

# Spanish in Minutes

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Book and notes may be downloaded free of charge.

- Compared to English, the Romance languages are very complex:

1. Nouns & adjectives are masculine or feminine.

El almuerzo, un panecillo, el jamón, el queso,  
el azúcar, un café negro.

Una malteada, una hamburguesa, la mesa negra,  
la comida, la casa, mis gafas (plural).

Neuter: lo necesario.

2. Stress is usually on the second last syllable except when  
an accent is used or when words end in a consonant:

Negro, queso, comida,...

Profesor, azul(blue),...

jamón, azúcar, lección,...

3. Verbs end in ar, er or ir.

The Personal Pronouns are usually left out;

They are only used to distinguish or to emphasise:

Yo me tomaré – I will give(take) myself.

Yo is used here because my wife has..., but I ...

Yo, tú (for friends or family), él, ella, usted (you, polite form), nosotros – nosotras, vosotros – vosotras, ellos – ellas – ustedes. The 6 different verb endings make that unnecessary.

To speak: hablar, (speaking) hablando, (spoken) hablado.

Present tense: hablo, hablas, habla, hablamos, habláis, hablan. The h is not pronounced.

To eat: comer, (eating) comiendo, (eaten) comido.

Como, comes, come, comemos, coméis, comen.

To permit: permitir, (permitting) permitiendo, (permitted) permitido.

Permito, permites, permite, permitimos, permitís, permiten.

4. De+el becomes del (of the).

A+I becomes al (to the).

## Conversations

The random sentences found in traveller guides have been used in fluent conversations with a touch of humour or with absurd situations as part of a Professional Memory Training exercise. Hence the following suggestions:

1. Memorise first the conversation in English. Consider yourself the main character. Visualise(hear & see!) what's happening. If there is no one else, become one! Rehearse while driving, doing another chore or before going to sleep.
2. Listen to my program while reading the text once or twice.
3. While doing something else, say one or two sentences aloud.

## The stories

They are based on the world lists for Australian schools and divided into groups according to frequency that automatically leads to a relatively simple Spanish text for beginners who should

5. Personal pronouns usually precede the verb, except when it is an infinitive.

Que le gustaría – what would please you

Lo siento – I regret it.

Quiero hacerlo (one word)– I want to do it

6. I will speak: hablaré

I would speak: hablaría

Note: the details mentioned above are somewhat bewildering. Since the brain cannot absorb pure data, they're not to be studied in order to remember! They are to be used as references only. They will give you an idea of the total linguistic picture in order to forestall frustration and to be aware that sometimes it's this and sometimes it's that.

There are no exercises, so you can't make mistakes, the curse of learning!

Spanish in minutes means Spanish direct!

As far as your own language is concerned, the learning order is as follows: HEAR – SPEAK – READ – WRITE.

When learning a foreign language, the order is different: HEARING while READING, SPEAKING, WRITING.



therefore start with lesson 1, regardless of age.  
Visualising the story in English first will facilitate learning the Spanish translation.

## Lección 2

- Que(subject) le(indirect object) gustaría.  
What would appeal to you

Gustaria is a form of gustar. Gustaré – I'll like.

- Verbs end in -ar, -er or -ir. They are often used without the personal pronouns yo, tú, (él, ella, ello, usted), nosotros, nosotras, vosotros, vosotras. (ellos, ellas, ustedes)

In Romance languages, the verb endings indicate the personal pronoun involved; hence there are 6 forms.  
Gustar: gusto, gustas, gusta, gustamos, gustáis, gustan; that's the present tense.

(Comer(to eat): como, comes, come, comemos, coméis, comen.

Permitir(to permit): permit, permites, permite, permitimos, permitís, permiten.

- Tomar(to take): me tomaré – I will take for myself, I'll give myself.
- There are masculine and feminine words with adjectives: Un panecillo, una malteada, la mesa, la casa (except el día, buen día, Buenos dias), buenas tardes, buenas noches.
- Estar (to be) – estará.
- Qué va a tomar, señor: what are you going to take, sir.
- Señor, señora and usted use the verb form of the 3<sup>rd</sup> person he.
- Estar: to be, but not permanent  
to be; meaning location: el azúcar está sobre la mesa.

Note: words ending in n or r usually have the stress on the last syllable: el professoror except azúcar, hence the accent.

- Lo siento: lo (it) before the verb.  
Le gustaría.
- Dejar (to leave) He dejado – I have left.
- Haber (to have): notice the b & v relationship (move, mobile).

he, has, ha, hemos, habeis, han.

- Tener (to have, to possess)

Tengo – tienes, tiene, tenemos, tenéis, tienen.

- Disfrutar (to enjoy): disfruto-disfrutas, disfruta-disfrutamos, disfrutáis, disfrutan.

Disfruten with an e indicated a wish! Remember: ustedes (you) uses the verb form for they.

