



ESPAÑOL DINÁMICO

Study Guide



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Introduction

Welcome to *Español Dinámico*! This interactive course in spoken Spanish is based on classroom-proven instructional strategies and techniques. The course maximizes the effectiveness of multimedia by focusing on the key skill necessary to acquire any language: listening. Each disc contains many hours of listening practice with native speaker models, plus a variety of listening tasks and follow-up exercises. The language is carefully chosen and sequenced to ensure comprehension at each level while at the same time remaining natural.

With DynEd's unique interactive design, you can study at your own pace. At any point in the program, you can ask for repetition, the Spanish text, a written English translation or glossary screens that provide additional information about vocabulary and grammar. In addition, you may record your own voice as often as you like and compare it with the native speaker models.

Course Structure and Sequencing

Español Dinámico, Level 1 is the first level of a three-level course. Each level is divided into two discs. Normally, each disc requires a minimum of 15 to 20 hours of study and practice. Completion of all six discs will take the learner from beginner to intermediate proficiency in spoken Spanish.

The course builds in a spiral, beginning with basic personal information about name and nationality, then covering family and living situations, and continuing on to daily schedules and routines. The language in this course will enable you to communicate about yourself and the world around you in increasing detail.

The language in *Español Dinámico* is based on the following principles of language learning:

Short-term memory: For you to be able to process and repeat a phrase, you must first be able to hold it in short-term memory. Intensive listening practice and repetition of short phrases is necessary to build the ability to hold longer phrases in memory.

Spiral sequencing: Grammar structure, vocabulary and functional language are reviewed and recycled throughout the course even as new material is introduced. This careful build-up of the material helps ensure retention and promotes language acquisition.

Comprehensible input: For language acquisition to occur, the input language must be understood. For this reason, in addition to the visual support provided by the graphics in each lesson, a written Spanish transcription is provided for each sentence, along with a written translation and glossary support.

Task-based learning: You will learn a new language more quickly and easily when you are actively involved in the learning process. The lessons of *Español Dinámico* are highly interactive, consisting of a carefully graded series of tasks designed to promote and reinforce your acquisition of new language and your ability to comprehend spoken Spanish.

Context: The language in a Spanish course should be presented in context. Each context should support the language and should be adaptable to your own situation. In order to provide this context, *Español Dinámico* takes you through a variety of scenarios related to everyday life in the Spanish-speaking world.

Personalization and extension: Language learning, to be meaningful, must relate to contexts beyond those in which it is presented. While *Español Dinámico* focuses on particular contexts, you will enhance your learning by extending the language of the course to other situations and by applying it to your own needs and experiences.

Contents of Español Dinámico, Level 1

DISC 1

Unit	Lessons	Structures and Functions
1: Nombres y Lugares (Names and Places)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ¿De dónde es usted? 2. ¿Dónde está Buenos Aires? 3. Dictado 4. Rellenar los espacios 5. Construcción de preguntas 	Personal introductions, greetings, identification, location, nationality/origin, regular <i>-AR</i> verbs, <i>ser, estar</i>
2: La Familia y el Trabajo (Family and Jobs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ricardo y su familia 2. Sara y su hija 3. Enrique 4. Dictado 5. Rellenar los espacios 6. Construcción de preguntas 	Professions, family description, noun-adjective agreement, subject-predicate agreement, regular <i>-ER</i> verbs, regular <i>-IR</i> verbs
3: Números (Numbers)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Números 1-100 2. La hora 3. Fechas 	Numbers (1-100), time, dates, holidays
4: Canción de México (Song from Mexico) <i>Cielito Lindo</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cantemos 2. Dictado 3. Juego de la Canción 	Vocabulary extension, listening practice

DISC 2

Unit	Lessons	Structures and Functions
1: El Horario de la Familia (Family Schedule)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Victoria y Ricardo 2. Los niños 3. Dictado 4. Rellenar los espacios 5. Construcción de preguntas 	Telling time, point of time, duration, sequence, reflexive verbs, stem-changing verbs
2: Gustos (Likes)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comida 2. Actividades 3. Dictado 4. Rellenar los espacios 5. Construcción de preguntas 	<i>Gustar</i> , degree of ability, extent (how much), frequency
3: Vocabulario de la Vida (Life Vocabulary)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vocabulario (Vocabulary) 2. Juego de Vocabulario (Vocabulary Game) 	Vocabulary development (seasons, weather, times of day, stages of life, types of people)
4: Canción de España (Song from Spain) <i>Clavelitos</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cantemos 2. Dictado 3. Juego de la Canción 	Vocabulary extension, listening practice

