

Knowledge Organiser Module 6 - De costumbre

G Reflexive verbs

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Remember, many daily routine verbs are reflexive in Spanish.

me levanto	I get up
te levantas	you get up
se levanta	he/she gets up
nos levantamos	we get up
os levantáis	you (plural) get up
se levantan	they get up

When the verb is used in the **infinitive**, the correct reflexive pronoun is added to the end.

*No me gusta **levantarme** temprano.* I don't like getting up early.

Remember that lots of daily routine verbs are also stem-changing.

***Me** acuesto a las once.* I go to bed at 11.00.
***Prefiero acostarme** temprano.* I prefer going to bed early.

G Expressions followed by the infinitive

To enhance your writing, use a range of expressions which are followed by the infinitive:

para + infinitive	in order to (do)
al + infinitive	on (doing)
sin + infinitive	without (doing)
antes de + infinitive	before (doing)
después de + infinitive	after (doing)

Al llegar al festival...

On arriving at the festival...

*Pasé cuatro noches **sin dormir**.*

I spent four nights **without sleeping**.

G Avoiding the passive

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In Spanish the passive is often avoided by using the reflexive pronoun **se**.

*La fiesta **se celebra** en marzo.* The festival **is celebrated** (literally 'celebrates itself') in March.

Sometimes the subject of the verb comes after the verb.

***Se lanzan** huevos.* Eggs **are thrown** (literally 'throw themselves').

G Absolute superlatives

To say **really** (nice), **extremely** (expensive), etc. use the absolute superlative. Add **-ísimo** to the end of the adjective, and make it agree.

*Este ejercicio es **facilísimo**.* This exercise is **really** easy.

If the adjective ends in a vowel, remove it before adding the ending.

*Estas gambas están **buenísimas**.* These prawns are **extremely** good.

G The passive

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The **passive** is used to say what **is / was / will be done** to something or someone. To form it, use the correct person and tense of **ser** followed by the **past participle**, which must agree.

***Fue inventado** hace mil años.* **It was invented** a thousand years ago.
***Es conocida** en todo el mundo.* **It's known** throughout the world.

Can you spot the other examples of the passive used in exercise 5?

G Irregular verbs in the preterite tense

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If you know the 'I' form of the preterite you can usually work out the other forms.

E.g. tener (to have):	<i>tuve</i>	I had
	<i>tuviste</i>	you had
	<i>tuvo</i>	he/she had
	<i>tuvimos</i>	we had
	<i>tuvisteis</i>	you (plural) had
	<i>tuvieron</i>	they had

Now work out the other forms of these verbs.

<i>poner</i> (to put)	→ <i>puse</i> (I put)
<i>poder</i> (to be able to)	→ <i>pude</i> (I was able to)
<i>venir</i> (to come)	→ <i>vine</i> (I came)
<i>traer</i> (to bring)	→ <i>traje</i> (I brought)*
<i>decir</i> (to say)	→ <i>dije</i> (I said)*

* 'they' form ends in *-ieron*

G Preterite tense of reflexive verbs

In the **preterite tense**, reflexive verbs behave in the same way as other verbs but need a reflexive pronoun in front of the verb.

me acosté	nos acostamos
te acostaste	os acostasteis
se acostó	se acostaron

Stem-changing verbs only have a stem change in the present tense, not in the preterite.

infinitive	present	preterite
acostarse	me acuesto	me acosté
despertarse	me despierto	me desperté