## 1. ADJECTIVES

Words put next to nouns

Compare: inject – put in

Position

### 1. Before the noun

- Short versions: un gran numero(grande), una gran mujer(woman), San Nicolás(Santo) but: Santo Domingo.
- Intrinsic quality: la blanca nieve(snow)
- Figurative: Un pobre(poor) artista.

### 2. Behind the noun:

- Origin: vino Español.
- Changing quality: una mesa blanca, negra...
- 2 adjectives or adjective & adverb  
Calles muy anchas – very wide streets.

## 2. PRONOUNS

- I see him – le veo (ver)  
Subject, verb, direct object  
I see her – la veo  
I see it – lo veo
- I give him(her) – le doy  
Indirect object,  
meaning to him, to her.
- Que le gustaría (gustar).  
What would appeal to You
- Que va a tomar.  
What are you going to take.  
Ir-to go: voy, vas, va, vamos, vais, van
- Sentir: to feel, to regret. Lo siento — I regret it.  
Siento, sientes, siente, sentimos, sentís, sienten
- Dejar: to leave. He dejado — I have left...(I left)
- Tener: to have – to possess. Aquí tienen – here(you have)
- Tengo, times, tiene, tenemos, teneis, tienen  
4,5,6
- De él = of him  
De + el = del = of the: antes del semáforo





- Quedar: to be, to stay.
- Volver: to return. Volverán: they will return.
- Dormir: vowel changes; Duermo: I sleep  
 Durmió bien: did you sleep well(past action)  
 The polite form of **You** is Usted(Vd) with the same verb form of he.
- Poner: to put  
 Pongo-pones-pone-ponemos-ponéis-ponen  
 Suponer: to suppose. Supongo- I suppose

### Definite article

El viajero – los viajeros, el café – los cafés

But: el tren – los trenes, la voz – las voces

- Ahora: at this hour = now

### 7,8,9,10,12

- Su casa your house, Sus hermanos your brothers,  
 Algunos amigos some friends, Alguna cosa  
 something, Algún any, Problema masculine noun  
 ending in a, Algún día one day.
- Sobre la que tenga que pagar: you must pay.  
 Tener to have to...(imperativo)

Ser: to be(permanent)

Ésta es mi amiga – this is my friend

Estar: to be(for the time being)

Ella está en mi clase

- Conocerla (one word). Infinitive+pronoun

- El día – buen día – buenos días.

Usually, words ending in A are feminine

- Poder – to be able to.

Puedo, puedes, puede, podemos, podéis, pueden

Notice vowel change: stressed o becomes ue

- Buenas tardes, buenas noches.

- Gracias por recordarme. (one word!)

- Estar: to be(location). Estará – will you be

- Suponer: to imagine, to think. Supongo: I guess.

- Está – (he is). Estaba – he was & still is; –first past tense.

Estuvo – he was but not anymore: second past tense.

- Vivir – to live. Viviendo – living

- Bastante bien – quite well

Hay bastante sitio para todos

There is enough room for all of us.

- Ir: to go Se fueron: they went(finished!); second past tense.



Que pruebe that proves...

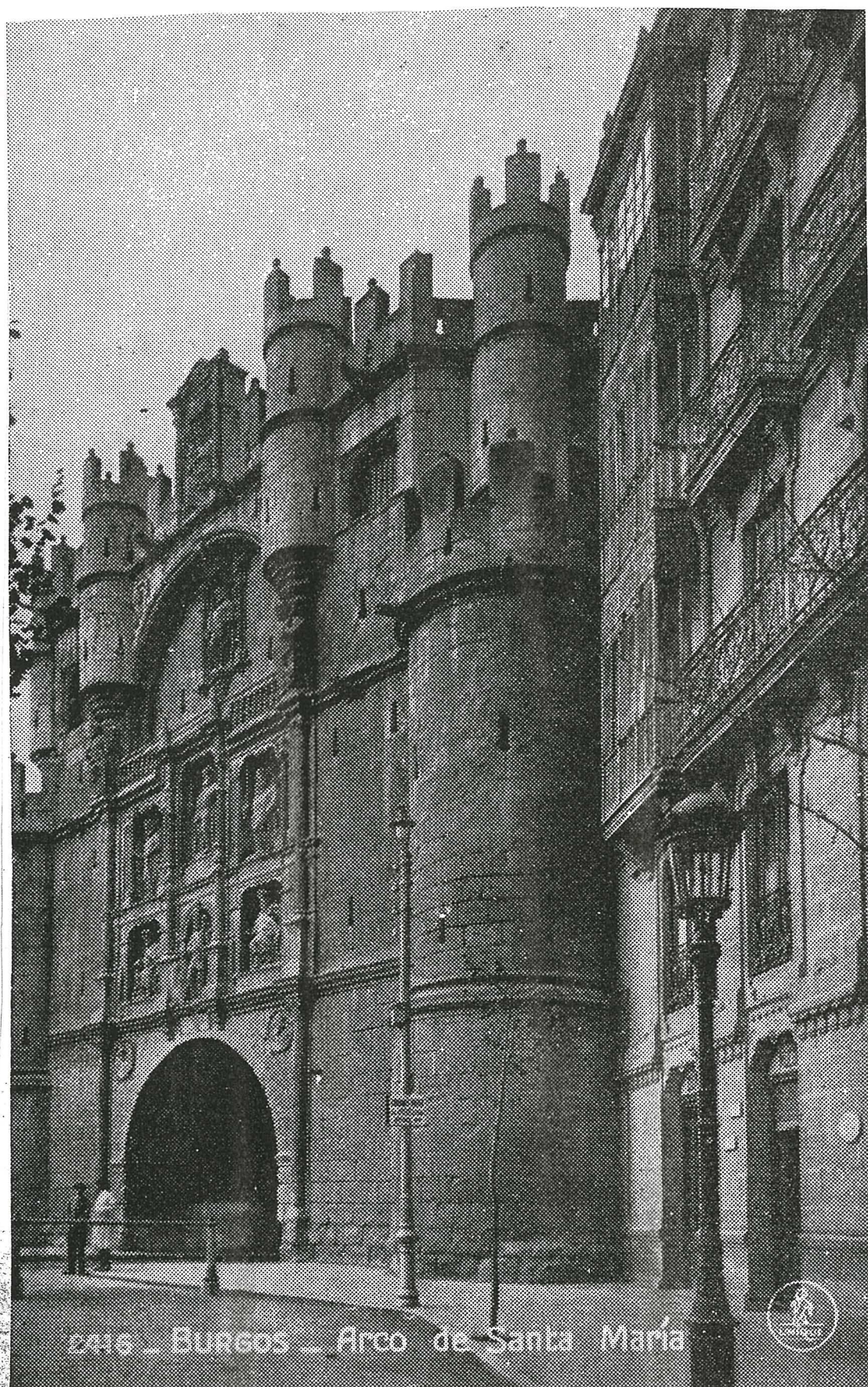
Subjunctive: expressing uncertainty or doubt.

