

## Conversational Spanish Lesson 1 Preparation

In our first practice, we will learn basic greetings, ask each other's names and where we are from, ask each other what we do, and learn the names of a few items to see how many words in Spanish are gendered. Please review these words and phrases prior to coming to class so we can maximize practice time and minimize teaching time in our session together.

Here is how we say, "good morning", etc. to each other:

Buenos días (Good morning)

Buenas tardes (Good afternoon)

Buenas noches (Good evening-night)

Here is how we ask others how they are<sup>1</sup>:

¿Cómo estás? (How are you? -informal to a friend or family member))

¿Cómo está? (to a formal 2<sup>nd</sup> person or asked about a 3<sup>rd</sup> person)

¿Cómo estamos? (How are we?)

¿Cómo están? (How are they? or How are you (plural)?)

I would answer for myself by saying, "Estoy bien." (I am well)

To ask a someone their name, we would ask, "¿Cómo te llamas?" (familiar) or "¿Cómo se llama?" (formal) (How do you call yourself? Or How does she-he call her-himself?)<sup>2</sup>

I would respond by saying "Me llamo \_\_\_\_\_. " (I call myself \_\_\_\_\_)

To ask someone where they are from, we ask, "¿De dónde eres?" (familiar) or "¿De dónde es?" (Of where are<sup>3</sup> you?). We could similarly ask, "¿De dónde son?" to ask "Of where are they?"

I answer by saying "Soy de Atlanta." (I am of Atlanta)

We also use the verb "ser" to describe ourselves in terms of what work we do. For example,

Yo soy profesor (I am a professor)

Tú eres estudiante (You are a student)

---

<sup>1</sup> The "are" or "am" in this case uses the verb "estar"

<sup>2</sup> This will be a little artificial in Teams because we can see each other's names. To make the exercise work, I will say, "Señor Smith, ¿cómo te llamas?"

<sup>3</sup> The "are" or "am" in this case uses the verb "ser"

Nosotras or Nosotros somos empleadas or empleados de Dayspring (We (feminine/masculine) are employees of Dayspring.

Ella es estudiante (She is a student)

Ellos son estudiantes (They (masculine or male-female mixed group) are students)

We also use the verb “ser” to say what things are. In class we will learn the names of things like “botella” for “bottle.” I’ll ask “¿Es una botella?” (Is it a bottle?) The “una” is the feminine singular indefinite article to say “a.” We will practice these articles in class as well.

Please study this handout prior to coming to class, but do not refer to it in class. In fact, you do not need to bring it to class. We want to work with the language orally and aurally to the maximum extent possible in the practice. Do bring a notebook, though, and take a few notes (not a complete transcript of everything that is said). You will do best if you listen intently to what I and your classmates say, take a few notes and focus on the speaking and listening aspects of the session.