



## Linking Verbs

Linking verbs connect the subject to its attribute, providing more information about the noun. In Spanish, they are commonly paired with nouns, adverbs, adjectives, and pronouns. The three **key linking verbs** are:

- Ser
- Estar
- Parecer

Ella **es** Sandra. **Parece** un poco antipática, pero es muy linda. Es sólo que ahorita **está** estresada.

*She is Sandra. She seems a bit unpleasant, but she's very nice. It's just that she's stressed right now.*

## Auxiliary Verbs

**Auxiliary verbs** support the **main verb** to form compound tenses or verb phrases. They must be conjugated to show subject, tense, and verb mood.

Todavía no **hemos** puesto la película. ¿Tú qué **estás** haciendo?

*We haven't put on the movie yet. What are you doing?*

Si **sigue** lloviendo, no **podremos** ir.

*If it keeps raining, we won't be able to go.*

**Take Note:** They're followed by infinitives, gerunds, and past participles.



These are some examples of common auxiliary verbs in Spanish. Notice that some structures need a preposition between the auxiliary and main verb:

Auxiliary Verbs	
Haber	To have
Estar	To be
Querer	To want
Saber	To know
Poder	Can
Ir a	To go
Deber	Must
Dejar de	To stop
Llevar	To have been
Seguir	Still/To keep

## Transitive Verbs

To understand these verbs, check why the following sentences are **incorrect**:

Fui a la tienda y compré...  
*I went to the store, and I bought...*

Traje...y di...  
*I brought...and gave...*

These previous sentences need an **object** to be complete. This object can be:

- **Direct**: The target of the action.



- **Indirect** : Affected or benefited by the action.

Fui a la tienda y **compré dulces**.  
*I went to the store, and I bought candies.*

**Traje dulces** y se los **di** a la niña.  
*I brought candies and gave them to the girl.*

**Take Note:** Objects can be replaced with pronouns.

Here is a list of common transitive verbs in Spanish:

Transitive Verbs	
<b>Abrir</b>	To open
<b>Lavar</b>	To wash
<b>Limpiar</b>	To clean
<b>Llevar</b>	To take
<b>Poner</b>	To put
<b>Ver</b>	To see/To watch

## Intransitive Verbs

Unlike transitive verbs, **intransitive verbs** have meaning on their own, but you can more information to your sentence to provide additional details:

El perro **ladra**.  
*The dog barks.*

Elisa **nada** y **corre**.  
*Elisa swims and runs.*



El perro **ladra** mucho.  
*The dog barks a lot.*

Elisa **nada** y **corre** diario.  
*Elisa swims and runs daily.*

**Take Note:** *Trabajar, irse, and caminar* are examples of intransitive verbs.

## Reflexive Verbs

Reflexive verbs express actions we **perform on ourselves**, requiring an **object** to complete the meaning. In these cases, the **subject and object** refer to the **same person**. Often, reflexive verbs relate to hygiene and personal care.

**Me** **cepillo** el cabello.  
*I brush my hair.*

**Te** **lavas** las manos.  
*You wash your hands.*

## Reciprocal Verbs

Reciprocal verbs describe actions that **two or more** subjects perform on each other and require an **object** to be complete. They use **plural reflexive pronouns** such as 'se,' 'nos,' and 'os.

Mi hermano y yo **nos** **queremos** mucho.  
*My brother and I love each other a lot.*

¿Cómo **se** **conocieron**?  
*How did you guys meet?*



Reciprocal Verbs	
<b>Abrazarse</b>	To hug
<b>Casarse</b>	To get married
<b>Besarse</b>	To kiss
<b>Enamorarse</b>	To fall in love
<b>Saludarse</b>	To greet

## Pronominal Verbs

They use reflexive pronouns to **maintain their meaning**, though they are not always reflexive in nature

Laura **se quejó** del ruido.  
*Laura complained about the noise.*

**Me llamo** Daniela, ¿tú cómo **te llamas**?  
*My name is Daniela, what's your name?*

¿A qué hora **llamaste**?  
*What time did you call?*

¿Ya **te despediste** de Laura?  
*Did you already say goodbye to Laura?*

¿Ya **despediste** a Laura?  
*Did you already fire Laura?*



Pronominal Verbs	
<b>Irse</b>	To leave
<b>Negarse</b>	To refuse
<b>Quedarse</b>	To stay
<b>Quejarse</b>	To complain
<b>Sentirse</b>	To feel
<b>Volverse</b>	To become

## Defective Verbs

Defective verbs have an **incomplete** conjugation. Meaning that:

- They can only be used in **certain tenses** (for example, *soler*).

Alberto **suele** llegar a las nueve.  
Alberto usually arrives at nine.

Alberto **solía** llegar temprano.  
*Alberto used to arrive early.*

- They have **one** form for singular and plural things, but can be conjugated in different tenses (impersonal forms).

Aquí **llueve** mucho.  
*It rains a lot here.*

Mañana **hará** calor.  
*It will be hot tomorrow.*

Many impersonal forms are used to describe the weather. However, *hay* is one of the most popular defective forms because it helps you express **existence**:

¿No **hubo** galletas?  
Were there no cookies?



## Different Types of verbs Based on their Conjugation

- Regular Verbs
  - Stem remains **unchanged**.
- Stem-Changing Verbs
  - Minor stem **spelling** changes.
- Irregular Verbs
  - **Significant** changes in stem, ending, or both.

Yo sí **trabajo** mañana, pero no me **acuerdo** si Susana **va** a venir.  
*I do work tomorrow, but I can't remember if Susana is going to come.*

## Infinitive Verbs

Infinitive verbs are **non-conjugated** verbs. In Spanish, infinitive verbs:

- Work as **nouns**.
- **Complement** prepositions or conjugated verbs.

**Correr** me relaja.  
*Running relaxes me.*

Me gusta **leer** y **cantar**.  
*I like reading and singing.*

No **tuve** tiempo **de ir** al super, ¿**puedes traer** leche?  
*I didn't have time to go to the store, can you pick up some milk?*



## Gerund Forms

Gerunds are formed with '-ando' or '-iendo' and express continuity, showing states or actions **in progress**. They are often paired with verbs like '*estar*,' '*llevar*,' and '*seguir*,' which also convey continuity

**Estamos aprendiendo** cómo funcionan los verbos.  
*We're learning how verbs work.*

## Past Participles

Regular past participles are formed with the endings '-ado' and '-ido.' They are used in **perfect tenses**, function as **adjectives**, and agree in gender and number.

No **hemos comido** nada.  
*We haven't eaten anything.*

No **he acabado** la película.  
*I haven't finished the movie.*

¿Por qué estás **estresado**?  
*Why are you stressed?*

Ana se ve **cansada**.  
*Ana seems tired.*

## Resources

- [This YouTube Lesson: Every Type of Verb That Exists in Spanish](#)
- [YouTube Lesson: Spanish Reflexive Verbs: How-To, 20 Verbs & My 1 RULE to make them EASY](#)
- [Youtube Lesson: Lo vs Le: Conquer Spanish Object Pronouns](#)