



# PAST TENSE SPANISH 101: GUIDE TO ALL PAST TENSES IN SPANISH



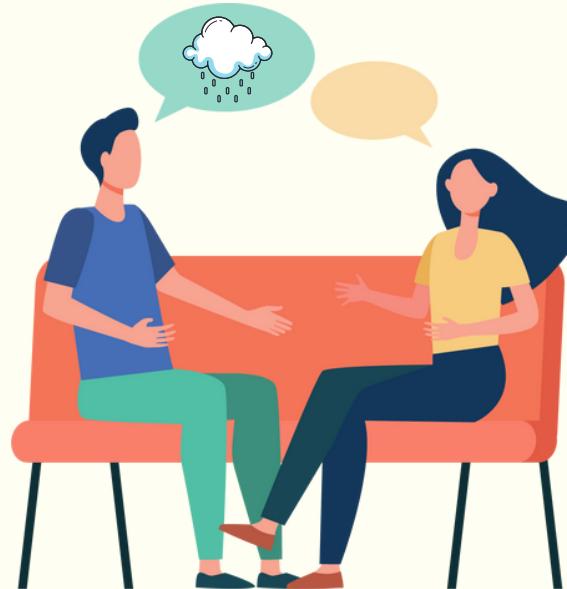
# ENDINGS FOR PAST TENSES IN SPANISH

	PRETERITE	IMPERFECT	PAST PERFECT	PAST PROGRESSIVE
-AR VERBS	-é -aste -ó -amos -asteis -aron	-aba -abas -aba -ábamos -abais -aban	Haber Imperfect + -ado form =	Estar Past form + -ando =
			Había hablado	Estaba cenando
-ER/IR VERBS	-í -iste -ió -imos -isteis -ieron	-ía -ías -ía -íamos -íais -ían	Haber Imperfect + -ido form =	Estar Past form + -iendo =
			Habías comido	Estaba durmiendo

# IMPERFECT VS PAST PROGRESSIVE IN SPANISH

## IMPERFECT

Past actions over an extended period.



Todos los días llovía mucho.

Every day it **rained** a lot.

## PAST PROGRESSIVE

Past action in progress. Specific reference point.



Estuvo lloviendo todo el día.

It **was raining** all day.

# SPANISH PAST TENSES

## PRETERITE

Specific time. Completed action.



Juan se **despertó** a las 8.  
Juan **woke up** at 8.

## PAST PROGRESSIVE

Past action in progress.



Esa mañana **estaba lloviendo**.  
That morning was raining.

## IMPERFECT

Past habits and descriptions.



Va a visitar la ciudad en la que **vivía**.  
He's going to visit the city where he **used to live**.

## PAST PERFECT

Past action happened before something else.



Cuando llegó, su avión ya **había salido**.  
When he arrived, his plane **had already left**.

# KEY POINTS: PAST TENSES IN SPANISH

Tense	Uses	Examples
Preterite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Completed actions in the past.</li><li>Activities that occurred at a <u>specific</u> moment in the past.</li></ul>	Ayer <b>hablé</b> con ella. Yesterday I <b>talked</b> to her.
Imperfect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Describes <u>how</u> things or people were.</li><li>Talks about past <u>habits</u> or <u>recurring</u> actions.</li><li>Tells <u>time</u> and age.</li></ul>	La casa <b>era</b> grande. The house <b>was</b> big.
Past Perfect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Expresses that a past action took place <u>before</u> something else.</li></ul>	Ya la <b>había visto</b> . I <b>had seen</b> it already.
Past Progressive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Refers to actions that were <u>interrupted</u> by another past event.</li><li>Describes past actions that were <u>in progress</u>.</li></ul>	No <b>estaba viendo</b> la tele. I <b>wasn't watching</b> TV.



# LINK TO THIS GUIDE

[Past Tense Spanish 101: Guide to All Past Tenses in Spanish](#)

## RELATED GUIDES & RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT

[Spanish Past Tenses 101: Preterite vs Imperfect](#)

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