

Spanish for everyday

About the author

Nibaldo Calvo Buides (Cuba). Actually he lives in Louisville, Kentucky (USA).

Spanish teacher, Journalist and Chess Expert with International Rating.

Bachelor degree at University of Habana, Cuba.

Prologue

This manual is a quick reference tool and an easy-to-use study guide to get an effective communication. You will find words and phrases that you can use every day with Spanish speakers.

A phonetic pronunciation accompanies each phrase.

Summary:

Pronunciation Guidelines -----	5
Vowels -----	6
Consonants -----	7
Numbers -----	9
Colors -----	12
Days of the week -----	13
Months of the year -----	14
Greetings and introductions -----	16
Basic courtesy -----	27
Basic understanding -----	32
Weather -----	37
Celebrations -----	39

Pronunciation Guidelines:

In order to facilitate reading, the phonetic transcription in this book follows the rules of English pronunciation and spelling as closely as possible.

The phonetic transcription presented here corresponds to a “neutral” dialect of Spanish which, pronounced correctly, will be understood in any Spanish-speaking country.

Vowels

Spanish spelling

Pronunciation

a

ah

e

eh

i

ee

o

oh

u

oo

Consonants

Spanish has basically the same consonant sounds as English. However, there are a few particulars to keep in mind:

b and **v** are very often pronounced the same way, as in “bee”.

c (soft), **s** and **z** vary in pronunciation in some Spanish dialects. However, in all but the rarest cases, they can all be pronounced like the **s** in “soft” without risk of confusion.

g is hard as in good before **a, o**, and **u**, but soft as in horse before **e** or **i**.

gu is used before **e** and **i** to represent a hard **g** sound as in good (note that here the **u** does function as a vowel; **gu** is a digraph in which two letters represent a single sound as in **the**).

h is always silent as in herbs.

j is pronounced like the **h** in horse.

ll is always pronounced as the **y** in yellow.

ñ represents a particular sound which resembles the **ny** combination found in canyon.

qu is used before **e** and **i** to represent a hard **c** sound as in cat.

r at the beginning of a word is trilled.

rr represents a trill in the middle of a word.

Numbers

0	zero	cero	she-roh
1	one	uno	oo-noh
2	two	dos	dohss
3	three	tres	trehss
4	four	cuatro	kwah-troh
5	five	cinco	seen-koh
6	six	seis	sayss
7	seven	siete	see-eh-teh
8	eight	ocho	oh-choh
9	nine	nueve	nweh-veh
10	ten	diez	dee-ess
11	eleven	once	ohn-seh
12	twelve	doce	doh-seh

- 13 thirteen trece **treh-seh**
- 14 fourteen catorce **kah-tor-seh**
- 15 fifteen quince **keen-seh**
- 16 sixteen dieciséis **dee-eh-see-sayss**
- 17 seventeen diecisiete

dee-eh-see—see-eh-teh

- 18 eighteen dieciocho

dee-eh-see-oh-choh

- 19 nineteen diecinueve

dee-eh-see-nweh-veh

- 20 twenty veinte **vayn-the**
- 21 twenty one **vayn-tee-oo-noh**
- 22 twenty two **vayn-tee-dohss**
- 30 thirty **trayn-tah**

- 31 thirty one **trayn-tah-oo-noh**
- 32 thirty two **trayn-tah ee dohss**
- 40 forty **kwah-ren-tah**
- 50 fifty **seen-kwen-tah**
- 60 sixty **she-sen-tah**
- 70 seventy **she-ten-tah**
- 80 eighty **oh-chen-tah**
- 90 ninety **noh-ven-tah**
- 100 one hundred **see-en**

Colors

red	rojo	roh-hoh
blue	azul	ah-zool
green	verde	vehr-deh
yellow	amarillo	ah-mah-ree-yoh
orange	anaranjado	ah-nah-rahn-hah-doh
purple	morado	moh-rad-doh
black	negro	neh-groh
white	blanco	blahn-koh
pink	rosado	roh-za-do
brown	café/marrón	kah-feh/mah-ron
gray	gris	greess

