



LANGUAGE TOOLKIT

SPANISH

READING

Beginner-oriented texts

- **The Spanish Experiment** has children's short stories with audio you can read along to
- **FluentU**'s website has a resource directory of online short stories
- **Lingua.com** has reading comprehension texts and activities
- **LingQ**- a paid online service with a range of authentic reading and listening lessons.

News sources for fluent Spanish audiences

- **BBC Mundo**
- **El País**
- **El Mundo**
- **The Conversation Española**



TOP TIP

Spanish spoken in Spain and the various dialects of Spanish spoken throughout Latin America each have dialectal differences- it may be useful to choose a dialect from a culture that interests you most and focus on learning it specifically.

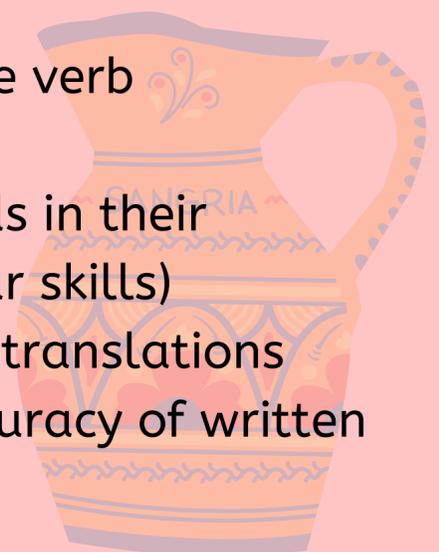
READING TIP

Don't stop to look up every unknown word you come across while reading - this will disrupt your flow and concentration. Instead, try to guess what the word may mean based on the context of the sentence. Once you've finished reading the text, go back and look up some of the words you struggled to understand.



GRAMMAR & WRITING TOOLS

- **Conjuguemos.com** - has various games and quizzes to practice verb conjugation in various tenses)
- **Spanishdict.com** - a great translator, where you can see words in their context, listen to the pronunciation and practise your grammar skills)
- **DeepL.com** - an online translator that provides very accurate translations
- **SpanishChecker.com**- a great online resource to check the accuracy of written grammar



LISTENING

PODCASTS

Listening to these beginner-friendly podcasts is a great way to get familiar with spoken Spanish:

- **Coffee Break Spanish**
- **Easy Spanish**
- **News in Slow Spanish**
- **Immersive Spanish**
- **Language Transfer Spanish**

The following podcasts are great for when you reach an intermediate level:

- **Los Somos Los Pichy Boys**
- **Radio Ambulante**
- **Las Raras**

MUSIC

There is so much amazing Spanish and Latin American music and listening to it is a great way to immerse yourself in the language. Check out these artists:

- **Natalia Lafourcade**
- **Rosalía**
- **Juanes**
- **J Balvin**
- **Kali Uchis**
- **Latinaotearoa**
- **Mala Rodríguez**
- **Bandalos Chinos**



Spotify also has many great Spanish-language playlists. Here are a few we recommend:

- **Spanish Tapas Bar**
- **Baila Reggaeton**
- **Flamenco Pop**
- **Todo Indie**



TV & MOVIES

Watching TV shows and movies can be helpful to learn pronunciation, vocabulary and culture. Use the free Chrome extension **Netflix Dual subtitle for learning languages** to watch Netflix with both English and Spanish subtitles.

Movies:

- **El Laberinto Del Fauno / Pan's Labyrinth**
- **Los Lobos / The Wolves**
- **Argentina, 1985**
- **Roma**

TV Shows:

- **La Casa de Papel / Money Heist**
- **Elite**
- **Criminal- Spain**
- **Cable Girls**

MUSIC TIP

Read the lyrics as you listen to a song you like and use a bilingual dictionary such as **Word Reference** to translate words you don't know - this way you can learn slang and acquire new vocab in a fun way

YOUTUBE RESOURCES

Targeted at language-learners:

- **Spanish After Hours** - chatty, conversational videos mainly focused on expanding your vocabulary and comprehension
- **Easy Spanish** - listen to people from throughout the Spanish-speaking world talk about everyday topics and introducing you to common slang and phrases
- **Spanishpod101** - many grammar videos

