



SPANISH PHRASES AND GRAMMAR FOR MUNICIPAL COURTS

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PRONUNCIATION

Vowels

A

Father

E

Echo

I

See

O

Order

U

Due

■ Consonants

- B, V As in boy Banco (BAN-koh); Ventana
- C (before a,o,u,) c as in cat, k sound
Campo (KAM-poh);
Coche; Cosa
- (before e,i) c in cent, s sound
Central (sen-TRAHL);
Cinco
- CH as in chimney Chica; Cheque

– D Dog, but closer to This Diga, Doctor

– G (before a,o,u) Soft as in Guitar or Go
Gafas (GAH-fahs)
Gato, Gitaru

(before e, l) Hard as in hot
General (hen-her-HL)
Gerardo, Gilberto

- H ALWAYS silent as in Hour Hasta (AH-stah);
Hora
- J As in Hot, but raspier Jardín (hahr-Deen);
Tarjeta
- L As in Lamp Lámpara (LAHM-par-rah);
Limón
- LL As in Jasmin Llama
or y as in yes Caballo (kah-BAH-yoh)
- Ñ Close to NY in Canyon Año (AH-nyoh)
■ but more like Champagne Niño; Moño.

- R Trilled once Caro (KAH-roh);
Pero

- RR (or r at beginning of word) Rico (RREE-hoh)
Perro (PEH-rroh)
 - Trilled Strongly
 - Strong vibrating sound like **Vrrrrooom!**

- Q Always followed by U Que (kay);
Queso;
Quieto
 - pronounced like a K as in Kid.

- S as in see Rosa (ROH-sah)

- X before a consonant – s as in see Extra (ES-trah)
- (before a vowel) - ks in socks Exámen
(ek-SAH-men)
- Also:
 - H: México.
 - SH in few instances, mostly Aztec words: Xola, Xitle, Xela
 - S in few instances: Xochitl (“sochil”).
- Y as in Yes; Pay Buey,
as in Joy Yeso, Yunque.
ee as in meet Ybarra; y (and)
- Z s as in see zapato (sah-PAH-toh);
izquierda; póliza

VOWEL COMBINATIONS

- ai, ay i as in kite aire (I-rey); hay (I)
- au ow in how auto (OW-toh)
- ei, ey ey in they reina (REY-nah) rey
- oi, oy oy in boy oiga (OY-gah) voy

BASIC GRAMMAR

Masculine

Boy **el chico**

Garden **el jardín**

Book **el libro**

Fear **el miedo**

BASIC GRAMMAR

Feminine

Girl

la chica

University

la universidad

Magazine

la revista

Liberty

la libertad

Gender of Nouns

El abogado

Male attorney

La abogada

female attorney

El juez

Male judge

La jueza

Female judge

BASIC RULES

masculine v. feminine

- Many nouns that denote living things have both a masculine and a feminine form.
- Most nouns that end in -o are masculine.
- Most nouns that end in -a are feminine.
- Masculine nouns that end in a consonant often have a corresponding feminine form that ends in -a.

Masculine v. Feminine

- **Some nouns that refer to people use the same form for both masculine and feminine. These nouns indicate gender by the article (el or la).**
- **Nouns that end in -sión, -ción, -dad, -tad, -tud, -umbre are feminine.**
- **Many nouns that end in -ma are masculine.**
- **A few nouns that end in -o are feminine**

BASIC RULES PLURAL

- If a noun ends in a vowel, simply add -s.
- If a noun ends in a consonant, simply add -es.
- If a noun ends in a -z, change the z to c before adding -es.
- If a noun ends in íón, drop the written accent before adding -es.
- If the plural refers to a mixed group, use the masculine.
- For compound nouns, change "el" to "los"; "la" to "las".

