

Gramática

The imperfect tense: regular verbs

Another way to talk about the past is with the imperfect tense. Use the imperfect tense to talk about actions that happened repeatedly in the past.

Rafael patinaba y Mónica corría.
Rafael used to skate and Monica used to run.

Here are the regular forms of *-ar*, *-er*, and *-ir* verbs in the imperfect tense. Notice the accent mark on the *nosotros* form of *jugar*:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| (yo) | jugaba | (nosotros) (nosotras) | jugá ba mos |
| (tú) | jugabas | (vosotros) (vosotras) | jugab a is |
| Ud. (él) (ella) | jugaba | Uds. (ellos) (ellas) | jugab a n |

Note that *-er* and *-ir* verbs, such as *hacer* and *vivir*, have the same endings:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (yo) | hacía vivía | (nosotros) (nosotras) | hacía mos vivía mos |
| (tú) | hacías vivías | (vosotros) (vosotras) | hacía is vivía is |
| Ud. (él) (ella) | hacía vivía | Uds. (ellos) (ellas) | hacía n vivía n |

Notice the accent mark on each ending.

¿Recuerdas?
 You have already learned to talk about completed actions in the past using the preterite tense.

- Ayer Rafael patinó y Mónica corrió en el parque.

- As you know, in Spanish you can often omit the subject of a verb because the subject is made clear in the verb ending:

Vivo en Chicago. (The subject, *yo*, is included in the verb ending.)

However, since the *yo* and *Ud./él/ella* forms are the same in the imperfect for *-ar*, *-er*, and *-ir* verbs, speakers often use the subject pronouns to avoid confusion.

Patricia tenía un triciclo rojo pero yo tenía uno azul.

- Expressions such as *generalmente*, *por lo general*, *a menudo*, *muchas veces*, *de vez en cuando*, *todos los días*, and *nunca* can cue you to use the imperfect because they imply that something happened repeatedly in the past.

Gramática

The imperfect tense: irregular verbs

There are only three irregular verbs in the imperfect tense: *ir*, *ser*, and *ver*. Here are all the forms:

ir

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------------------------|--------|
| (yo) | iba | (nosotros) (nosotras) | íbamos |
| (tú) | ibas | (vosotros) (vosotras) | ibais |
| Ud. (él) (ella) | iba | Uds. (ellos) (ellas) | iban |

ser

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|----------------------------|--------|
| (yo) | era | (nosotros) (nosotras) | éramos |
| (tú) | eras | (vosotros) (vosotras) | erais |
| Ud. (él) (ella) | era | Uds. (ellos) (ellas) | eran |

- Notice the accent mark on the *nosotros* form for the verbs *ir* and *ser*.

ver

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------------|---------|
| (yo) | veía | (nosotros) (nosotras) | veíamos |
| (tú) | veías | (vosotros) (vosotras) | veíais |
| Ud. (él) (ella) | veía | Uds. (ellos) (ellas) | veían |

- Notice the accent mark on each form of *ver*.

GramActiva VIDEO

Want more help with the imperfect tense? Watch the GramActiva video.



Reglas del Imperfecto

- another form of the past
- translation Used to

| | |
|--------|----------|
| - aba | - abamos |
| - abas | |
| - aba | - aban |

| | |
|-------|---------|
| - ía | - íamos |
| - ías | |
| - ía | - ían |

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Yo | nosotros | I | We |
| Tú | X | You (inf) | X |
| él, ella ud | ellos, ellas uds | he, she you (form) | They you (pl) |

Example

Jugar - to play

| | |
|---------|-----------|
| Jugaba | Jugabamos |
| Jugabas | |
| Jugaba | Jugaban |

hacer - Used to do/make

| | |
|--------|----------|
| hacía | hacíamos |
| hacías | |
| hacía | hacían |

Reflexives (arse, erse, irse)

| | |
|----|-----|
| me | nos |
| te | |
| se | se |

Verbos en el Impefecto

Capitulo 4A & 4B Spanish 2

- 1. Permitir**
- 2. Molestar**
- 3. Saltar**
- 4. Ofrecer**
- 5. Tener**
- 6. Coleccionar**
- 7. Mentir**
- 8. Obedecer**
- 9. Cuidar**
- 10. Llorar**
- 11. Sonreír**
- 12. Besarse (Reflexive)**
- 13. Abrazarse (Reflexive)**
- 14. Pelearse (Reflexive)**
- 15. Reunirse (Reflexive)**
- 16. Despedirse (Reflexive)**
- 17. Divertirse (Reflexive)**
- 18. Ir Pg. 196**
- 19. Ser Pg. 196**
- 20. Ver pg. 196**