For a native-speaking audience:

- **La gata de Schrödinger** - discusses science
- **Melo** - pop-culture
- **Huerto Adictos** - all about plants
- **Misias pero viajeras** - travel vlogs
- **Enchufetv** - comedy sketches



SPEAKING

Developing your confidence in speaking Spanish is the most important aspect of learning the language, and it is important to speak as often as you can. It can be hard to find people to chat with in Spanish, so here are some great resources to make it easier:

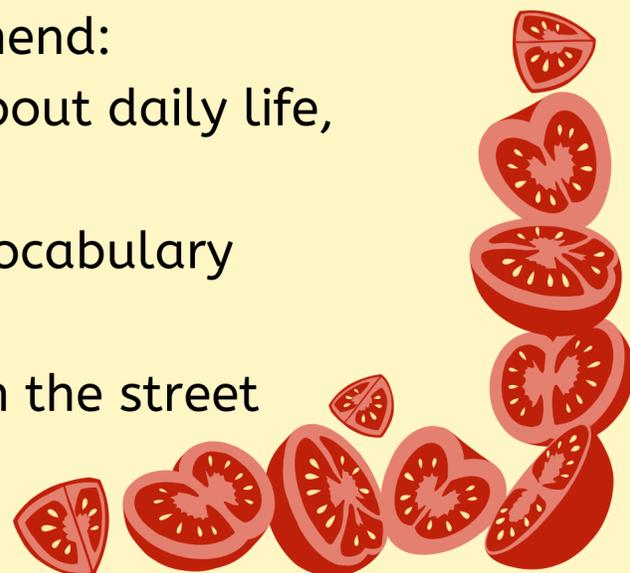
- **USYD Spanish and Latin American Society** holds weekly convo groups on campus
- **Sydney Spanish Conversation group** (Meetup.com)
- **Aloha Sydney Language Exchange** - a tri-weekly language exchange that takes place at various bars in Sydney (IG: @alohasydney)
- **iTalki.com** : a paid, online service where you can find individual tutors or group classes for a low price.
- **Tandem** - find an online language partner or participate in a language exchange

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media can be a great way to learn colloquial or casual Spanish.

Here are some Instagram pages whose reels we recommend:

- **@espanolconjuan** - Juan you with him as he goes about daily life, talks about his interests etc. He also has a podcast
- **@espanol_con_guada** - Guada helps you develop vocabulary through association exercises
- **@martinelginger** - interviews of Spanish speakers on the street about random topics



STUDY TIPS

Make handwritten or online flashcards! We like the apps Anki or Quizlet. Regular intervals of study with flashcards help put vocabulary into your long-term memory.

Set a timer for five minutes and try either talking or writing only in Spanish about any topic you want - what you've done that day, what your plans for the weekend are, what you're studying in class, your opinion on something. Make a mental note of the gaps in your vocabulary then afterwards add that vocab to your flashcards.

Find a flashcard set for the 1000 most common Spanish words: (Quizlet.com has a great selection), these words are said to make up 75% of common conversation!



Test your knowledge of 5-letter words and exercise your brain with **Wordle Español**

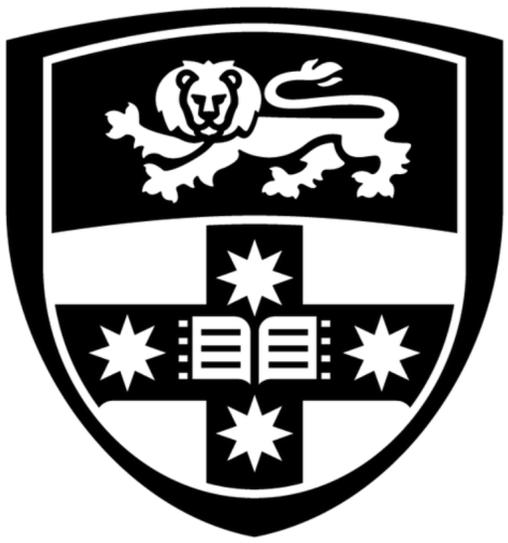
Read out loud to work on the flow of your speaking.

When listening to podcasts or watching tv, try imitating the speaker's accent to develop your own.



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