**Stem-changing Verbs**

**Present Tense**

1. The stem or root of a verb is the beginning of the verb before the –AR, -ER, or –IR ending. In the present tense some verbs may have a change in the stem.
   * In stem-changing verbs, the vowel **e** from the stem converts to **ie**, **e > ie**
   * The vowel **o** from the stem converts to **ue**, **o > ue**
   * These changes occur in all persons of the singular (*yo, tú, él/ella/usted*) and the third person plural (*ellos/ellas/ustedes*) of –AR, -ER, and –IR stem-changing verbs.
   * These changes do not occur in the *nosotros* or *vosotros* forms.

|  |
| --- |
| pens**ar** (ie)- to think |
| yo p**ie**nso nosotros pensamos  tú p**ie**nsas vosotros pensáis  él/ella/usted p**ie**nsa ellos/ellas/ustedes p**ie**nsan |

|  |
| --- |
| perd**er** (ie)- to lose |
| yo p**ie**rdo nosotros perdemos  tú p**ie**rdes vosotros perdéis  él/ella/usted p**ie**rde ellos/ellas/ustedes p**ie**rden |

|  |
| --- |
| dorm**ir** (ue)- to sleep |
| yo d**ue**rmo nosotros dormimos  tú d**ue**rmes vosotros dormís  él/ella/usted d**ue**rme ellos/ellas/ustedes d**ue**rmen |

1. Some –IR verbs have an **e > i** stem change.

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| --- | --- |
| repetir- to repeat | |
| yo rep**i**to  tú rep**i**tes  él/ella/usted rep**i**te | nosotros repetimos  vosotros repetís  ellos/ellas/ustedes rep**i**ten |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Common Stem-changing verbs** | | |
| **o > ue** | **e > ie** | **e > i** |
| * acostar – *to put to bed* * almorzar – *to eat lunch* * contar – *to count or to tell* * dormir – *to sleep* * encontrar – *to meet* * jugar (**u > ue**) – *to play* * llover – *to rain* * morir – *to die* * mostrar – *to show* * mover – *to move* * poder – *to be able to* * recordar – *to remember* * soñar – *to dream* | * calentar – *to heat* * comenzar – *to begin* * defender – *to defend* * despertar – *to wake* * divertir – *to have fun* * empezar – *to begin* * encender – *to turn on* * entender – *to understand* * mentir – *to lie* * pensar – *to think* * perder – *to lose* * preferir – *to prefer* * querer – *to want* * sentar – *to sit* * sentir – *to feel* | * corregir – *to correct* * elegir – *to elect or to chose* * pedir – *to ask for* * repetir – *to repeat* * servir – *to serve* * medir – *to measure* |

**Preterit Tense**

* In the preterit tense, **only – IR** verbs can experience a stem change.
  + The change only occurs in the third person singular (*él/ella/usted)* and plural (*ellos/ellas/ustedes)* forms of the verbs*.*
    - The vowel **e** from the stem changes to **i**, **e > i,** like in the verbs ***sentir*** and ***pedir***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **sentir –** *to feel* | |
| sentí  sentiste  s**i**ntió | sentimos  sentisteis  s**i**ntieron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **pedir –** *to ask for* | |
| pedí  pediste  p**i**dió | pedimos  pedisteis  p**i**dieron |

* + - The vowel **o** from the stem changes to **u**, **o > u,** like in the verbs ***dormir*** and ***morir***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **dormir –** *to sleep* | |
| dormí  dormiste  d**u**rmió | dormimos  dormisteis  d**u**rmieron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **morir –** *to die* | |
| morí  moriste  m**u**rió | morimos  moristeis  m**u**rieron |

* For pronunciation reasons, some -AR verbs have spelling changes that occur **only** in the *yo-*form (1st person singular) of the verb. All other forms of the verb are normal.
  + In -AR verbs ending in…
    - **-car**, the **c** changes to **qu**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **tocar** - *to play or to touch* | |
| to**qué**  tocaste  tocó | tocamos  tocasteis  tocaron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **sacar** - *to take out* | |
| sa**qué**  sacaste  sacó | sacamos  sacasteis  sacaron |

