



Welcome Pack

Brought to you from www.lightspeedspanish.co.uk

Both Cynthia and myself (Gordon) would like to welcome you to our site designed specifically to assist you in learning Spanish faster than ever.

We've been teaching Spanish for many years now and have learnt the hard way about what works and what doesn't.

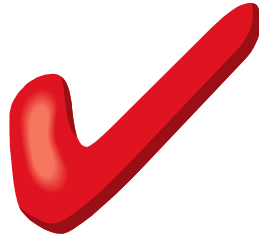
Throughout the years we've helped many students start from zero and attain levels of fluidity in Spanish that both they and we could be proud of.

There are many different ways of achieving a great level and we don't claim to know them all, however, we have discovered the vital Do's and Don'ts that, if you follow them, will take your Spanish forward at LightSpeed.

Once you've had a chance to consider our advice, you can then move on to test your level in our fun quiz. No matter what your level is, trust that it's perfect just as it is. We are sure to have the right level for you to start with in our range of [Free Podcasts](#).

We wish you every success in what is sure to be one of the most interesting journeys of your life!

Saludos de Gordon y Cynthia.



Things you should do!



Plan your private study in small chunks of time.

For example, four, twenty or thirty minute slots across the week are far more preferable than studying for two hours. The mind likes chunking things down to manageable pieces. Having gaps in between your self-study allows you to process the information more easily.



Piggy Back your learning.

We all have busy lives and finding extra time to study is not always easy. The solution is to combine other, pre-existing activities with your studies. How many hours per week do you drive? Why not use this time to listen to the podcasts, or even Spanish music. The same applies to when you are doing housework, exercise, walking the dog or literally any other activity which could allow you to listen to some Spanish. All you require is an iPod or MP3 player and some enthusiasm. Go for it!

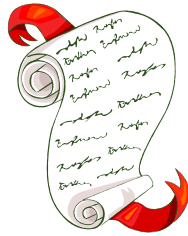


Be sure to involve all your learning senses.

What we mean by this is that to learn at optimum speed then you should not only listen, but read, write and speak the language. The Internet now affords us an enormous range of interactive learning that you can do everything right in front of your PC. As a taster, here are some sites that allow you to get interactive:

www.espanlshchat.com A great Chatroom where students of Spanish and English meet.

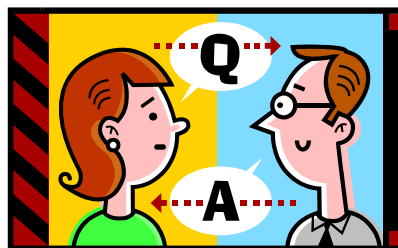
www.aprenderespanol.org Enough interactive exercises to keep you busy for years!



More things to do!



Search out and join a Spanish conversation group. Even if the group is at a much higher level you will benefit from the experience and the more experienced students will help pull you forward faster than ever.



One to one classes are invaluable if you have the budget for them, of course. Most tutors charge between £20 and £25 per hour here in the U.K. Aim to get a tutor that has been recommended. In our experience, there are many Spanish teachers out there that do not speak Spanish very well. ☹️

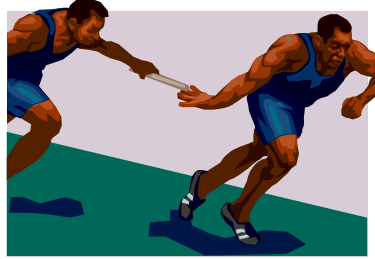


Become a little obsessed. Like anything, if you want to be really good at something then you have to get a little obsessed with it. Of course, we don't mean obsessed like the lady in Fatal Attraction. Just work to build a healthy desire for all things Spanish and become supremely curious!



Have fun. The journey of learning is the fun part. Learning a language is not a six month project. However, if you throw yourself into it with enthusiasm and energy, time flies and, before you know it, you'll find yourself chatting on with Spanish people as though you'd done it all of your life!

What NOT to do!



Don't compare your progress with others. Each person learns at the rate they learn. Everyone has a different background and things that influence their learning. You will find some people learning faster than you and some learning slower. It really doesn't matter. Learning is very personal and so you can focus on your own progress. You will get there!



Don't give up! Expect to feel frustration, confusion and despair!! It's all part of learning. Over the years we've seen many people give up just when they were at the point of really grasping the Spanish language. Gaining a new language is like rolling a big rock up a hill. The rock's so big that, sometimes, you don't actually realise how close you are to the top. Our advice is that you keep on pushing onwards and upwards. Once you reach the top, then it's a downhill run from then on!