Only one example in English: I wish I were rich

- Que no lo perderé so that I won't lose it
- Casarse to get married. Reflexive verb.  
Se casó 2<sup>nd</sup> past tense. (finished action)
- Él es he(always) is.







2416 - BURGOS - Arco de Santa María





## 2.THIS MORNING

1. The sun comes up; moon and stars have gone.
2. A jumbo jet with winking wings sends people far away.
3. My black dog has fun running after a tennis ball when I throw it away.
4. The cat with a bell around her neck likes to sit on the red rug while eating her cat food.
5. The only duck we have swims around in our pond.
6. An old van with boxes and drums just went down the hill. It must be on its way to the big ship with a Dutch flag we saw yesterday in the harbour.
7. My sister wants to draw me while I have a cup of tea and two slices of bread; one with jam and one with peanut butter. She often likes to do that.
8. I'll take some sunflower seeds to school for my play lunch.
9. That must be the school bus, so I had better catch it.

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Note: "A picture speaks a thousand words". Consequently, when we want to learn a new language, lessons should be visualised! It means that the plot of each little story should be seen in the mind's eye so to speak. That's why each set of new words has been used in an easy-to-remember context. Students can memorise a whole story by writing down the key-words of each sentence or paragraph.

Example for lesson 1: First visualise the scene of action:

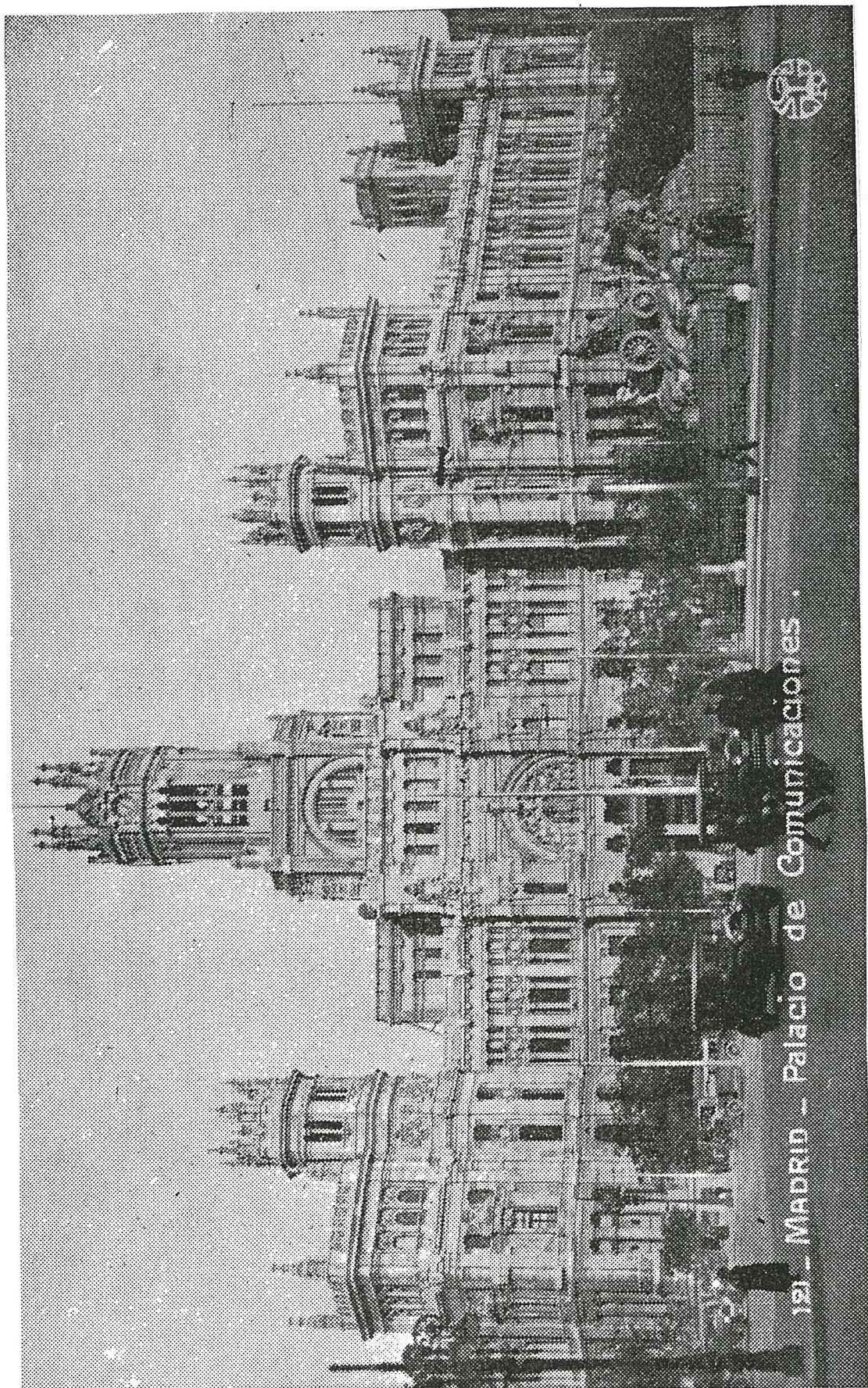
A typical morning with people and pets busy with what they usually do. Then pay attention to what else is happening.

Key-words: sun, moon, stars. jet. dog, fun, run, ball. cat, bell, rug....

These Memory Training exercises are most important, especially at a time where modern technology is used to look things up instead of committing them to memory!

Snippets of stories should come to mind during other routine activities. It is also an excellent way to fall asleep!





121 - MADRID - Palacio de Comunicaciones .



2

## NOUNS MASCULINE

EL ALMUERZO

LOS PANECILLOS

UN QUS AMARILLO

EL JAMÓN

EL PROFESOR

EL AZÚCAR

UN CAFE NEGRO

EL CIELO AZUL

2

## NOUNS FEMININE

UNA MALTEADA

UNA HAMBURGUESA

LA MESA NEGRA

LA COMIDA

LA CASA

LAS GAFAS

LA ESQUINA

MUCHAS GRACIAS

PARA CONSEGUIRLE 6  
TO GET YOU

QUIRO CONOCERLA

I WANT, TO KNOW HER

PODRIA ENSEÑARMELO

WOULD YOU ABLE TO SHOW (IT TO) ME

LO CONIZCO - LE VEO 5

I KNOW HIM (IT) I SEE HIM

CONOCE A JUAN

DO YOU KNOW JOHN

CONMIGI-CINTIGO-CONSIGO

WITH ME

HAY? SI, HAY 4

IS THERE YES, THERE IS

HIM IT

SE LO DIRE

I WILL TELL HIM (TO)

SE INSTEAD OF LE TO AVOID LE LO

2. WISH

DISFRUTAR-TO ENJOY

DISFRUTAN-ENJOY

6. COMMAND

NULO HAGA! HACER

DON'T DO IT TO DO

DISCULPAR-EXCULPAME

SEGUIA - SIGA! 4.

TO FOLLOW

GIRAR - GIRE! TURN

IN CASE YOU MAY HAVE

EN CASO QUE HAYA... 6.

UNCERTAIN



HABLAR TO TALK

HABLANDO-HABLANDO

YO

HABLO

TU

HABLAS

ÉL, ELLE, USTED

HABLA

NOSOTROS(AS)

HABLAMOS

VOSOTROS(AS)

HABLAIS

ELLOS(AS)

HABLAN

USTEDES

ACCUSATIVE(4)

TE, LE, LO, LA, LOS, LAS, VEO

DATIVE(3) TO...