* + - -**gar**, the **g** changes to **gu**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **jugar** – *to play* | |
| ju**gué**  jugaste  jugó | jugamos  jugasteis  jugaron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **pagar** – *to pay* | |
| pa**gué**  pagaste  pagó | pagamos  pagasteis  pagaron |

* + - -**zar,** the **z** changes to **c**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **comenzar** – *to pay* | |
| comen**cé**  comenzaste  comenzó | comenzamos  comenzasteis  comenzaron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **cruzar** – *to play* | |
| cru**cé**  cruzaste  cruzó | cruzamos  cruzasteis  cruzaron |

* When conjugating -ER and -IR verbs whose stems end in a vowel, note the spelling change in the third person singular (-**ió**) and plural (–**ieron**) of the verb.
  + The letter **i** from the -**ió** and the –**ieron** ending changes into the letter **y.**
  + The letter **i** on all the other forms of the verb receives an accent.
    - This change occurs because any time there is an unaccented letter ***i*** between two vowels, the ***i*** changes to a ***y.***

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| **Creer** – *to believe* | |
| creí  creíste  cre**y**ó | creímos  creísteis  cre**y**eron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **caer** – *to fall* | |
| caí  caíste  ca**y**ó | caímos  caísteis  ca**y**eron |

* + The -IR verb, ***oír,***follows this same pattern.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Oír** – *to hear* | |
| oí  oíste  o**y**ó | oímos  oísteis  o**y**eron |

* -IR verbs ending in **-iur** have a similar spelling change involving the letter **y** for the same reason.
  + These spelling changes only occur in the 3rd person singular and plural forms of the verb.
    - This does not include verbs ending in **–guir** (like ***seguir***).

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| **incluir** – *to include* | |
| incluí  incluiste  inclu**y**ó | incluimos  incluisteis  inclu**y**eron |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **construir** – *to construct* | |
| construí  construiste  constru**y**ó | construimos  construisteis  constru**y**eron |

**Stem-Changing Verbs**

**UE Stem-Changing Verb**

**Encontrar: To find, encounter**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Tense** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** |
| **Present** | I find | Yo encuentro | You find (informal) | Tú encuentras | He, she, you find(s) (formal) | Él, ella, usted encuentra | We find | Nosotros encontramos | They, you find (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes encuentran |
| **Preterit** | I found | Yo encontré | You found (informal) | Tú encontraste | He, she, you found (formal) | Él, ella, usted encontró | We found | Nosotros encontramos | They, you found (plural) | Ellos, ellas, usteded encontraron |
| **Imperfect** | I used to find | Yo encontraba | You used to find (informal) | Tú encontrabas | He, she, you used to find (formal) | Él, ella, usted encontraba | We used to find | Nosotros encontrábamos | They, you used to find (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes encontraban |
| **Future** | I will find | Yo encontraré | You will find (informal) | Tú encontrarás | He, she, you will find (formal) | Él, ella, usted encontrará | We will find | Nosotros encontraremos | They, you will find (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes encontrarán |
| **Present Subjunctive** | I find | Yo encuentre | You find (informal) | Tú encuentres | He, she, you find(s) (formal) | Él, ella, usted encuentre | We find | Nosotros encontremos | They, you find (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes encuentren |
| **Past Subjunctive** | I found | Yo encontrara | You found (informal) | Tú encontraras | He, she, you found (formal) | Él, ella, usted encontrara | We found | Nosotros encontraramos | They, you found (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes encontraran |
| **Present Perfect** | I have found | Yo he encontrado | You have found (informal) | Tú has encontrado | He, she, you have found (formal) | Él, ella, usted ha encontrado | We have found | Nosotros hemos encontrado | They, you have found (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes han encontrado |

**UE Stem-Changing Verb Example Sentences**

1. Present Tense- He finds- **Encuentra**

English: He finds a lot of information when he reads his history book.