Days of the week:

Sunday = domingo (**doe-MEAN-go**)

Monday = lunes (**LOO-nace**)

Tuesday = martes (**MAR-tase**)

Wednesday = miércoles (**me+AIR-co-lace**)

Thursday = jueves (**HWAY-vase**)

Friday = viernes (**vee+AIR-nace**)

Saturday = sábado (SAW-bah-doe)

Months of the year

January = enero (**en-arrow**)

February = febrero (**feb-RARE-oh**)

March = marzo (**MAR-so**)

April = abril (**ah-BREEL**)

May = mayo (**MA-yo**)

June = junio (**WHO-nee+oh**)

July = julio (**WHO-lee+oh**)

August = agosto (**ah-GHOST-oh**)

September = septiembre (**sep-tee+EM-bray**)

October = octubre (**oak-TOO-bray**)

November = noviembre (**no-vee+EM-bray**)

December = diciembre (**dee-see+EM-bray**)

Greetings and introductions

Hello

Hola

Oh-lah

Good morning

Buenos días

Bweh-nohss dee-ahss

Good afternoon

Buenas tardes

Bweh-nahss tar-dess

Good evening/ night

Buenas noches

Bweh-nahss noh-chess

Welcome (to a man)

Bienvenido.

Bee-en-veh-nee-doh.

Welcome (to a woman)

Bienvenida

Bee-en-veh-nee-dah.

Welcome (to all men or mixed group)

Bienvenidos.

Bee-en-veh-nee-dohs.

Welcome (to a female group)

Bienvenidas.

Bee-en-veh-nee-dahs.

What's your name? (formal)

¿Cómo se llama Usted?

Koh-moh seh yah- mah oosted?

What's your name? (informal)

¿Cómo te llamas?

Koh-moh teh yah-mahss?

My name is...

Mi nombre es...

Mee mohm-breh es...

Nice to meet you.

Mucho gusto.

Moo-choh goos-toh.

The pleasure is mine.

El gusto es mío.

El goos- toh ess mee-oh.

Where are you from?

¿De dónde eres?

Deh dohn-deh eh-ress?

I am from....

Soy de.....

Soy deh...

How are you?

¿Cómo estás?

Koh-moh ess-tahss?

Fine, thank you very much.

Bien, gracias.

Bee-en, grah-see ahss.

More or less.

Más o menos.

Mahss oh meh-nohss.

(Very) bad.

(Muy) mal.

(Mooy) mahl.

And yourself?

¿Y Usted/tú?

Ee oos-ted/too?

How is your day going?

¿Cómo va tu día?

Como va too dee-ah?

What's new?

¿Qué hay de nuevo?

Keh I deh nweh-voh?

Nothing.

Nada.

Nah-dh.

I don't know.

No sé.

Noh seh.

Good bye.

Adiós.

Ah-dee-ohss.

See you later.

Nos vemos.

Nohss veh-mohss.

See you tomorrow.

Hasta mañana.

Ahss-tah mah-nyah-nah.

See you soon.

Hasta pronto.

Ahss-tah prohn-toh.

Until we meet again.

Hasta la vista.

Ahss-tah lah vees-tah.

Have a good day.

Que te vaya bien.

Keh teh vah-yah bee-en

Good luck.

Buena suerte.

Bweh-nah swehr-the.

Take care.

Cuídate.

Kwee-dah-the.

Basic courtesy

Thanks

Gracias

Grah-see-ahss

Thanks very much

Muchas gracias

Moo-chahss grah-see-ahss

You are welcome

De nada

Deh-nah-dah

Excuse me

Disculpe

Dees-kool-peh

May I...?

¿Puedo?

¿**Pweh-doh?**

Yes.

Sí.

Seeh.

No problem.

No hay problema.

Noh I proh-bleh-mah.

Don't worry.

No se preocupe.

Noh seh preh-oh-koo-peh.