ME YOU HER, HIM THEM

ME, TE, LE, LES DOY

VER-TO SEE

QUE BUENO VERLA

QUIERO DARLE

I WANT TO GIVE YOU

DOY

DAMOS

DAS

DAIS

DA

DAN

5. ESTAR TO BE (NOW)

1. COMO ESTÁ USTED

ESTOY BIEN

2. DONDE ESTÁ JUAN  
LOCATION WHERE IS JOHN

SER TO BE (ALWAYS)

EL ES MI VECINO  
HE IS MY NEIGHBOUR

EL FUE MI VECINO

EL FUE UN QUEEN ATLETA  
HE WAS (FINISHED PAST)

SEA

SIENDO

SIN

SOY

ERAS

ES

SOMOS

SOIS

SON

ESTAR

ESTARÁ

ESTOY

ESTÁS

ESTA

ESTAMOS

ESTÁIS

ESTÁN

ESTAD

WILL BE



WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE  
**QUE LE GUSTARIA**  
 YOU PLEASE  
**YO ME TOMARE** 2

TO POSSESS  
 TENER

**TENGO**

TO HAVE - HABER

**HE**

**TIENES**

**HAS**

**TIENE**

**HA**

**TENEMOS**

**HEMOS**

**TENEIS**

**HABEIS**

**TIENEN**

**HAN**

FINISHED ACTIONS IN THE PAST

5. **PERDER** TO LOSE

**PERDI LA PISTA DE EL**

**TRASLADAR**

**SE TRASLADO**

**TERMINAR**

**TERMINO DE TERCERO**

**ESTAR: ESTABA**

HE WAS

**PODER: PUEDE**

I CAN

**PREFERIR: PREFIERO**

I PREFER



15

CONGIUNTIVO } AVERE  
IMPERFETTO }

SE AVESSI-If I HAD...

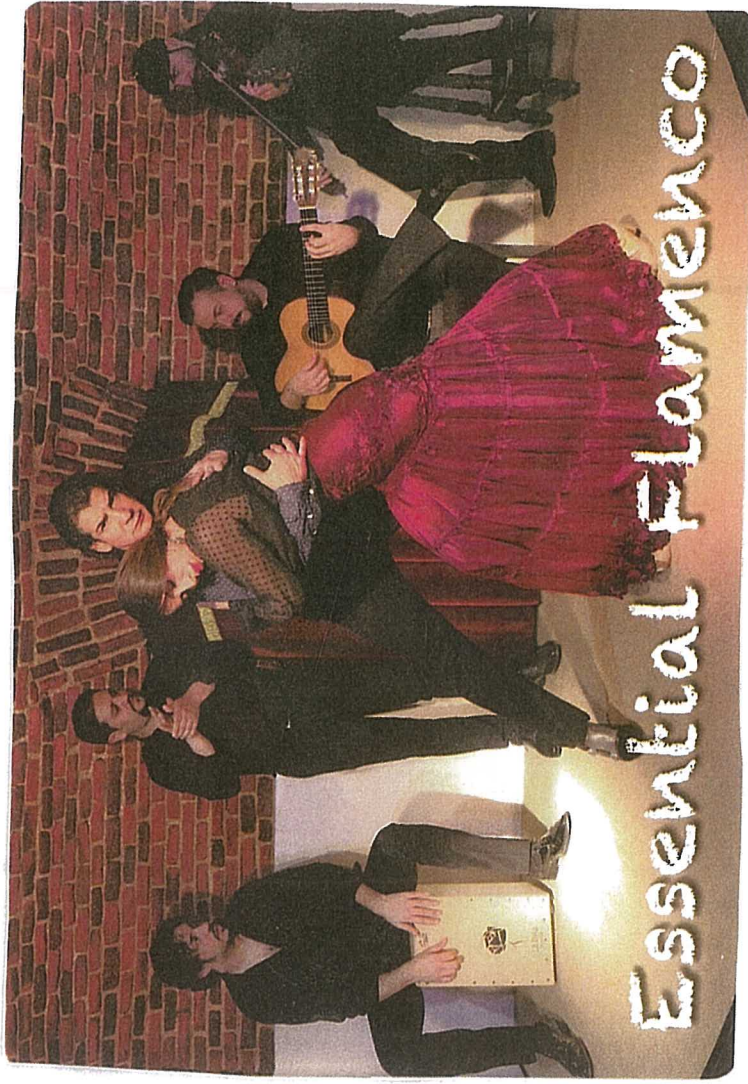
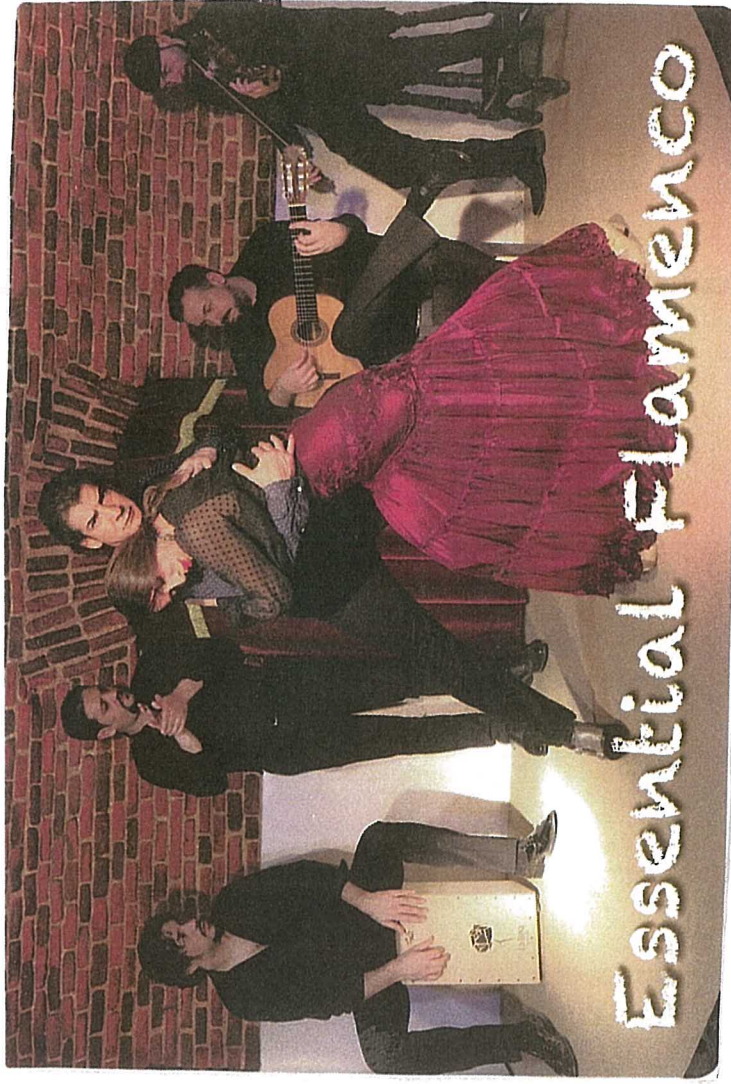
A LUNGO ANDARE