Spanish: **Encuentra** mucha información cuando lee su libro de historia.

1. Future Tense- We will find- **Encontraremos**

English: We will find what we need for the project.

Spanish: **Encontraremos** lo que necesitamos para el proyecto.

1. Imperfect Tense- You used to find (informal)- **Encontrabas**

English: You used to find everything. Now you can’t find anything.

Spanish: **Encontrabas** todo. Pero ahora no puedes encontrar nada.

1. Preterit Tense- They found- **Encontraron**

English: They found a lot of information about the environment on the news last night.

Spanish: **Encontraron** mucha información sobre el ambiente vía las noticias anoche.

1. Past Subjunctive Tense- She found- **Encontrara**

English: We hoped that she found her part of the information for the group to complete the history project.

Spanish: Esperamos que **encontrara** su parte de la información para el grupo para completar el proyecto para la clase de historia.

1. Present Subjunctive- I find- **Encuentre**

English: She hopes I find everything I need for my aunt’s party.

Spanish: Espera que yo **encuentre** todo lo que necesito para la fiesta de mi tía.

1. Present Perfect Tense- You have found (plural)- **Han encontrado**

English: You have found a lot of information about the forests of the Americas.

Spanish: **Han encontrado** mucha información sobre los bosques de las Américas.

**IE Stem-Changing Verbs**

**Querer: To want or to love**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Tense** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** |
| **Present** | I want/love | Yo quiero | You want/love (informal) | Tú quieres | He, she, you wants/loves | él, ella, usted quiere | We want/love | Nosotros queremos | They, you want/love (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes quieren |
| **Preterit** | I wanted/loved | Yo quise | You wanted/loved (informal) | Tú quisiste | He, she, you wanted/loved (formal) | Él, ella, usted quiso | We wanted/loved | Nosotros quisimos | They, wanted/loved (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes quisieron |
| **Imperfect** | I used to want/love | Yo quería | You used to want/love | Tú querás | He, she, you used to want/love (formal) | él, ella, usted quería | We used to want/love | Nosotros queríamos | They, you used to want/love (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes querían |
| **Future** | I will want/love | Yo querré | You will want/love (informal) | Tú querrás | He, she, you will want/love (formal) | Él, ella, usted querrá | We will want/love | Nosotros querramos | They, you will want/love (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes querrán |
| **Present Subjunctive** | I want/love | Yo quiera | You want/love (informal) | Tú quieras | He, she, you wants/loves (formal) | Él, ella, usted quiera | We want/love | Nosotros quieramos | They, you want/love (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes quieran |
| **Past Subjunctive** | I wanted/loved | Yo quisiera | You wanted/loved (informal) | Tú quisieras | He, she, you wanted/loved a person (formal) | Él, ella, usted quisiera | We wanted/loved | Nosotros quisieramos | They, you wanted/loved (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes quisieran |
| **Present Perfect** | I have wanted/loved | Yo he querido | You have wanted/loved (informal) | Tú has querido | He, she, you have wanted/loved (formal) | él, ella, usted ha querido | We have wanted/loved | Nosotros hemos querido | They, you have wanted/loved (plural) | Él, ella, usted han querido |

**IE Stem-Changing Verb Example Sentences**

1. Present Tense- We want- **Queremos**

English: They give us what we want.

Spanish: Nos dan lo que **queremos**.

1. Imperfect Tense- You used to want (informal)- **Querías**

English: You used to want to go to the park all the time. Now you want to stay home.

Spanish: **Querías** ir al parque todo el tiempo. Ahora quieres quedarte en casa.

1. Preterit Tense- I wanted- **Quise**

English: I wanted to go to the party last night, but my Dad didn’t let me.

Spanish: **Quise** ir a la fiesta anoche, pero mi papa no me permitió.

1. Future Tense- He will want- **Querrá**

English: He will want to travel to different places in the world after he graduates college.

Spanish: **Querrá** viajar a lugares diferentes el mundo después de que se gradúe de la

Universidad.

