

Track 1: Introduction

Welcome to Speak Spanish Now. This series is called *Spanish for Fun and Forever*. My name is Murney Blades.

In this series you will have the opportunity to hear:

- A medical component:
 - With yes/no answers
 - Short answers

- Mix and Match Spanish system
- Speech patterns unique to Spanish

- Vocabulary for use:
 - At the beach
 - In the restaurant
 - At the dance
 - In the park
 - Daily habits, etc.

The **English speaker repeats twice** for clarification. The student cannot repeat what he cannot hear or distinguish.

For example, the student listener hears, “**Y a veces escucho.**”

Did he hear?

- Ya ves which means “Now, or already, you see?”
- Llaves which means “keys?”
- Y a veces which means “and, at times?”

He heard “**y a veces escucho**” which translates, “And, at times I listen, or I hear.”

Regarding translation, we strive for communication of the **message**.

- What English speakers call a good translation is “general”.
- And what English speakers call a poor translation is precise.

Example: The Spanish speaker says,

- “**Pienso ir al cine.**” I think to go to the movies. (**Precise**)
This exact translation may confuse the listener.
- “**Pienso ir al cine.**” I plan to go to the movies. (**General**)
The message is clear. The listener understands.

We are striving for communication using the **general meaning of word groups.**

- **Tengo hambre** = “I have hunger” or “I am hungry.”
- **Tengo sed** = “I have thirst” or “I am thirsty.”
- **Tengo miedo** = “I have fear” or “I am afraid.”
- **Tengo cinco años** = “I have 5 years” or “I am five years old.”

Among the Mix-and-Match **Sentence Starters** you hear throughout are:

- **Voy a** = I am going to
- **Va a** = “She or he is going to”
or “Usted (you formal) are going to”
- **Vamos a** = We are going to
- **Tengo que** = I have to
- **Tiene que** = You have to
- **Puede** = You can or are able
- **Favor de** = “do me the favor of” or “Please”

You will hear special patterns in the first person (I) and the third person (he, she, Usted = formal you). It is far easier to learn the special patterns and substitute vocabulary as needed.

Example:

Me duele la cabeza = **Cabeza** is head

Me duele la cabeza. = The head hurts me. Or I have a headache.

Substitute **estómago** = **Estómago** = stomach.

Me duele el estómago. = The stomach hurts me,
or I have a stomach ache.

Le duele would indicate “It hurts him, her, Usted.”

Spanish for Fun and Forever - CD by Murnez Blades

Once we've learned the "Me duele"—"Le duele" pattern, we can incorporate similar patterns:

- **Me gusta** which means "I like" or **Me gusta la comida mexicana**. "I like Mexican food."
- **Me falta** which means "I'm missing" or **Me falta la servilleta**.
- I'm missing the napkin.

This CD is an introduction to *Speaking Spanish Now*. As in English, there are many nuances. The goal of this series is immediate, simple communication.

Remember: Spanish is specific, precise. English is more general. Our goal is the communication, the message.

Introduction to Tracks on CD

As you listen to these recordings, you will want to focus on certain vocabulary and sentence structures to meet your immediate needs.

Track 2 models how to introduce yourself and ask for a person's name.

Track 3 gives an introduction to numbers and their uses.

Track 4 teaches the numbers.

If you are a health professional, a firefighter or a paramedic, you may wish to first focus on **Tracks 5, 6, and 7** entitled: **First Responder (Questions), Emergency Room (the Hospital), and (The) Paramedics.**

You will hear:

- Types of injuries
- How to ask if it hurts
- Level of pain
- Descriptions of the pain
- Current medications—prescribed or natural

You will note that the 1st person (I) and the 3rd person (she, he, Usted) are always used.

Some tracks are **fun** and yet include vocabulary necessary if an accident were to occur at the beach or in a restaurant.

- **Track 8** includes beach vocabulary.
- **Track 9** gives a restaurant scene.

One of my personal favorites is **The Dance** on **Track 10**, which includes:

- Body parts
- Expressions such as up, down, etc.

In **Relaxation, Track 11**, you will hear:

- Additional body parts
- A relaxation exercise for calming yourself or others
- And a visualization

Daily Routine (Habits), Track 12 uses special expressions unique to Spanish. Here, expressions such as fear and hunger are used.

Fire, Track 13, focuses on evacuation vocabulary in the event of a sudden emergency.

Emotions on **Track 14** deals with personal injury and the emotions involved.

- Here, you hear the words for bruises and fear used in context.

In closing, **there is no correct way to listen to these recordings.**

Listen to what you need now.

- The **key** is to **have fun!**
- **Dance with the dance!**

- **Relax with the relaxation!**

Remember, have fun.