Spanish Sentence Structure

Master the building blocks of Spanish sentences

1. The SVO Pattern - Just Like English!

Good News: Spanish follows Subject + Verb + Object order!

Same pattern as English - but with exciting Spanish flexibility







Complete Sentence:

María come manzanas

(Maria eats apples)

2. Spanish Flexibility - More Options Than English!

Unlike English, Spanish allows flexible word order for emphasis and style. All these sentences are correct:

Yo hablo español

(I speak Spanish)

Standard order with subject pronoun

Hablo español

(I speak Spanish)

Subject pronoun dropped - most common!

Español hablo yo

(Spanish I speak)

Object first for emphasis



3. Dropping Subject Pronouns - Spanish's Secret Weapon



Key Insight:

Spanish verb endings show WHO is doing the action!

como

(I eat)

-o ending = I

come

(He/She eats)

-e ending = he/she

coméis

(You all eat)

-éis ending = you all

comes

(You eat)

-es ending = you

comemos

(We eat)

-emos ending = we

comen

(They eat)

-en ending = they

4. Real-Life Examples

Daily Activities (with subject pronouns):

María bebe café (Maria drinks coffee)

Los niños juegan fútbol (The children play soccer)

Nosotros vemos televisión (We watch television)

Without Subject Pronouns (more natural):

Hablo inglés (I speak English)

The "-o" ending shows it's "I"

Comes demasiado (You eat too much)

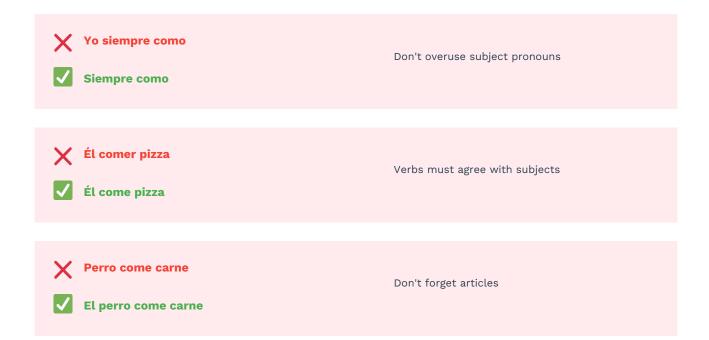
The "-es" ending shows it's "you"

Escriben cartas (They write letters)

The "-en" ending shows it's "they"



5. Common Mistakes to Avoid



6. Quick Test / Mini Quiz

Test your understanding of Spanish sentence structure! These questions cover the key concepts from this guide.



1. Word order puzzle! What's the correct order for 'María reads books'?

- a) Libros lee María
- b) María libros lee
- c) María lee libros
- d) Lee María libros



2. Subject identification! In 'El gato come pescado', what's the subject?

- a) El
- b) gato
- c) El gato
- d) come



3. Verb spotting! In 'Los estudiantes estudian español', which word is the verb?

- a) Los
- b) estudiantes
- c) estudian
- d) español



4. Object hunting! In 'Nosotros compramos una casa', what's the object?

- a) Nosotros
- b) compramos
- c) una casa
- d) una



5. Spanish flexibility! Which sentence is also correct for 'I speak Spanish'?

- a) Yo español hablo
- b) Español yo hablo
- c) Hablo español
- d) All of the above

Visit spanishgrammar.co.uk/basic-sentence-structure#quiz for answers and explanations