Don't believe the promises that some companies make about how quickly you can learn Spanish. Take with a hefty pinch of salt any advert that claims you can "Learn Spanish in a weekend" or "Fluent in a fortnight" or worse, "You only need 300 words to speak perfect Spanish." If that were true, then we would have been out of work a long time ago. Lol.

Now, scroll down to test your level!

Test your level. Absolute Beginners.

If you get more than one answer wrong in the following section, then you probably should begin listening to our [Absolute Beginners](#) free podcasts. (Answers below)

1) ¿A qué hora _____ despiertas?

- a) tú
- b) se
- c) te
- d) ti

2) Mis hermanos _____ cinco días por semana.

- a) trabajan
- b) trabaja
- c) trabajamos
- d) trabajáis

3) Disculpe. ¿Hay _____ ferretería cerca de aquí?

- a) la
- b) uno
- c) una
- d) un

4) Simón _____ treinta y tres años.

- a) está
- b) es
- c) tiene
- d) vive

5) Tiene los ojos _____ y el pelo _____.

- a) azules/marrón
- b) verde/negro
- c) azules/castaño
- d) verdes/rubios

Answers: 1c, 2a, 3c, 4c, 5c.

Test your level.

Early Intermediate.

If you get more than one answer wrong in the following section, then you probably should begin listening to our [Early Intermediate](#) free podcasts. (Answers below)

6) _____ las tres y media.

- a) Es
- b) Están
- c) Son
- d) Tienen

7) Normalmente, los viernes _____ muy tarde.

- a) levanto
- b) me acosto
- c) me acuesto
- d) me acostarse

8) Hoy _____ muy cansado.

- a) soy
- b) estáis
- c) son
- d) estoy

9) Los fines de semana mi amigo visita a _____ primas.

- a) los
- b) su
- c) tuyas
- d) sus

10) José sale con sus amigos _____.

- a) nunca
- b) nada
- c) una vez por semana
- d) todos

Answers: 6c, 7c, 8d, 9d, 10c.

Test your level.

Advanced Intermediate.

If you get more than one answer wrong in the following section, then you probably should begin listening to our [Advanced Intermediate](#) free podcasts.

(Answers below)

11) Cuando vivíamos en Valencia, _____ que aprender catalán.

- a) teníamos
- b) tuvimos
- c) habíamos tenido
- d) habríamos

12) Esta mañana estaba leyendo el periódico cuando, de repente, _____ mi hijo.

- a) entraba
- b) entraron
- c) estaba entrando
- d) entró

13) Fue interesante para mí porque yo nunca _____ ese tipo de cosa.

- a) hice
- b) hubiera hecho
- c) había hecho
- d) haya hecho

14) Estaba en la plaza y _____ un montón de gente festejando.

- a) hubiera
- b) hay
- c) hubo
- d) había

15) Si piensas en salir te aconsejo que no _____ , porque está lloviendo mucho.

- a) hazlo
- b) lo haces
- c) hacerlo
- d) lo hagas

Answers: 11b, 12d, 13c, 14d, 15d.

Test your level.

Advanced Speaker.

Now you should be ready to move onto our [Advanced Speaker](#) free podcasts. If you get the following answers right, then you are ¡un crack! (Answers below)

16) ¿Te importa si abro la ventana? Sí, _____ .

- a) abrirlo
- b) ábrele
- c) ábrela
- d) la abre

17) Si _____ más dinero disponible, le compraría a mi hijo un coche.

- a) tenía
- b) hubiera tenido
- c) tuviera
- d) tengo

18) Ese coche rojo que está entre los dos coches azules, ¿es _____ ?

- a) el tuyo
- b) tuya
- c) suya
- d) la vuestra

19) Si _____ que me ibas a insultar así, no habría venido a verte.

- a) hubiese supuesto
- b) había sabido
- c) estaba sabido
- d) hubiera sabido

20) En cuanto _____ ellos, iremos directamente al cine.

- a) vienen
- b) vengáis
- c) vengan
- d) vinieron

Answers: 16c, 17c, 18a, 19d, 20c.

¡Te deseamos mucha suerte!

Well, that's all for now. We hope that you've been able to take some value from our Welcome Pack. Remember that as well as offering free podcasts. We also provide audios to help you to build your [Vocabulary](#) too.

If you have any questions, comments or would just like to say hi, then, you can find us on our [Facebook](#) page.

Of course, every audio is backed up by a detailed, dual language [Help-Sheet](#) which offers invaluable detail on each of the subjects we discuss.

Finally, we will also be sending you our Newsletter which is released three or four times a year and contains many great tips and suggestions that will help you take your Spanish to LightSpeed.

¡Hasta Pronto!

Gordon y Cynthia

