

Level 1, Week 1

Weekly Objective: I can introduce myself and talk about what I like and don't like to do.

You can find the audio for this week's lesson here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QseC5e5zs8A>

hola	hello
buenos días	good morning (literally good day)
buenas tardes	good afternoon
buenas noches	good evening / night
¿Cómo te llamas?	What's your name? (informal)
Me llamo...	My name is...
¿Y tú?	And you? (informal)
¿Y usted?	And you? (formal)
Mucho gusto.	Nice to meet you.
¿Hay preguntas?	Are there any questions?
¿Qué te gusta hacer?	What do you like to do?
¿Qué le gusta hacer?	What does he / she / usted like to do?
(No) Me gusta...	I like / don't like....
sí	yes
no	no
Me encanta...	I love...
Le encanta...	he / she / usted loves...
leer libros	to read books
cocinar	to cook
manejar	to drive
ver la tele / mirar la tele	to watch TV
correr	to run
nadar	to swim
volar	to fly
¿Te gusta...?	Do you like...?
¿Le gusta...?	Does he / she / usted like...?
él	he
ella	she
(A él) le gusta...	He likes...
(A ella) no le gusta...	She doesn't like

Tú, vos y usted — You

Spanish has several ways of saying *you*: *tú*, *vos*, and *usted*. In general, *tú* is used informally in Mexico, the Caribbean, Spain, and much of Central and South America. *Vos* is also informal and is used in place of *tú* in parts of Central and South America, most famously Argentina. *Usted* is used formally. For example, when speaking to a stranger, someone older than you, or someone of a higher status. As we'll see, the usage of *tú*, *vos*, and *usted* varies significantly from country to country. In this course, we'll focus on *tú* and *usted*, since they're more widely used than *vos*.

Pronombres de objeto indirecto — Indirect Object Pronouns

Me, *te*, and *le* are indirect object pronouns. *Me* means *to me*, *te* means *to you*, and *le* can mean *to him*, *to her*, or *to usted* (you formal). We can use indirect object pronouns with *gusta* or *encanta* to talk about what people like or love.

- Me gusta nadar. —Swimming is pleasing to me. / I like to swim.
- Le gusta correr. — Running is pleasing to him / to her / to usted. / He / she / usted likes to run.
- ¿Te gusta manejar? — Is driving pleasing to you? / Do you like driving?

For now, we're going to memorize *me gusta*, *te gusta*, and *le gusta* as set phrases that mean *to like* because we wouldn't say *swimming is pleasing to me* in English. In Level 1, we'll only use indirect object pronouns with *gusta* (from *gustar*) and *encanta* (from *encantar*). In Week 3, we'll see that these verbs function differently from the other verbs we'll learn in Level 1.

You'll notice that *le* can mean *to him*, *to her*, or *to usted* (you formal). If it's clear who we're talking about, we don't need to include a name or pronoun (*él / ella*). However, if we need to clarify or emphasize who we're talking about, we need to include *a* before the name or pronoun. *A* often translates as *to*, here it conveys that running is pleasant *to him*, *to her*, or *to Francisco*.

- Le gusta leer libros. — She likes to read books.
- A ella le gusta leer libros. — She likes to read books. (For clarification or emphasis)
- Le encanta volar. — He loves to fly.
- A Mateo le encanta volar. — Mateo loves to fly. (For clarification or emphasis)

Pronunciación — Pronunciation

Unlike in English, Spanish letters always make the same sounds (with the exception of C, G, and X which we'll cover in Week 6). Any consonants not listed here make the same sounds in both English and Spanish. On this week's YouTube video, you'll find pronunciation examples for all of these words.

- B and V are pronounced the same. There is no V sound in Spanish: botas, volar
- S and Z are pronounced the same. There is no Z sound in Spanish: casa, caza
- QU is pronounced as a hard C or K: qué, quiero
- H is silent: hola, hacer
- J is pronounced as H (usually): manejar, paisaje
- LL and Y are pronounced the same. They make the Y sound (usually): Yolanda, Me llamo
- Ñ is pronounced NY: piñata, año vs ano
- R doesn't have an English equivalent. Its closest sound is the tt in batter: para, cara
- RR (or an R at the beginning of a word) is a trilled r: arriba, rojo, pero vs. perro

Frases y preguntas — Sentences and Questions

Intonation (raising your voice at the end of a sentence) is used to distinguish between statements and yes or no questions.

- A ella le gusta cocinar. — She likes to cook.
- ¿A ella le gusta cocinar? — Does she like to cook?

Intonation isn't needed for questions that start with an interrogative (a question word). An upside-down question mark or exclamation point comes before all questions or exclamations.

- ¿Qué te gusta hacer? — What do you like to do.
- ¡Me encanta cocinar! — I love to cook!

In order to make something negative, add *no* before the verb.

- Le gusta ver la tele. — He likes to watch TV.
- No le gusta ver la tele. — He doesn't like to watch TV.

