



# A SIMPLE GUIDE TO MASTER THE SPANISH SUBJUNCTIVE TIPS, EXAMPLES & TENSES





# WHEN TO USE THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN SPANISH

#### **KEY POINTS**

- The Spanish subjunctive mood <u>conveys</u>
   <u>hypothetical</u> situations and <u>subjectivity</u>.
- It doesn't refer to real actions, but rather <u>doubts</u>, <u>feelings</u>, <u>advice</u>, <u>suggestions</u>, <u>requests</u>, etc.
- There are <u>4 key subjunctive tenses</u> to learn:
  - Present, Imperfect, present perfect
     and past perfect



Ojalá <u>tengas</u> un buen viaje. I hope you <u>have</u> a good trip.

No creo que David <u>vaya</u> a venir. I don't think David <u>is going</u> to come.

# TOP USES OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN SPANISH

## 6 Uses of the Subjunctive

- Express hopes and wishes.
- Give <u>advice or suggestions</u>.
- Describe qualities of <u>unknown</u> people or things.
- Request or demand something.
- Express <u>feelings and emotions</u> about an event.
- Communicate doubts and possibilities.













# **USES OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD IN SPANISH**

## The subjunctive expresses:



Hopes & Wishes.



Advice or Suggestions.



Doubts & Possibilities.



Requests or Demands.



Feelings & Emotions Caused by Something.



Qualities of Unknown People or Things.

# **USES SUMMARY: W.E.I.R.D.O IN SPANISH**

#### **WISHES**

Yo <u>quería</u> que ustedes me <u>ayudaran</u>. I <u>wanted</u> you guys <u>to help</u> me.

#### **EMOTIONS**

Me da tristeza que ustedes no se <u>lleven bien</u>. <u>It makes me sad</u> that you <u>don't get along</u>.

#### IMPERSONAL EXPRESSIONS

Es posible que no pueda ir.

It's possible that I can't go.

#### REQUESTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>Les recomendé</u> que <u>vieran</u> esta película. <u>I recommended</u> them <u>to watch</u> this movie.

#### **D**OUBTS

No creo que David <u>vaya</u> a venir.

<u>I don't think</u> David <u>is going</u> to come.

#### OJALÁ

Ojalá tengas un buen viaje.

I hope you have a good trip.

## SENTENCE STRUCTURE FOR THE SUBJUNCTIVE

[Indicative verb] + que + [verb in subjunctive]

Nos alegra que estés bien.

We <u>are happy that</u> you **are okay**.

Quiero que vayas.

I want you to go.

[Impersonal expression] + que + [verb in subjunctive]

Es importante que leas las instrucciones.

<u>It's important that</u> you **read** the instructions.



# WHEN NOT TO USE THE SUBJUNCTIVE

#### **KEY POINTS**

- When referring to <u>real</u> actions or events that are <u>perceived as factual.</u>
- When the hopes, demands, advice, or doubts are directed toward the <u>same</u> <u>subject</u>.
  - In such cases, you must use an infinitive verb.



María no <u>es</u> muy amable. Maria <u>is</u> not very nice.

<u>Espero llegar</u> temprano. I <u>hope</u> I <u>arrive</u> early.

# LIST OF <u>Subjunctive tenses</u> in spanish



#### PRESENT

Que tengas buen día. <u>Have</u> a good day.

#### PAST OR IMPERFECT

Quería que <u>fueras</u> conmigo. I wanted you <u>to go</u> with me.

#### PRESENT PERFECT

Dudo que <u>haya tenido</u> un buen día. I doubt that <u>he had</u> a good day.

#### PAST PERFECT

Ojalá <u>hubieras ido</u> conmigo. I wish you <u>had gone</u> with me.

Note: The future subjunctive is no longer used in contemporary Spanish.

## **HOW TO FORM THE PERFECT TENSES**

Haber in subjunctive form + past participle is the formula to form the subjunctive perfect tenses.

Use the different subjunctive forms of 'haber' depending on the tense you need.

### HABER (PRESENT)

Present <u>subjunctive</u> conjugations.

## HABER (IMPERFECT)

Imperfect <u>subjunctive</u> conjugations.

#### **PAST PARTICIPLE**

Add verb in its <u>past participle</u> form.

Haya

Hayas

Haya

Hayamos

Hayáis

Hayan

Hubiera / Hubiese

Hubieras / Hubieses

Hubiera / Hubiese

Hubiéramos / Hubiésemos

Hubieseis

Hubieran / Hubiesen

-AR= -ado

Cant<u>ar</u> > Cant<u>ado</u>

-ER & -IR= -ido

Ten<u>er</u> > Ten<u>ido</u>

Vivir > Vivido

## **KEY POINTS: SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD IN SPANISH**

- The Spanish subjunctive conveys the speaker's <u>subjectivity</u>.
- As a result, it's used to express uncertainty, hopes, feelings about an action or behavior, requests, and suggestions, and describe the qualities of an unknown person or place.
- The actions expressed with the subjunctive <u>are hypothetical</u> because they have not occurred, and we do not know if they will happen.

- Sentences with the subjunctive use <u>two</u> <u>subjects</u> and <u>two verbs</u>.
- Subjunctive statements express that someone wishes, suggests, or has a certain emotion or doubts about another person's actions, behaviors, or states.
- We must use an <u>infinitive verb</u> when the hopes, needs, or recommendations are directed toward the <u>same subject</u>.
- The subjunctive mood in Spanish has <u>four</u> <u>main tenses</u>: present, past, present perfect, and past perfect.

## **LINK TO THIS GUIDE**



A Simple Guide to Master the Spanish Subjunctive

## RELATED GUIDES & RESOURCES TO CHECK OUT

Verb Mood in Spanish: Indicative, Subjunctive & Imperative

Watch My Lessons on YouTube! > Spanish Immersion YouTube

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