1. Present Subjunctive Tense- You want (formal)- **Quiera**

English: We hope you want to help us with the project.

Spanish: Esperamos que **quiera** ayudarnos con el proyecto.

1. Present Perfect Tense- They have wanted- **Han querido**

English: They have wanted to go there before.

Spanish: **Han querido** ir allá antes.

1. Past Subjunctive Tense- I wanted- **Quisiera**

English: They wished I wanted to work with them.

Spanish: Esperaron que yo **quisiera** trabajar con ellos.

**I Stem-Changing Verbs**

**Pedir: To ask for, request**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Tense** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** | **Eng** | **Span** |
| **Present** | I ask for/request | Yo pido | You ask for/request (informal) | Tú pides | He, she, you asks for/requests (formal) | Él, ella, usted pide | We ask for/request | Nosotros pedimos | They, you ask for/request (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes piden |
| **Preterit** | I asked for/requested | Yo pedí | You asked for/requested (informal) | Tú pediste | He, she, you asked for/requested | Él, ella, usted pidió | We asked for/requested | Nosotros pedimos | They, you asked for/requested (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustdes pidieron |
| **Imperfect** | I used to ask for/request | Yo pedía | You used to ask for/request (informal) | Tú pedías | He, she, you used to ask for/request (formal) | Él, ella, usted pedía | We used to ask for/request | Nosotros pedíamos | They, you used to ask for/request (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes pedían |
| **Future** | I will ask for/request | Yo pediré | You will ask for/request (informal) | Tú pedirás | He, she, you will ask for/request (formal) | Él, ella, usted pedirá | We will ask for/request | Nosotros pediremos | They, you will ask for/request (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes pedirán |
| **Present Subjunctive** | I ask for/request | Yo pida | You ask for/request (informal) | Tú pidas | He, she, you ask for/request (formal) | Él, ella, usted pida | We ask for/request | Nosotros pidamos | They, you ask for/request (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustdes pidan |
| **Past Subjunctive** | I asked for/requested | Yo pidiera | You asked for/requested (informal) | Tú pidieras | He, she, you asked for/requested (formal) | Él, ella, usted pidiera | We asked for/requested | Nosotros pidiéramos | They, you asked for/requested (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustedes pidieran |
| **Present Perfect** | I have asked for/requested | Yo he pedido | You have asked for/requested (informal) | Tú has pedidos | He, she, you have asked for/requested (formal) | Él, ella, usted ha pedido | We have asked for/requested | Nosotros hemos pedido | They, you have asked for/requested (plural) | Ellos, ellas, ustdes han pedido |

**I Stem-Changing Verb Example Sentences**

1. Preterit Tense- He asked for- **Pidió**

English: After running five miles, he asked for the bottle of water.

Spanish: Después de correr cinco millas, **pidió** la botella de agua.

1. Present Tense- I ask for- **Pido**

English: I always ask for ice cream on a hot summer day.

Spanish: Siempre, **pido** helado en un día calor en el verano.

1. Future Tense- You will ask for (informal)- **Pedirás**

English: You will ask for the special plates when you order your dinner.

Spanish: **Pedirás** los platos especiales cuando ordenes la cena.

1. Imperfect Tense- They used to ask for- **Pedían**

English: They used to ask for orange juice all the time at breakfast, but now they want milk.

Spanish: **Pedían** el jugo de naranja todo el tiempo al desayuno, pero ahora, quieren leche.

1. Present Subjunctive Tense- We ask for- **Pidamos**

English: They hope we ask for their favorite wine at dinner tonight.

Spanish: Esperan que **pidamos** su vino favorite para la cena esta noche.

1. Present Perfect Tense- You have asked for (formal)- **Ha pedido**

English: You have asked for that drink many times.

Spanish: **Ha pedido** ese refresco muchas veces.

1. Past Subjunctive Tense- You (plural)- **Pidieran**

English: I hope you asked your teachers for the information about the new program at school.

Spanish: Espero que les **pidieran** a sus maestros la información sobre el programa nuevo a la

escuela.