CON L'ANDAR DEL TEMPO

IO LO FAREI SE POTESSE

|                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| CONDIZIONALE<br>SEMPLICE | CONGIUNTIVO<br>IMPERFETTO |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|

|                  |            |
|------------------|------------|
| I would<br>DO IT | If I could |
|------------------|------------|





PROMETTERE - PROMESSO 17

PASSATO REMOTO

SALTARE - T. JUMP

SALTAR. SALTASTI. SALTÒ

CONDIZIONALE

POTERE: POTREBBE

VINCERE - VINTO

DARE: DARÒ - DARAI - DARÀ

DAREMO - DARETE - DARANNO

19  
FARE - T. MAKE

FACCIO - FAI - FA

FACCIAMO - FATE

FANNO

RISPONDERE - RISPONDO

RISPONDA - ANSWER

DOVERE: DEVO - DORRÒ

ATTACARE - T. ATTACÒ

AGGRAPPARE - AGGRAPPÒ

HACER

TO MAKE

TO DO

HACIENDO

FINISHED

PRESENT HE CH

PAST

HAGO

HICE

HACES

HICISTE

HACES

HIZO

HACEMOS

HACIMOS

HACÉIS

HICISTES

HACEN

HICIERON

LOS DIAS SE ESTAN...

20

WILL GET...

EL CIELO SE ESTÁ

WILL GET...

ESTAS SOMBRILLAS

SEVEN DEN...