It is ok.

Está bien.

Ess-tah-bee-en.

Gladly.

Con gusto.

Kohn goos-toh.

I am sorry.

Lo siento.

Loh see-en-toh.

Bless you.

Salud.

Sah-lood.

I'm proud of you.

Estoy orgullosa(o) de ti.

Es-toy or-goo-yo-so (from a male) or or-goo-yo-sa (for a female) de tee.

Never give up.

Nunca te des por vencida(o).

Noon-ka te des pore ven-see-da (to a female) or ven-see-do (to a male).

Basic understanding

Do you understand me?

¿Me entiendes?

¿**Meh en-tee-en-dehss?**

I don't understand.

No entiendo/ No comprendo.

Noh en-tee-en-doh/ Noh kohm-pren-doh.

I don't speak Spanish.

No hablo Español.

Noh ah-bloh ess-pah-nykohl.

I speak a little Spanish.

Hablo un poco de Español.

Ah-bloh oon poh-koh deh ess-pah-nykohl.

Repeat, please.

Repita, por favor.

Reh-pee-tah, por fah-vor.

Not so fast.

No tan rápido.

Noh than rah-pee-doh.

Speak slower, please.

Hable más despacio, por favor.

Ah-bleh mahss dess-pah-sseoh, por fah-vor.

How do you say...in Spanish?

¿Cómo se dice...en Español?

¿Koh-moh seh dee-seh...en ess-pah-nyohl?

How do you pronounce this word?

¿Cómo se pronuncia esta palabra?

**¿Koh-moh seh proh-noon-see-ah ess-tah
pah-lah-brah?**

Can you write it down?

¿Puedes escribirlo?

¿Pweh-dess es-kree-beer-loh?

How do you spell it?

¿Cómo se deletrea?

Koh-moh she deh-leh-treh-ah.

I have a problem.

Tengo un problema.

Ten-goh oon pro-bleh-mah.

Help me, please.

Ayudeme, por favor.

Ah-yoo-deh-meh, por fah-vor.

I need help.

Necesito ayuda.

Neh-she-see-to ah-yoo-dah.

Where is there a restroom?

¿Dónde hay un baño?

Dohn-deh I oon bah-nyoh?

I appreciate your work.

Aprecio tu trabajo.

Awpre-see-oh too trah-bah-hoe.

Your kindness is appreciated.

Aprecio tu amabilidad.

Ah-pre-see-oh too aw-ma-bee-lee-dod.

Weather

How is the weather?

¿Cómo está el clima?

Koh-moh ess-tah el klee-mah.

The weather is good/bad

Hace buen/mal clima

Ah-she bwen/ mahl klee-mah

It is sunny/cloudy

Está soleado/ nublado.

Ess-tah soh-leh-ah-doh/ noo-blah-doh.

It is cold/hot.

Hace frío /calor.

Ah-she-free-oh/ kah-lor.

It is raining.

Está lloviendo.

Ess-tah yoh-vee-en-doh.

A storm.

Una tormenta.

Oo-nah tor-men-tah.

Celebrations

When is your birthday?

¿Cuándo es tu cumpleaños?

Kwahn-doh ess too koom-pleh-ah-nyohss?

Today is my birthday.

Hoy es mi cumpleaños.

Oy ess mee koom-pleh-ah-nyohss.

Happy birthday!

¡Feliz cumpleaños!

Feh-lees-koom-pleh-ah-nyohss.

Congratulations!

¡Felicitaciones!

Feh-lee-see-tah-see-oh-ness.

Let's go celebrate.

Vamos a festejar.

Vah-mohss ah fess-teh-hahr.

Tonight is Christmas Eve.

Esta noche es Noche Buena.

Ess-tah noh-cheh ess noh-cheh bweh-nah.

Tomorrow is Christmas.

Manana es Navidad.

Mah-nyah-nah ess nah-vee- dahd.

Merry Christmas!

¡Feliz Navidad!

Feh-lees nah-vee-dahd.