¿Qué?, ¿Quién?, ¿Dónde?, ¿Cuándo?, ¿Por qué?, ¿Cómo?, ¿Cuánto? Then practice turning three statements into yes-or-no questions using only rising intonation.

- Did you place the opening inverted question mark on every question?

- Which question word do you most need for travel, and is it automatic yet?

- Could you ask someone to slow down (Más despacio, por favor) without hesitating?

Worksheet: Set Up Your Anki Deck

Create your first spaced-repetition deck and record your settings here. Build cards from words you actually met in your input, each with a full example sentence.

Tool chosen (Anki / Memrise / other)

New cards per day (recommended 10-20)

Card directions (Spanish to English and back? yes/no)

Example sentence included on each card? (yes/no)

Daily review time and trigger (for example after morning coffee)

First 10 words/phrases added

Worksheet: My Daily Spanish Routine

Design a 20-30 minute daily routine that touches input, vocabulary, and speaking. Anchor each block to an existing habit so it survives a busy day.

Anki review — when and how many minutes

Comprehensible input source (Dreaming Spanish, podcast, etc.) and minutes

Speaking practice (shadowing, self-talk, or tutor) and minutes

How I capture new words into Anki

Weekly speaking session (italki / Tandem / meetup) — day and time

My A1 milestone target date

Checklist: Study System and First Conversation Setup

- I can ask questions with all seven question words
- I set up a spaced-repetition deck with example sentences
- I chose at least one comprehensible-input source I enjoy
- I scheduled a recurring real speaking session
- I committed to speaking imperfectly and aiming for CEFR A1

Your Action Plan

1. Drill the five pure vowels and both stress rules daily for one week using Forvo to self-check
2. Memorize your greeting and self-introduction exchange and say it out loud until automatic
3. Learn the present-tense endings for -ar, -er, and -ir verbs and write five sentences about your day
4. Master the forms of ser, estar, ir, and tener and practice the ser-versus-estar decision drill
5. Memorize numbers 0 to 100, prices, and telling time, then role-play a market purchase
6. Rehearse a full restaurant script from greeting to la cuenta before your next meal out
7. Practice asking for and recognizing directions by ear with a partner or text-to-speech tool
8. Set up an Anki deck, add 10-20 cards a day with example sentences, and review every morning
9. Pick one comprehensible-input source and watch or listen 10-15 minutes a day
10. Book a recurring italki or language-exchange session and start speaking before you feel ready, aiming for CEFR A1

