

Subjunctive: regular

Spanish · British English › Spanish

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The Present Subjunctive (Subjuntivo Presente): Regular Verbs

¡Hola! Welcome to a lesson on one of the most important – and sometimes tricky – moods in Spanish: the **Subjuntivo**! Don't worry, we'll discover together how straightforward it is to form its regular conjugations.

The Subjunctive mood is used to express wishes, doubts, emotions, opinions, recommendations, and in certain subordinate clauses. Unlike the Indicative mood, which describes facts, the Subjunctive conveys a subjective view of reality. At B1 level, we'll focus on its fundamental uses.

How do we form the Regular Present Subjunctive?

Forming regular verbs in the Present Subjunctive is quite simple and follows the principle of 'opposite vowels'.

Remove the infinitive ending **-ar, -er, -ir** + Add the correct Subjunctive ending.

Remember the 'opposite vowel' rule: **-AR verbs** take endings with **-E**, while **-ER / -IR verbs** take endings with **-A**.

Present Subjunctive Endings for Regular Verbs

Pronoun	-AR verbs (e.g., hablar)	-ER verbs (e.g., comer)	-IR verbs (e.g., vivir)
yo	hable	coma	viva
tú	hables	comas	vivas
él/ella/usted	hable	coma	viva
nosotros/as	hablemos	comamos	vivamos
vosotros/as	habléis	comáis	viváis
ellos/ellas/ustedes	hablen	coman	vivan

Notice that the endings for **-ER** and **-IR** verbs are identical!

When do we use the Subjunctive?

- After expressions of wishes/will: *Espero que...* (I hope that...), *Quiero que...* (I want that...)
- After expressions of doubt/uncertainty: *Dudo que...* (I doubt that...), *No creo que...* (I don't believe that...)
- After expressions of emotion: *Me alegro de que...* (I'm glad that...), *Me gusta que...* (I like that...)
- After impersonal expressions (evaluations, opinions): *Es importante que...* (It's important that...), *Es necesario que...* (It's necessary that...)

Espero que hables con ella.

I hope you talk to her.

No creo que coma tanto.

I don't think he/she eats so much.

Watch out! Remember that we only use the Subjunctive when the subject of the main clause is **different** from the subject of the subordinate clause. If the subjects are the same, we use the infinitive! For example: *Quiero **hablar*** (I want to talk), but *Quiero que tú **hables*** (I want you to talk).

Practise regularly, and the Subjunctive will become second nature to you! ¡Mucha suerte!

Part 1 – Choose the correct word

Circle the option that correctly fills each gap.

1. Dudo que vosotros _____ tan temprano.

I doubt you have breakfast so early.

A) desayunéis B) desayunáis C) desayunemos D) desayunen

2. Te pido que _____ ahora mismo.

I'm asking you to answer right now.

A) conteste B) contestes C) contestas D) contesta

3. Espero que el resultado no _____ del tiempo.

I hope the result doesn't depend on the weather.

A) dependía B) dependa C) depende D) dependiera

4. Dudo que vosotros _____ en otra dimensión.

I doubt you exist in another dimension.

A) existís B) existan C) existáis D) existamos

5. Te pido que _____ la carta.

I ask you to write the letter.

A) escribas B) escribes C) escribe D) escriba

6. Espero que el resultado no _____ del tiempo.

I hope the result doesn't depend on the weather.

A) depende B) dependía C) dependa D) dependiera

7. Mi padre quiere que yo _____ con él.

My father wants me to dance with him.

A) bailes B) bailo C) baile D) baila

8. Es necesario que yo _____ el trabajo.

It is necessary for me to finish the work.

A) termina B) termine C) termino D) termines

Part 2 – Fill in the gap

Write the missing word or phrase on the line.

1. Espero que tú _____ mi decisión.

I hope you understand my decision.

2. Quiero que él _____ más agua.

I want him to drink more water.

3. Dudo que vosotros _____ en otra dimensión.

I doubt you exist in another dimension.

4. Deseo que él _____ el partido.

I wish for him to win the match.

5. Te pido que _____ volver.

I ask you to promise to come back.

6. Es crucial que yo _____ el acceso.

It is crucial that I allow access.

Part 3 – Translate

Write each word in Spanish on the line.

1. to watch › _____

2. to spend › _____

3. to buy › _____

4. to break › _____

5. to add › _____

6. to take › _____

Part 4 – Match the pairs

Write the letter of the matching translation next to each term.

Term	Translation
1. prometer	A to cover
2. cenar	B to study
3. explicar	C to cook
4. estudiar	D to have dinner
5. cocinar	E to look for
6. cubrir	F to explain
7. buscar	G to promise
8. viajar	H to travel

Answer Key

Part 1 – Choose the correct word

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. A) desayunéis | 5. A) escribas |
| 2. B) contestes | 6. C) dependa |
| 3. B) dependa | 7. C) baile |
| 4. C) existáis | 8. B) termine |

Part 2 – Fill in the gap

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. comprendas | 4. gane |
| 2. beba | 5. prometas |
| 3. existáis | 6. permita |

Part 3 – Translate

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. mirar | 4. romper |
| 2. pasar | 5. añadir |
| 3. comprar | 6. tomar |

Part 4 – Match the pairs

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. G (to promise) | 5. C (to cook) |
| 2. D (to have dinner) | 6. A (to cover) |
| 3. F (to explain) | 7. E (to look for) |
| 4. B (to study) | 8. H (to travel) |