

Look for a pattern in the tú form.

tú hablas
tú comes
tú vives

If the subject is you (familiar), conjugate by dropping the ending and add -as or -es. If the verb is an -ar verb, add -as. If it is an -er or -ir verb, add es.

tú hablas..... (hablar - ar + as = hablas)
tú comes..... (comer - er + es = comes)
tú vives (vivir - ir + es = vives)

Look for a pattern in the él form.

él habla
él come
él vive

If the subject is he (él) drop the ending and add either -a or -e. If the verb is an -ar verb, add -a. If it is an -er or -ir verb, add -e.

él habla..... (hablar - ar + a = habla)
él come..... (comer - er + e = come)
él vive (vivir - ir + e = vive)

Look for a pattern in the ella form.

ella habla
ella come
ella vive

If the subject is she (ella), conjugate in exactly the same manner as you did for he (él). That is, by dropping the ending and add -a or -e, depending on whether the verb is an -ar, -er or -ir verb.

ella habla (hablar - ar + a = habla)
ella come (comer - er + e = come)
ella vive..... (vivir - ir + e = vive)

NOTE: at this point, you may notice that the conjugations for él/ella are the same as for usted (usted habla, usted come, usted vive).

Look for a pattern in the vosotros/as form.

vosotros/as habláis
vosotros/as coméis
vosotros/as vivís

If the subject is you-all familiar (vosotros/as), conjugate by dropping the ending and adding -áis, -éis or -ís. Again, decide which ending to use by the class of infinitive (-ar, -er, -ir).

vosotros/as habláis (hablar - ar + áis = habláis)
vosotros/as coméis (comer - er + éis = coméis)
vosotros/as vivís..... (vivir - ir + ís = vivís)

NOTE: Remember, vosotros and vosotras forms are primarily used in Spain. In Latin America, ustedes is generally used for both formal and informal situations.

Look for a pattern in the ellos form.

ellos hablan
ellos comen
ellos viven

If the subject is they masculine (ellos) drop the ending and add either -an or -en. If the verb is an -ar verb, add -an. If it is an -er or -ir verb, add -en.

ellos hablan..... (hablar - ar + an = hablan)
ellos comen..... (comer - er + en = comen)
ellos viven (vivir - ir + en = viven)

Look for a pattern in the ellas form.

ellas hablan
ellas comen
ellas viven

If the subject is they feminine (ellas), conjugate in exactly the same manner as you did for they masculine (ellos). That is, by dropping the ending and add -an or -en, depending on whether the verb is an -ar, -er or -ir verb.

ellas hablan..... (hablar - ar + an = hablan)
ellas comen..... (comer - er + en = comen)
ellas viven (vivir - ir + en = viven)

NOTE: At this point, you may notice that the conjugations for ellos/ellas are the same as for ustedes (ustedes hablan, ustedes comen, ustedes viven).

Remember that the present tense (indicative) in Spanish means three things.

tú hablas inglés:

you speak English.
you do speak English.
you are speaking English.

tú comes pan:

you eat bread.
you do eat bread.
you are eating bread.

tú vives en Buenos Aires:

you live in Buenos Aires.
you do live in Buenos Aires.
you are living in Buenos Aires.

If you are going to succeed in Spanish, you must learn the verbs. The best way to do that is by creating a special collection of flashcards. Practicing with these flashcards is your key to success in mastering the Spanish verbs. Continue by replacing the three cards you created in the previous lesson with these updated versions.

Verb Flashcards

3. hablar (to speak) hablo
hablas
habla
hablamos
habláis
hablan
4. comer (to eat) como
comes
come
comemos
coméis
comen
5. vivir (to live) vivo
vives
vive
vivimos
vivís
viven