

NATIONAL 5 SPANISH GRAMMAR BOOKLET

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The tenses at National 5

Present
Conditional
Future
Imperfect
Preterite

Present Tense

Conditional Tense

Future Tense

Imperfect Tense

Preterite Tense

Present Tense

The present tense is used to as a method of describing actions that are currently happening (in the present)

The infinitive endings in the present tense are as follows:

	-AR	-ER	-IR
I	o	o	o
You	as	es	es
He/she/it	a	e	e
We	amos	emos	imos
You (plural)	áis	éis	ís
They	an	en	en

Common irregulars:

<u>Tener</u>	<u>Ser</u>	<u>Estar</u>	<u>Hacer</u>	<u>Ir</u>	<u>Llamarse</u>
Tengo	Soy	Estoy	Hago	Voy	Me llamo
Tiene	Eres	Estás	Haces	Vas	Te llamas
Tienes	Es	Esta	Hace	Va	Se llama
Tenemos	Somos	Estamos	Hacemos	Vamos	Nos llamamos
Tenéis	Sois	Estáis	Hacéis	Váis	Os llamáis
Teinen	Son	Están	Hacen	Van	Se llaman

Conditional Tense

In Spanish, we use the conditional tense to express probability, possibility or wonder.

The conditional tense is usually translated as would, could, must have or probably.

We conjugate verbs in the conditional by adding the following endings to the verb; (the verb stays the same, nothing is removed)

- ía
- ías
- ía
- ímos
- íais
- ían

<u>Hablar</u>	<u>Comer</u>	<u>Vivir</u>
Hablaría	Comería	Viviría
Hablarías	Comerías	Vivirías
Hablaría	Comería	Viviría
Hablaríamos	Comeríamos	Viviríamos
Hablaríais	Comeríais	Viviríais
Hablarían	Comerían	Vivirían

The following are sentences in the conditional tense;

El alumno dijo que estudiaría una hora más.

The student said that he would study one more hour.

¿Qué hora sería?

What time could it have been?

The twelve common verbs that are irregular in the conditional tense are also irregular in the future tense. Their endings are regular, but their stems change in the same way they change in the future tense. Because the endings are the same as all other conditional tense verbs, we show only the “yo” form, and have underlined the irregular stem.

The irregulars are as follows;

caber

yo cabría

poner

yo pondría

decir

yo diría

haber

yo habría

salir

yo saldría

hacer

yo haría

poder

yo podría

tener

yo tendría

querer

yo querría

valer

yo valdría

saber

yo sabría

venir

yo vendría

Future Tense

The future tense is used to tell what “will” happen in the future, or what “shall” happen.

Regular verbs in the future tense are conjugated by adding the following endings to the infinitive form of the verb;

- é
- ás
- á
- emos
- éis
- an

There are twelve common verbs that are irregular in the future tense. Their endings are regular, but their stems change. Since the endings are the same as all other future tense verbs, we show only the “yo” form, and have underlined the irregular stem. We have also grouped them according to their patterns of change.

The irregulars are as follows;

caber

yo cabré

poner

yo pondré

decir

yo diré

haber

yo habré

salir

yo saldré

hacer

yo haré

poder

yo podré

tener

yo tendré

querer

yo querré

valer

yo valdré

saber

yo sabré

venir

yo vendré

Imperfect Tense

The imperfect tense is one of the two past tenses in the Spanish language.

We use the imperfect tense to talk about the past, especially for describing what happened or what used to happen. We also use it for descriptions.

Regular Imperfect Verb Endings

We conjugate verbs in the imperfect by removing the infinitive ending of the verb (-AR, -ER, -IR) and then add the imperfect ending.

	<u>-AR</u>	<u>-ER & -IR</u>
I	aba	ía
You	abas	ías
He/she/it	aba	ía
We	ábamos	íamos
You (pl)	abais	íais
They	aban	ían

The uses of the Imperfect Tense

1. Repeated actions
2. Actions that were in progress in the past
3. Times and dates
4. Age
5. Descriptions of characteristics, conditions and feelings

Irregulars

There are only 3 verbs which are conjugated irregularly in the imperfect tense. These are; ir, ser & ver.

	<u>Ir</u>	<u>Ser</u>	<u>Ver</u>
I	iba	era	veía
You	ibas	eras	veías
He/she/it	ibas	era	veía
We	íbamos	éramos	veíamos
You (pl)	ibais	erais	veíais
They	iban	eran	veían

Examples

Eran las tres de la tarde - *It was three o'clock in the afternoon*

Los perros **tenían** dos años cuando los adopté - *The dogs were two years old when I adopted them*

El campo **era** bello - *The countryside was beautiful*

Iba a clase cuando sonó el teléfono - *I was going to class when the telephone rang*

Almorzábamos cada día - *We used to eat lunch together everyday*

Preterite Tense

The preterite is used to describe actions completed at a point in the past.

This is the other form of past tense in the Spanish language.

Regular Preterite Verb Endings

As with the imperfect tense, there are only two sets of endings for the preterite tense.

	<u>-AR</u>	<u>-ER & -IR</u>
I	é	í
You	aste	iste
He/she/it	ó	ió
We	amos	imos
You (pl)	asteis	isteis
They	aron	ieron

The uses of the Preterite Tense

1. Completed events
2. Beginnings and ends
3. Specific times and dates
4. Events in a sequence

Irregulars

Four of the most common verbs that are irregular in the preterite are; Ser, Ir, Dar & Ver.

	<u>Ser</u>	<u>Ir</u>	<u>Dar</u>	<u>Ver</u>
I	Fui	Fui	Di	Vi
You	Fuiste	Fuiste	Diste	Viste
He/she/it	Fue	Fue	Dio	Vio
We	Fuimos	Fuimos	Dimos	Vimos
You (pl)	Fuisteis	Fuisteis	Disteis	Visteis
They	Fueron	Fueron	Dieron	Vieron

Examples

Roberto **nació** en Costa Rica - *Roberto was born in Costa Rica*

La película **terminó** con una sorpresa - *The movie ended with a surprise*

Vivió en Perú por tres meses - *He lived in Peru for three months*

Tú **entraste, bebiste** un vaso de agua y **comiste** una hamburguesa - *You came in, drank a glass of water and ate a hamburger*

How to improve your grammar

Grammar is an essential part of the Spanish language. It is used in all parts of the National 5 exam.

You will need to know grammar for your writing element of the exam at National 5, but also having a strong understanding and knowledge of grammar can aid you in the reading and listening elements of the exam as well.

There are many websites you can use to improve your grammar such as:

- spanishdict.com
- grammar.collinsdictionary.com
- fluentu.com

There are also lots of grammar worksheets available on the Google Drive shared area which you all have access to.

Grammar booklets such as Schaums Outline of Spanish Grammar are really helpful, as they contain notes for all tenses and activities all the way up to advanced level.