

POR y PARA

Class objective: To learn the difference between por and para in Spanish.

Por vs. Para These prepositions are very common in Spanish and, unfortunately, both often correspond to English "for". The following is an attempt to summarize the main uses of the two.

Concept A: PARA (destination or purpose):

1. Direction toward a destination or goal:

~ Salgo mañana para Madrid.
(I am leaving tomorrow for Madrid.)

~ Vamos para la oficina.
(We're going to the office.)

2. Purpose, use, goal or destination toward a recipient:

~ taza para café : coffee cup
llantas para la nieve : snowtires

~ Habia espacio para todos.
(There was room for everybody.)

~ Estudié medicina para ayudar.
(I studied medicine in order to help.)

~ Practican para mejorar.
(They practice to improve.)

~ Compró estos libros para ti.
(He bought these books for you.)

~ Trabaja para la OTAN.
(She works for NATO.)

3. Time limit or deadline:

~ Hay que hacerlo para el lunes.
(It needs to be done by/for Monday.)

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