

Class 6 July 19 – The verbs tener, venir and ir

The extremely common verb **tener** means “to have.” Ex.: Tengo una familia grande (I have a big family). It conjugates as:

Yo **tengo**

Tú **tienes**

Usted-ella-él **tiene**

Nosotras-os **tenemos**

Ellas-ellos-ustedes **tienen**

The verb *tener* is used in many common expressions where we would use “to be” in English

Tener ____ años – to be ____ years old

Tener miedo (de) – to be afraid of

Tener calor – to be hot

Tener prisa – to be in a hurry

Tener frío – to be cold

Tener razón – to be right

Tener ganas (de) – to be in the mood for something

Tener sed – to be thirsty

Tener cuidado – to be careful

Tener sueño – to be sleepy

Tener hambre – to be hungry

Tener suerte – to be lucky

We use the phrase “tener que” to express the idea “to have to” in English. Some examples:

Tengo que estudiar los verbos (I have to study the verbs). **Tenemos que** preparar la cena (We have to prepare the supper). Los estudiantes **tienen que** tomar un examen (The students have to take an exam).

The verb *venir* (to come) is conjugated exactly the same as *tener*. Ex.: Yo no **vengo** a clase el sábado (I do not come to class on Saturday). Mis padres **vienen** de Oklahoma (My parents come from Oklahoma).

Another common verb in Spanish is **ir** (to go). It conjugates as:

Yo **voy**

Tú **vas**

Ella-usted-él **va**

Nosotros-as **vamos**

Ellos-ellas-ustedes **van**

Ex.: Tú **vas** a la piscina los martes (You go to the pool on Tuesdays). ¿Adónde **va** Fernanda (Where is Fernanda going)? Note that when we use this verb, we're often going *somewhere*, so it is matched with the preposition "a" (to). When we go to a singular, masculine thing, we form one of the few contractions in the Spanish language: "al."

Ex. Vamos **al** cine este fin de semana. (We go to the cinema this weekend). Los estudiantes van **al** parque para correr (The students go to the park to run).

The verb **ir** provides us with a convenient and easy way to talk about future activities. All we have to do is conjugate the verb *ir*, add the preposition "a" and add the infinitive form of the verb.

Ex.: Voy a estudiar los verbos esta noche (I am going to study the verbs tonight). Tú vas a escribir un ensayo este fin de semana (You are going to write an essay this weekend). Vamos a cenar a George's O mañana (We are going to have supper at George's O tomorrow).