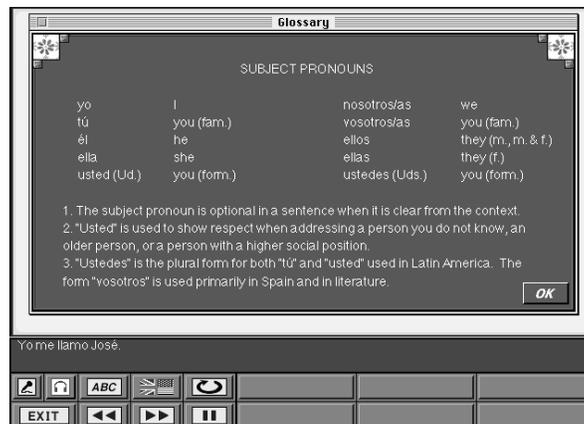
How to Do a Lesson

This section explains how to study a lesson, such as the first Presentation lesson in Unit 1.

If you don't know how to start the program and begin a lesson, please look at the *DynEd User's Guide*.

When you start the first lesson, follow this procedure to familiarize yourself with the program and develop effective language study skills.

1. For each sentence, click on the Pause button  so that it is flashing red.
2. With the Pause button  flashing, click on the Repeat button  This will repeat the sentence. Listen carefully. The Pause button will continue to flash.
3. Click on the translation button  to see a translation of the sentence. The Pause button  will continue to flash.
4. Click on the ABC button . This will give you the text of the sentence.
5. Click on one of the highlighted words to see the Glossary.



6. Next, click on the flashing Pause button  so that it stops flashing. This will take you to the next sentence.

Whenever you click on the Repeat button, the Translation button or the ABC button, the Pause button will begin to flash. Please remember that when the Pause button is flashing red, the program is stopped. To continue, you must click on the flashing red button, or, if a question is being asked, you may click on an answer.

7. Repeat the above series of steps for each new sentence. To go back, click on the Rewind button , click on the Regresar (return) button in the lower right-hand corner of the Control Bar, or exit the lesson (see DynEd Controls in the User's Guide).
8. After every few sentences, you will hear a comprehension question. The program will give you a certain amount of time to respond. You can see the time remaining on the right side of the Control Bar. Please answer the question by clicking on a picture or a word which best answers the question. To repeat the question, click on the repeat button. Please note that each time you go through the program some of the questions will change.
If you need more time, click on Pause, or click on the Repeat button to hear the question again.
9. After you have listened to the first few sentences a few times, go back and repeat each sentence to yourself. To go back, keep clicking on the Rewind button  until you are at the first sentence.
10. To record your voice, click on the Microphone button , which will turn red. Then click on the Headphones  to hear your recording. To compare your recording with a native Spanish speaker, click on the Repeat button , and then the Headphones.

Repeating each sentence is an excellent way to improve both your listening and your speaking. If a sentence is too long, try repeating just the first or last part of it. If this is still too difficult, go through the sentences again without repeating them until you feel more confident. Don't try to practice speaking until you are comfortable with the sounds and can hold them in your memory.

Lesson Types

Within each Unit there are several different lesson types to study. Please go through the lessons in sequence. Practice each lesson until you are able to understand all the sentences and respond correctly to most of the questions.

Presentation Lessons

The first lessons of Units 1 and 2 of each disc are Presentation lessons.



Each Presentation introduces key vocabulary, language concepts and language structures within the context of brief dialogues and narratives. The sentences in these lessons have been carefully selected and sequenced to assist you in learning Spanish. It is important therefore to study the sentences in the presentation lessons before going on to other lessons. See *How to Do a Lesson*, above.

Dictado (Dictation)

Dictation exercises focus on important sentences from the presentations. First you will hear four key sentences. Then the screen will change and you will see a group of 15 words displayed at the top of the screen. In the Control Bar, you will see the numbers 1-4 displayed.