In Spanish, the subject (for example, a name or pronoun) is often dropped. Subjects are only used for clarification or emphasis.

- Le gusta correr. — She likes to run.
- A ella le gusta correr. — She likes to run. (For clarification or emphasis)
- A María le gusta correr. — María likes to run. (For clarification or emphasis)

Adiós.	Goodbye.
Hasta luego.	See you later.
Nos vemos.	See you.
y	and
o	or
¿Te gusta más correr o nadar?	Do you like running or swimming more?
Me gusta más...	I like...more.
Le gusta más cocinar.	He / she / usted likes cooking more.

Lecturas (Readings)

¿Qué te gusta hacer?

Alejandra: Hola Mario. ¿Qué te gusta hacer?

Mario: Me gusta correr y nadar. ¿Y tú?

Alejandra: No me gusta correr. Me gusta más nadar. Me encanta ver la tele y leer libros.

Mario: ¿Te gusta más ver la tele o leer libros?

Alejandra: Me gusta más leer. ¿Y tú? ¿Te gusta leer?

Mario: Sí, me gusta leer. ¿Te gusta cocinar?

Alejandra: No, no me gusta cocinar. ¿Y tú?

Mario: Sí, me encanta cocinar.

Preguntas de comprensión (Comprehension questions)

¿Qué le gusta hacer a Alejandra? ¿Qué no le gusta hacer a Alejandra? ¿A Alejandra le gusta más ver la tele o leer libros? ¿Qué le gusta hacer a Mario?

Preguntas de revisión (Review questions)

- ¿Cómo te llamas?
- ¿Qué te gusta hacer?
- ¿Te gusta cocinar?
- ¿Te gusta más manejar o volar?
- ¿Te gusta nadar?
- ¿Te gusta más leer libros o ver la tele?
- ¿Te gusta más nadar o correr?

Ejercicios (Exercises)

Fill in the blanks with the correct indirect object pronoun (me, te, or le). All answers can be found on the following page.

1. ¿Qué te gusta hacer? — _____ gusta nadar.
2. A él _____ gusta cocinar.
3. A ella no _____ gusta ver la tele.
4. ¿Y tú? ¿_____ gusta manejar?
5. ¿Cómo _____ llamas? — Me llamo Ana. ¿Y tú?
6. A David _____ gusta volar.
7. ¿Y usted? ¿_____ gusta leer libros?
8. Me gusta correr. ¿Y tú? ¿_____ gusta correr?
9. A Raúl _____ encanta ver la tele.
10. A Raquel no _____ gusta ver la tele.

Translate the following sentences into Spanish. Answers can be found on the following page.

1. I love to read books.
2. I like watching TV more.
3. I love to run, swim, and read books.
4. Does she like to swim?
5. He loves to read books.
6. Do you like driving or flying more?
7. Hi, good morning. What's your name?
8. What do you like to do?
9. Do you like to cook?
10. Do you like running or reading books more?

Tarea Opcional (Optional Homework)

- Each week, your goal is to learn the new vocabulary and grammar presented in the handouts. How you study is up to you. You can use the review questions, stories, grammar exercises, or other resources to help you learn the material. You don't need to complete every assignment. Focus on finding a study routine that works for you—one that's effective, efficient, and fun.
- Add a Spanish keyboard to your phone.
- Download a Spanish dictionary app or bookmark a dictionary on your computer. I recommend starting with SpanishDict: <https://www.spanishdict.com/>
- Watch this video about how to pronounce the letter r. Note: The person in this video speaks Italian, not Spanish. However, the letter r makes the same sound in both languages and I like her explanation the best: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Sid6MQvTRQ>

Respuestas (Answers)

1. ¿Qué te gusta hacer? — **Me** gusta nadar.
 2. A él **le** gusta cocinar.
 3. A ella no **le** gusta ver la tele.
 4. ¿Y tú? ¿**Te** gusta manejar?
 5. ¿Cómo **te** llamas? — Me llamo Ana. ¿Y tú?
 6. A David **le** gusta volar.
 7. ¿Y usted? ¿**Le** gusta leer libros?
 8. Me gusta correr. ¿Y tú? ¿**Te** gusta correr?
 9. A Raúl **le** encanta ver la tele.
 10. A Raquel no **le** gusta ver la tele.
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1. Me encanta leer libros.
 2. Me gusta más ver la tele. / Me gusta más mirar la tele.
 3. Me encanta correr, nadar y leer libros.
 4. ¿Le gusta nadar? / ¿A ella le gusta nadar?
 5. Le encanta leer libros. / A él le encanta leer libros.
 6. ¿Te gusta más manejar o volar?
 7. Hola, buenos días. ¿Cómo te llamas?
 8. ¿Qué te gusta hacer?
 9. ¿Te gusta cocinar?
 10. ¿Te gusta más correr o leer libros?