

Verb Lesson 14—FORMATION OF THE SUBJUNCTIVE

FORMATION OF THE PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE

REGULAR VERBS

1. The present subjunctive of most verbs is formed by dropping the ending **-o** of the first person singular (**yo** form) of the present indicative and adding the following endings:

-ar verbs: **-e, -es, -e, -emos, -éis, -en**
 -er } verbs: **-a, -as, -a, -amos, -áis, -an**
 -ir }

INFINITIVE	PRESENT INDICATIVE Yo FORM	PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE
tomar	tomo	tome, tomes, tome, tomemos, toméis, tomen
comer	como	coma, comas, coma, comamos, comáis, coman
escribir	escribo	escriba, escribas, escriba, escribamos, escribáis, escriban

caber	quepo	quepa, -as, -a, etc.
coger	cojo	coja, -as, -a, etc.
conocer	conozco	conozca, -as, -a, etc.
destruir	destruyo	destruya, -as, -a, etc.
distinguir	distingo	distinga, -as, -a, etc.
salir	salgo	salga, -as, -a, etc.

SPELLING CHANGES IN THE PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE

2. In the present subjunctive of verbs ending in **-car, -gar, and -zar**, **c** changes to **qu**, **g** to **gu**, and **z** to **c**. These spelling changes are the same as those that occur in the **yo** form of the preterite. (See pages 19–20.)

INFINITIVE	PRETERITE Yo FORM	PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE
buscar	busqué	busque, -es, -e, etc.
pagar	pagué	pague, -es, -e, etc.
alzar	alcé	alce, -es, -e, etc.

Note

In the verb **averiguar**, the **u** changes to **ü** before an **e**: **averigüé**—preterite; **averigüe**—present subjunctive. This is done to keep the sound of the **u**, which otherwise would be silent.

STEM-CHANGING VERBS IN THE PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE

3. a. Stem-changing -ar and -er verbs have the same stem changes in the present subjunctive as in the present indicative (e to ie, o to ue).

cerrar: cierre, cierres, cierre, cerremos, cerréis, cierren
volver: vuelva, vuelvas, vuelva, volvamos, volváis, vuelvan

b. Stem-changing -ir verbs have the same stem changes in the present subjunctive as in the present indicative (e to ie, o to ue, e to i). In the nosotros and vosotros forms, the stem vowel e changes to i and the stem vowel c changes to u.

sentir: sienta, sientas, sienta, sintamos, sintáis, sientan
dormir: duerma, duermas, duerma, durmamos, durmáis, duerman
pedir: pida, pidas, pida, pidamos, pidáis, pidan

c. Some verbs ending in -iar or -uar stress the i or the u (i, ú) in all forms except those for nosotros and vosotros.

enviar: envíe, envíes, envíe, enviemos, enviéis, envíen
continuar: continúe, continúes, continúe, continuemos, continuéis, continúen

(See Note C, page 9, for additional verbs like **enviar** and **continuar**.)

PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE OF IRREGULAR VERBS

4. The following verbs have irregular forms in the present subjunctive:

dar: dé, des, dé, demos, deis, den
estar: esté, estés, esté, estemos, estéis, estén
haber: haya, hayas, haya, hayamos, hayáis, hayan
ir: vaya, vayas, vaya, vayamos, vayáis, vayan
saber: sepa, sepas, sepa, sepamos, sepáis, sepan
ser: sea, seas, sea, seamos, seáis, sean



Miguel de Unamuno (1864–1936), de la “Generación del ’98,” fue filósofo, ensayista, poeta, y novelista. Su obra más característica es *Del sentimiento trágico de la vida*.

FORMATION OF THE IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE

The imperfect subjunctive of *all* verbs is formed by dropping the *-ron* ending of the third person plural of the preterite tense and adding either the *-ra* or *-se* endings.

-ra, -ras, -ra, -ramos, -rais, -ran
or
-se, -ses, -se, -semos, -seis, -sen

INFINITIVE	PRETERITE THIRD PLURAL	IMPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE
legar	legaron	legara, legaras, legara, legáramos, legarais, legaran or legase, legases, legase, legásemos, legaseis, legasen
vender	vendieron	vendiera, vendieras, vendiera, vendiéramos, vendierais, vendieran or vendiese, vendieses, vendiese, vendiésemos, vendieseis, vendiesen
dormir	durmieron	durmiera, durmieras, etc., or durmiese, durmieses, etc.
pedir	pidieron	pidiera, etc., or pidiese, etc.
decir	dijeron	dijera, etc., or dijese, etc.
ir, ser	fueron	fuera, etc., or fuese, etc.
creer	creyeron	creyera, etc., or creyese, etc.

Note

The *nosotros* form of the imperfect subjunctive is the only form that has an accent mark (on the vowel immediately before the ending).

FORMATION OF THE PERFECT AND PLUPERFECT SUBJUNCTIVE

The perfect subjunctive is formed by the present subjunctive of *haber* followed by a past participle.

<i>haya</i>	} entrado	<i>hayamos</i>	} entrado
<i>hayas</i>		<i>hayáis</i>	
<i>haya</i>		<i>hayan</i>	

The pluperfect subjunctive is formed by the imperfect subjunctive of *haber* followed by a past participle.

<i>hubiera (hubiese)</i>	} dicho	<i>hubiéramos (hubiésemos)</i>	} dicho
<i>hubieras (hubieses)</i>		<i>hubierais (hubieseis)</i>	
<i>hubiera (hubiese)</i>		<i>hubieran (hubiesen)</i>	

EJERCICIOS

A. Escribanse los verbos en el presente de subjuntivo empleando los sujetos *yo, nosotros, ellos*.

EJEMPLO: hablar—yo hable, nosotros hablemos, ellos hablen

	Yo	Nosotros	Ellos
1. buscar
2. trabajar
3. odiar
4. llegar
5. traer
6. conocer
7. ser
8. hacer
9. dar
10. escoger
11. oír
12. distinguir
13. averiguar
14. leer
15. emplear
16. ir
17. poner
18. estar
19. alcanzar
20. salir
21. caber
22. construir
23. acercarse
24. saber
25. venir