1. Click on the number 1 in the Control Bar. You will hear the first sentence and it will be displayed on the screen with a number of blank spaces where words are missing.

2. Click on the Repeat button to hear the sentence again. This will also pause the program so that you have plenty of time.
3. Look at the words at the top of the screen. Your task is to find the words that go in each blank. Click on the word that goes in the first blank. The word will now be outlined in red. Next, click on the space in the sentence where you want the word to go. When you do this, the word will appear in the blank space. (You can also click first on the blank and then on a word at the top of the screen to place a word in the blank space.) If you make a mistake, you may change your choice by putting a different word in the same place.
4. Continue placing words in the blanks until you have finished the first sentence.
5. Click on the number 2 in the Control Bar and follow the same procedure as for sentence 1. Repeat the procedure for sentences 3 and 4.
6. When you have completed all four sentences, click on PUNTOS (score) in the Control Bar. Watch the screen to see how your answers compare to each of the dictation sentences. Then watch for your score. If your score is less than 65%, you will be asked to redo the lesson. Click on Sí (yes) to start the dictation again.
7. If your score is greater than 65%, you will hear each sentence again and your errors will be indicated by colored text. You now have a chance to correct your errors. For example, to correct an error in sentence 1, click on the number 1 in the Control Bar and listen to the sentence. Then find the correct answer, click on it, and then click on the word in the sentence which you want to replace. If your choice is correct, the word will turn white.
8. When you have finished correcting your errors in the dictation, click on FIN (end) in the Control Bar. You will then have a chance to repeat the same dictation or move on to a different dictation. You may also decide to exit the lesson and return to the main menu.

Rellenar los Espacios (Fill-ins)

This lesson will help you focus on important grammar and vocabulary items from the previous lessons.

1. On the screen, you will see a grid numbered 1 through 28. Click on one of the numbers. A sentence containing a blank space will appear with four words in the Control Bar.



2. Read the sentence and decide which of the words should go in the blank. Use the pictures to help you understand which choice makes sense.
3. When you answer correctly the sentence will appear again with the answer highlighted. Click on this highlighted word to bring up a glossary screen that will tell you more about this answer.
4. Once you have finished going through all the sentences, click on the Question Box to test yourself by doing the same problems in random order.
5. Continue with this exercise until your average level is 2.5 or higher and until you are confident of your answers. Review these lessons often to strengthen your grammatical skills.

Construcción de Preguntas (Question Formation)

This follow-up lesson provides intensive practice in question formation. Each time you study, you will practice putting together a different set of 15 to 20 questions.



1. Look at the boxes at the top of the screen. The boxes contain parts of a complete question in mixed-up order. Try to think of a question that uses all of the words and phrases in the boxes.
2. To make a question, first click on the capitalized word. Then click on the remaining words in their correct order. For example, the sequence:

(1) Cómo (2) se (3) llama (4) usted

makes the question "¿Cómo se llama usted?" If you need time to think, please use the Pause button.

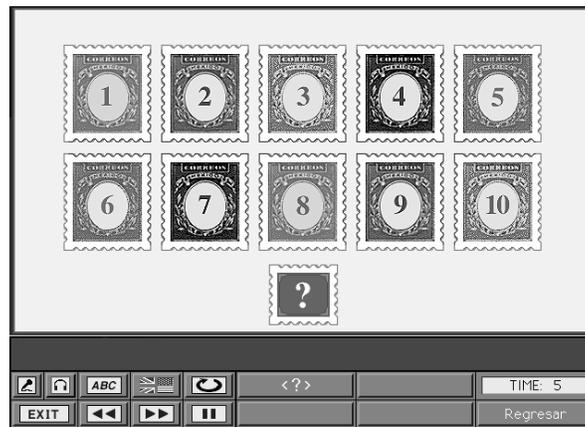
3. If you select the words in the correct order, the question you created will appear in the box on the screen and you will hear the question. You will have two chances to make the correct question.
4. After you hear the question, click on the Pause button and think of an answer to the question. Release the Pause and listen to the answer.

