

## THE PRESENT TENSE

### REGULAR –AR, –ER AND –IR VERBS

- Each group of verbs has its own set of endings that are added to the stem for the different conjugations of the verb.

**-AR**                      Hablar-to talk            (ex: ayudar, cantar, bailar and comprar)

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
First person	Yo <b>hablo</b>	Nosotros <b>hablamos</b>
Second person	Tú <b>hablas</b>	Vosotros <b>habláis</b>
Third person	Él Ella <b>habla</b> Ud.	Ellos Ellas <b>hablan</b> Uds.

**-ER**                      Comer-to eat            (ex: beber, aprender and vender)

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
First person	Yo <b>Como</b>	Nosotros <b>Comemos</b>
Second person	Tú <b>Comes</b>	Vosotros <b>Coméis</b>
Third person	Él Ella <b>Come</b> Ud.	Ellos Ellas <b>Comen</b> Uds.

**-IR**                      Vivir- to live            (ex: escribir, recibir, decidir, and asistir)

	<b>Singular</b>	<b>Plural</b>
First person	Yo <b>vivo</b>	Nosotros <b>vivimos</b>
Second person	Tú <b>vives</b>	Vosotros <b>vivís</b>
Third person	Él Ella <b>vive</b> Ud.	Ellos Ellas <b>viven</b> Uds.

### IRREGULAR VERBS

- These verbs are irregular, meaning they do not follow the standard rules for conjugating.

Conocer (to know people)-**conozco**, conoces, conoce, conocemos, conocéis, conocen

Dar (to give)-**Doy**, Das, Da, Damos, Dais, Dan

Estar (to be)-**Estoy, estás, está, estamos, estáis, están**

Ir (to go)-**Voy, vas, va, vamos, vais, van**

Oler (to smell)- **huelo, hueles, huele, olemos, oléis, huelen**

Saber (to know something/facts)-**sé**, sabes, sabe, sabemos, sabéis, saben

Ser (to be)-**Soy, eres, es, somos, sois, son**

Ver (to see)-**veo**, ves, ve, vemos, véis, ven

### GO-GO VERBS

- The following verbs are irregular in the present tense. The **Yo** form ends with –go

Caer (to fall)-**yo caigo**

Decir (to say/tell)-**yo digo**

Traer (to bring)-**yo traigo**

Hacer (to do, make)-**yo hago**

Poner (to put, place)-**yo pongo**

Salir (to leave)-**yo salgo**

Tener (to have)-**yo tengo**

Valer (to be worth)-**yo valgo**

Venir(to come)-**yo vengo**

### STEM-CHANGING VERBS

#### ❖ E-IE

- The letter **e** in the stem changes to **ie** in all but the nosotros and vosotros forms.

Cerrar-to close

Comenzar-to begin

Empezar-to begin

Entender-to understand

Merendar-to have lunch

Pensar-to think

Perder-to lose

Preferir-to prefer

Querer-to want

Sugerir-to suggest

Tener-to have

Venir-to come

Querer-to want

Quiero	Queremos
Quieres	Quereis
Quiere	Quieren

❖ O-UE

- The letter **o** in the stem changes to **ue** in all but the nosotros and vosotros forms.

Almorzar-to eat lunch

Contar-to count, to tell

Costar-to cost

Devolver-to return (an object)

Dormir-to sleep

Encontrar-to find

Morir-to die

Mover-to move an object

Poder-to be able to

Probar-to test, taste

Recordar-to remember

Volver-to return (people)

Dormir

Duermo	Dormimos
Duermes	Dormís
Duerme	Duermen

❖ U-UE

- The letter **u** in the stem changes to **ue** in all but the nosotros and vosotros forms.

Jugar (to play a sport)

Jugar

Juego	Jugamos
Juegas	Jugáis
Juega	Juegan

❖ E-I

- The letter **e** in the stem changes to **i** in all but the nosotros and vosotros forms.

Decir-to say/tell

Pedir-to ask for/order

Repetir-to repeat

Seguir-to follow

Servir-to serve

Vestir(se)-to get dressed

Pedir-to ask for/order

Pido	Pedimos
Pides	Pedís
Pide	Piden

### Other Irregular Verbs

- Verbs whose infinitive ends in -uir (but not -guir) insert a **y** in present tense endings whenever the ending does not contain the sound “i”, that is, in all forms except for nosotros and vosotros.

huir (to flee)  
construir (to construct)  
incluir (to include)  
influir (to influence)

Huir

huyo	huimos
huyes	huís
huye,	huyen

- Verbs whose infinitive form ends in **-gir** change the g to **j** before an **a** or an **o**.

dirigir (to direct)  
elegir (to elect) \*stem changer\*  
corregir (to correct)  
exigir (to require)  
fingir (to pretend)  
surgir (to arise)

Dirigir

<b>dirijo</b>	dirigimos
diriges	dirigís
dirige	dirigen

- Verbs whose infinitive form ends in **-guir** drop the **u** before an **a** or an **o**.

distinguir (to distinguish)  
\*seguir (to follow, continue) \*also stem changing verbs e-i\*  
\*conseguir (to get, obtain)  
\*perseguir (to pursue)

Distinguir

distingo	distinguimos,
distingues,	distinguís
distingue	distinguen