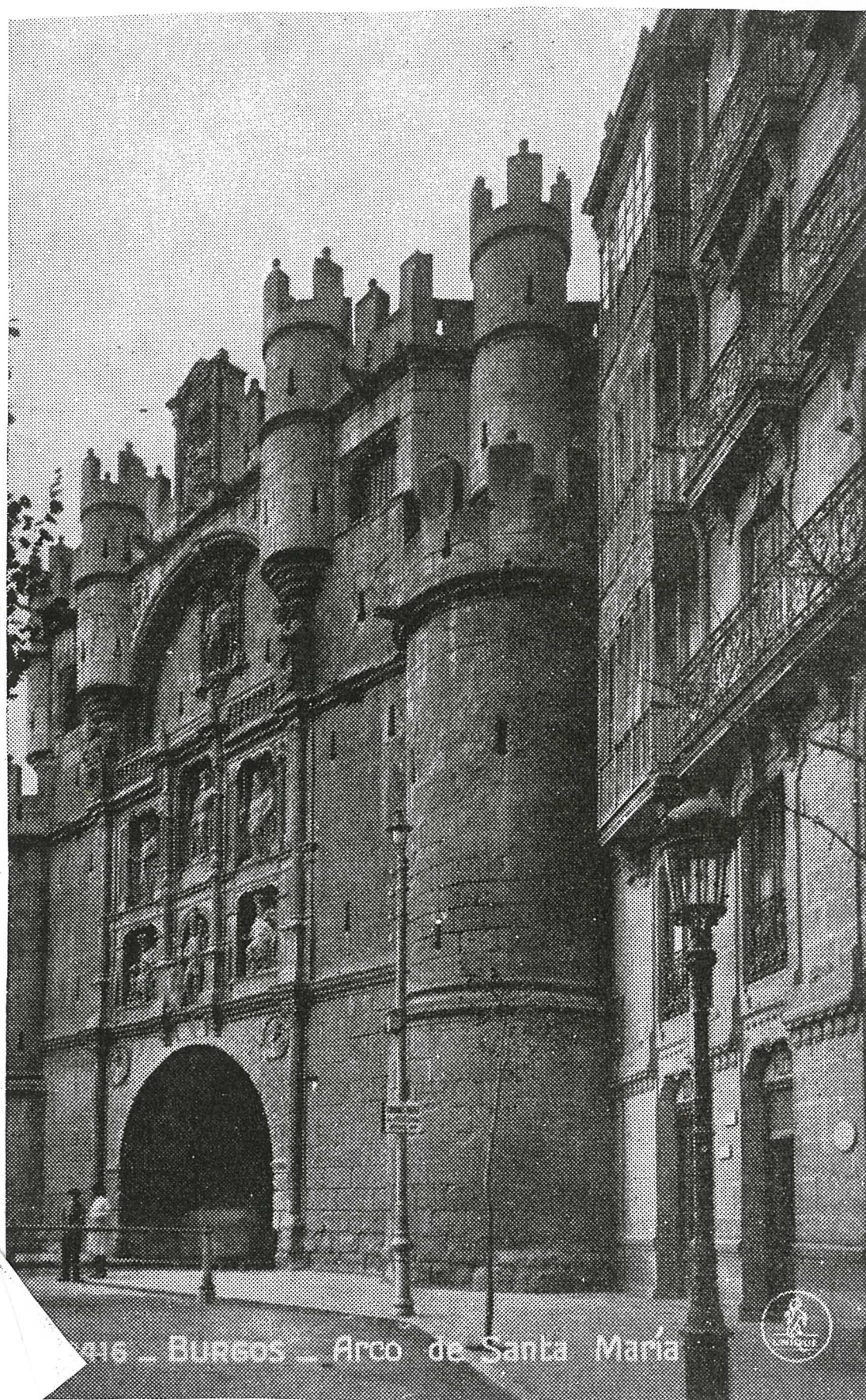
ARE BEIN SOLD...

SE DICE QUE LOLA SE CASARÁ

THEY SAY

IS GETTING MARRIED





416 — BURGOS — Arco de Santa María





Que pruebe that proves...

Subjunctive: expressing uncertainty or doubt.

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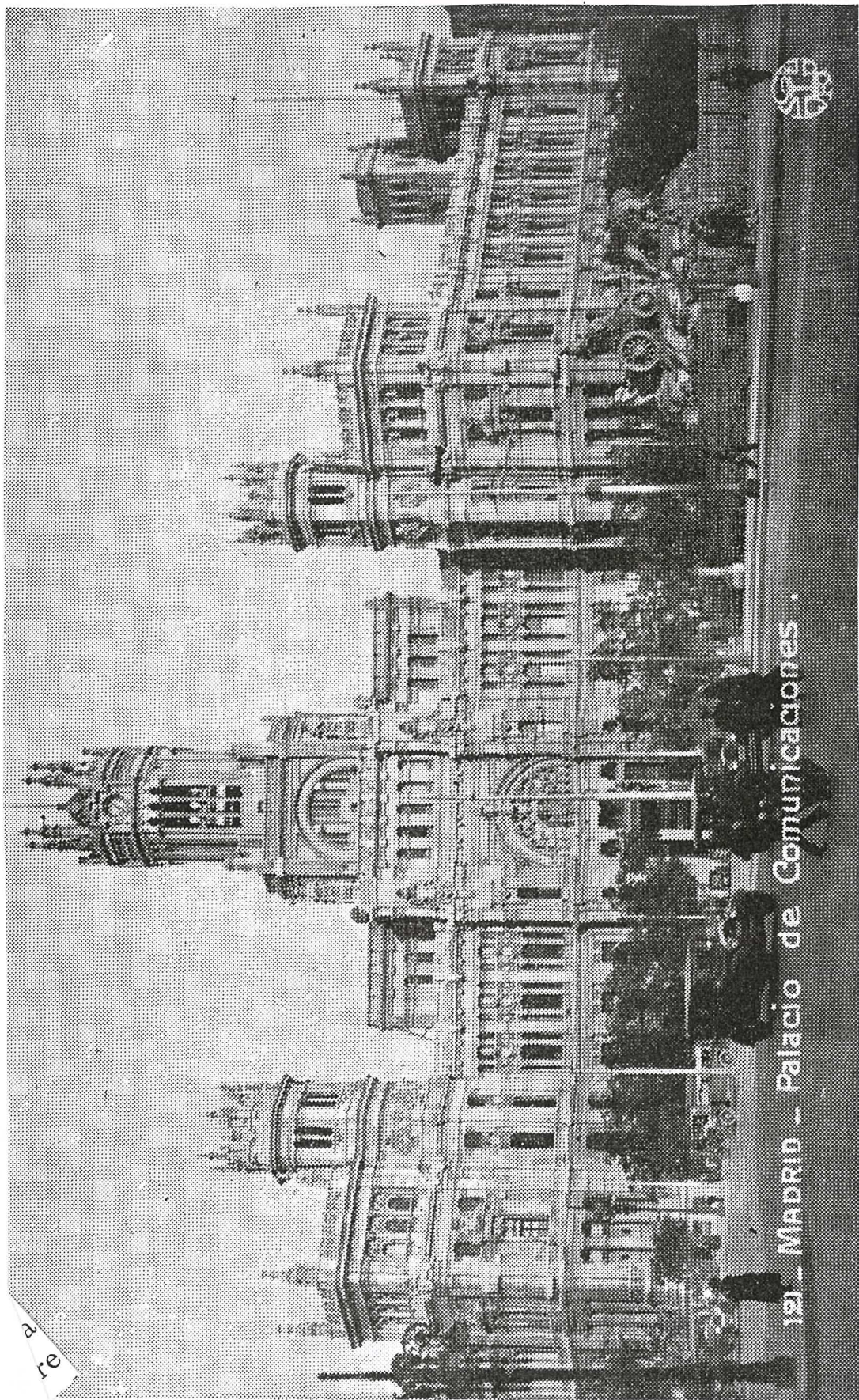
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# Spanish in minutes