PRONOUNS

■ yo	I
■ usted	you
■ el	he
■ ella	she
■ nosotros	we
■ ustedes	you-all
■ ellos	they

QUESTION TERMS

■ WHO

QUIÉN

■ WHAT

QUÉ

■ WHERE

DÓNDE

■ WHY

POR QUÉ

■ HOW

CÓMO

■ WHICH

CUÁL

■ WHEN

CUÁNDO

QUESTION TERMS

■ HOW MANY

CUÁNTOS

■ HOW MUCH

CUÁNTO

■ WHOSE

DE QUIÉN

■ BECAUSE

PORQUE

DAYS OF WEEK

Monday

lunes

Tuesday

martes

Wednesday

miércoles

Thursday

jueves

Friday

viernes

Saturday

sábado

Sunday

domingo

MONTHS OF THE YEAR

■ ENERO

JANUARY

■ FEBRERO

FEBRUARY

■ MARZO

MARCH

■ ABRIL

APRIL

■ MAYO

MAY

■ JUNIO

JUNE

■ JULIO

JULY

■ AGOSTO

AUGUST

■ SEPTIEMBRE

SEPTEMBER

■ OCTUBRE

OCTOBER

■ NOVIEMBRE

NOVEMBER

■ DICIEMBRE

DECEMBER

LOCATION

A / Hacia
Toward

Por aquí
This way

Derecha
Right

Izquierda
Left

Adelante
Forward/Ahead

Atrás
Back/Behind

Arriba
Up

Abajo
Down

Aquí
Here

Allá
There

USEFUL VOCABULARY

Infracción/Tiquete

Multa

El Juez

El Fiscal

La Corte

La Sala de la Corte

Oficial de sala

Ventana

Ticket

Fine

Judge

Prosecutor

Court

Courtroom

Marshal

Window

USEFUL VERBS

■ IR	TO GO
■ REGRESAR	TO RETURN
■ PAGAR	TO PAY
■ ESPERAR	TO WAIT
■ FIRMAR	TO SIGN
■ HABLAR	TO SPEAK
■ QUERER	TO WANT
■ TENER	TO HAVE

USEFUL PHRASES AT SECURITY ENTRANCE

- Come in. Entre; Pase.
- Come this way. Pase por aquí.
- Come with me. Venga conmigo.
- Repeat please. Repita, por favor.
- Show me. Enseñame.
- Stand in line. Haga fila.
- Step out. Salga.

- Speak slowly please
 - Hable despacio, por favor
- Take everything out of your pockets
 - Saque todo de sus bolsillos
- We'll give it to you on your way out
 - A la salida se lo damos
- Take to your car
 - Llevelo a su carro

USEFUL PHRASES

Buenos Días

Good Morning

Buenas Tardes

Good Afternoon

¿Puedo servirle?

Can I help you?

¿Como puedo servirle?

How may I help you?

¿Dígame?

Yes?

¿Cómo se dice?

How do you say?

Be Polite

➤ **Por favor**

Please

➤ **Gracias**

Thank you

➤ **De Nada**

You're welcome

USEFUL PHRASES

- Tiene que..... You have to
- Ir a to go to
- Tiene
 aseguranza Do you have
 identificación insurance
 identification
- Donde esta.... Where is
 su tiquete your ticket

USEFUL PHRASES IN THE COURTROOM

■ Stand up/All rise.

De pie.

■ Have a seat.

Tome asiento.

■ No food or drinks allowed in the court.

– No se permite comida o bebidas en la corte.

COMMANDS

■ Put it down!

Suéltalo!

■ Put your hands up

Manos arriba

■ Come with me.

Venga conmigo.

■ Turn your phone off.

Apague su
teléfono

DANGER TERMS

■ MATELO

KILL HIM

■ MADRE, EN LA

KILL HIM (slang)

■ SUMELE

TO STAB (officer)

– SOO-meh-leh

■ CUIDADO

WATCH OUT

DANGER TERMS - SLANG

■ LA PICA

– lah PEE-kah

KNIFE (slang)

■ PINTO

PEEN-toh

EX-CONVICT
(slang)

■ PINTA

– PEEN-tah

PRISON (slang)

APPEARANCE

EL FIN

