

Infinitives

Verbs that end in -ar, -er, or -ir are called infinitives. An infinitive means to _____. For example, **tener** means to have. **Ser** means to be. **Estar** also means to be. **Hablar** means to speak or talk. All infinitives in Spanish have many different forms. In Spanish One you are learning how to communicate with the present tense. In other words, you are learning how to talk about or describe what is happening now or today. Below are descriptions of some verbs we focus on in Spanish One.

-ar verbs

Many verbs in Spanish are regular verbs. Like hablar, cantar (=to sing) is a regular -ar verb. A regular verb follows similar patterns when the different conjugations (forms) are created. To create the different forms, all you need to do is drop the AR and add certain endings to the stem of the infinitive. Most verbs that end in -ar follow this pattern.

yo canto=I sing (drop the -ar and add o)
tú cantas=you (my friend) sing (drop the -ar and add as)
él canta=he sings (drop the -ar and add a)
ella canta=she sings (drop the -ar and add a)
Ud. canta=you (formal) sing (drop the -ar and add a)
nosotros cantamos=we sing (drop the -ar and add amos)
vosotros cantáis=y'all sing (in Spain) (drop the -ar and add a)
ellos/ellas cantan=they sing (drop the -ar and add an)
Uds. cantan=y'all sing (drop the -ar and add a)

Ser

Ser is an irregular verb. It has its own forms much like the infinitive "to be" in English (I am, you are, he is, we are, etc.). Unlike -AR verbs, ser does not follow the same pattern that any other verb follows.

yo soy=I am
tú eres=you are
él/ella/Ud. es=he is, she is, you are
nosotros somos=we are
vosotros sois=y'all are
ellos/ellas/Uds. son=they are, y'all are

Tener

Tener is also an irregular verb.

yo tengo=I have

tú tienes=you have

él/ella/Ud. tiene=he has, she has, you have

nosotros tenemos=we have

vosotros tenéis=y'all have

ellos/ellas/Uds. tienen=they have, y'all have