## YouTube notes

### English derivatives & relations

Sixty percent of English words are derived from Latin and consequently from Spanish, Italian and French. Here are the ones from the first 20 conversations. After that, you're on your own. It's wise to write down the ones you discover yourself; it will help you to remember the Spanish ones.

|            |          |            |              |
|------------|----------|------------|--------------|
| beber      | beverage | proposito  | propose      |
| mover      | move     | clase      | class        |
| favor      | favour   | casualidad | casualty     |
| café       | coffee   | vecino     | vicinity     |
| azúcar     | sugar    | problema   | problem      |
| gracias    | grace    | contrario  | contrary     |
| discúlpeme | culpable | medalla    | medal        |
| estación   | station  | terminar   | terminate    |
| número     | number   | salto      | summer sault |
| justo      | just     | fantástico | fantastic    |



|                 |             |                |                      |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Officina postal | Post Office | atleta         | athlete              |
| siguiente       | sequence    | dormir         | dormitory<br>dormant |
| intersección    | intersectie | compleaños     | complete years       |
| semáforo        | semaphore   | recordar       | record               |
| opuesto         | oppositie   | tiempo         | tempo, time          |
| suficiente      | sufficient  | visitor        | visit                |
| preferir        | prefer      | parentes       | parentes             |
| bicicleta       | bicycle     | volver         | revolve              |
| durante         | during      | nacionalidad   | nationality          |
| dia             | diary       | madre          | mother               |
| hora            | hour        | padre          | pater, father        |
| suponer         | suppose     | estado civil   | Civil state          |
| seguro          | secure      | divorciado     | divorced             |
| vivir           | survive     | separado       | separated            |
| accidente       | accident    | passaporte     | passport             |
| carro           | car         | expiración     | expiry               |
| serio           | serious     | expedición     | expedite             |
| intensivo       | intensive   | identificación | identification       |
| gemelos         | gemini      | actualmente    | actually             |
| licencia        | licence     | leggere        | lecture              |
| conducir        | conduct     | possedere      | possess              |
| borsa-burse     | purse       | permanecer     | permanent            |
| ciertamente     | certainly   | vacaciones     | vacancy              |



|              |              |             |                      |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|----------------------|
| encontrar    | encounter    | lección     | lesson               |
| familia      | family       | declarar    | declare              |
| perfecto     | perfect      | registrar   | register             |
| perfecto     | perfect      | esposo      | spouse               |
| drogas       | drugs        | ideal       | ideal                |
| medicina     | medicine     | fábrica     | factory              |
| personal     | personal     | tarde       | retarded             |
| certificado  | certificate  | escuela     | school               |
| médico       | medical      | seguridad   | security             |
| probar       | prove        | preparar    | prepare              |
| fondo        | foundation   | platos      | plates               |
| permitir     | permit       | peligrosa   | perillous            |
| ocuparse     | occupy       | jardin      | garden               |
| rectángulo   | rectangle    | exhausto    | exhausted            |
| generalmente | generally    | celebrar    | celebrar             |
| consiguiente | consequently | residencia  | residence            |
| discusión    | discussion   | significar  | signify              |
| matrimonio   | matrimony    | bebidas     | beverages            |
| pintoresco   | pictoresque  | fiesta      | fête, fest,<br>feast |
| música       | music        | exótica     | exotic               |
| luna         | lunatic      | reproductor | reproduce            |
| organizar    | organise     | asistentes  | assistents           |



|           |          |            |             |
|-----------|----------|------------|-------------|
| año       | annual   | marchar    | march       |
| otoño     | autumn   | montar     | mount       |
| propiedad | property | vecindario | vicinity    |
| grande    | grand    | forma      | form        |
| distancia | distance | detalles   | details     |
| depender  | depend   | afiliación | affiliation |
| obtener   | obtain   | descuento  | discount    |
| tiquete   | ticket   |            |             |