5. Although there are many possible variations in word order for forming questions in Spanish, this lesson focuses on the standard word order, as shown below:

<i>(Question word)</i>	<i>Verb</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Other</i>
¿Dónde	está	Buenos Aires?	
¿En qué país	hablan		español?
	¿Habla	Pedro	inglés?
	¿Enseña	él	en su casa?

Números (Numbers)

The Numbers unit provides intensive listening and recognition practice with numbers, both on their own and in the context of times and dates.



In each lesson, click on a number, time or date (depending on the lesson) and listen to the expression in Spanish. Practice saying each word or phrase. When you think you know all the expressions, click on the Question Box to test your comprehension. In the question mode you will hear a number, time or date. Several choices will be displayed on the screen. Click on the correct choice.

Vocabulario (Vocabulary)



This lesson introduces new vocabulary relating to five categories of daily life. Click on one of the five vocabulary icons to choose a category. Then click on each of the four pictures at the bottom of the

screen and listen to sentences using vocabulary in that category. Test your comprehension by clicking on the Question Box. As you answer questions correctly, new questions or presentation sentences will be introduced. You can switch categories by clicking on a different vocabulary icon.

Juego de Vocabulario (Vocabulary game)

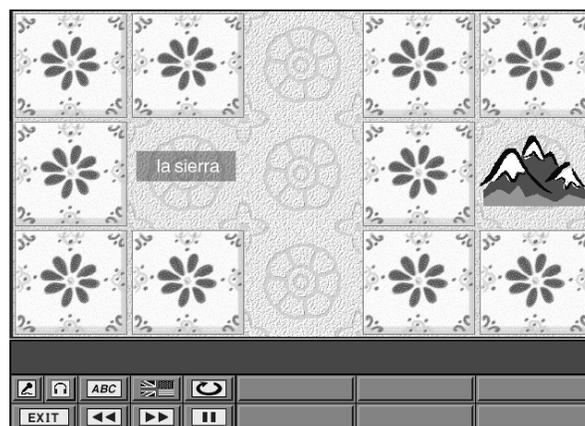
In this lesson, you will hear a series of questions based on the vocabulary taught in the previous lesson. For each question, click on the correct answer. Your score is recorded in the lower right-hand corner. Try to improve your score until you have learned all the vocabulary items.

Cantemos (Let's Sing)



The lively song in this lesson reinforces Spanish language structures from earlier lessons and teaches new vocabulary and expressions. Choose *Texto en Español* to see the words displayed in Spanish below the screen. Practice singing along. Choose *Texto en Inglés* to see the English translation while hearing the song in Spanish.

Juego de la Canción (Song Game)



This matching game in the Song unit gives follow-up practice with vocabulary introduced in the song. Click on a tile on the left side of the screen. Listen to the word. Then click on a tile on the right side. Match the words on the left with the pictures on the right.

General Study Tips

1. First, learn how to use the program. Familiarize yourself with the Control Bar. Identify each of the buttons.
2. Use each button and practice using the mouse. If you hear an instruction that you do not understand, use the Translation button to hear it in your language. (Note: Translation is available in bilingual versions only.) Go slowly, and don't get frustrated. Use the Pause button, the Repeat button, the ABC button, and the Translation button until you are confident. It generally takes time to familiarize your ear with new language structures.
3. Use the Pause button whenever you need time to answer a question or to stop and think. If you don't do this, your time may run out and the program will automatically exit you from the lesson. Once you start using the Pause button routinely, the learning experience will be enjoyable.
4. We recommend that you study for 20-30 minutes at a time, followed by a break. Don't try to go through an entire lesson. Breaks are important to rest your eyes and to keep your mind fresh. Each unit will require several hours of intensive study, practice, and review. Please pace yourself. Each disc of *Español Dinámico* will require between 15 and 20 hours of intensive work. The amount of time depends on your initial level and on the other language-learning activities you are pursuing.
5. The most effective way to go through each disc is to follow the sequence of lessons in each Unit. First master the Presentation section in each unit and then go through the other lessons in order. Once you are completely familiar with the sentences introduced in the Presentation and can answer comprehension questions comfortably, you will find that the additional lessons will review and reinforce of what you have learned.
6. If you don't understand something, use the Translation button. Use the translations for instructions until you begin to understand the Spanish instructions without help.

Credits and Acknowledgements

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