

Sam, this is your countdown.

A Spanish plan built for Ana's family, timed to Christmas on December 24, 2026.

Your plan	30 days, starting Nov 24
Each day	10–15 minutes: read, listen, say it out loud three times
Their family	Mexico: Spanish and customs adapted to Mexican families
Inside	24 themed lessons, 108 phrases with audio, 6 practice conversations, your toast, a culture guide, a group-chat pack, and a page for Ana



Scan to listen on your phone

Your listening page: <https://familiarready.com/p/sam-sample/>. Every phrase in this plan has a [Listen](#) link that plays it there. It's private: only people with this link can open it.

Your family cheat card

Who's who, and what to call them. Your listening page can save this as your phone's lock screen.

Who	Call them	Say hello
Rosa suegra · cooking	Doña Rosa	Mucho gusto, Doña Rosa. ¿Cómo está?
Luis suegro · soccer	Don Luis	Mucho gusto, Don Luis. ¿Cómo está?
Carmen abuela · telenovelas	Abuelita	Mucho gusto, Abuelita. ¿Cómo está?

How to use this

Do one day at a time. Read the Spanish out loud, tap Listen, then say it again without looking. Each day ends with a short exchange, a quick review of earlier phrases, and one small mission. Don't aim for perfect: aim for saying it warmly and slowly. If you miss a day, do two the next day, or pick up where you left off.

Your countdown at a glance

30 days: 24 lessons and 6 review and rehearsal days. Tick each day when you've said everything out loud.

Day	Date	Today you learn	Done
1	Tue Nov 24	Hello, at any hour	☐
2	Wed Nov 25	Meeting each person	☐
3	Thu Nov 26	How are you?	☐
4	Fri Nov 27	Your secret weapon	☐
5	Sat Nov 28	Walking in the door	☐
6	Sun Nov 29	Review: at the door	☐
7	Mon Nov 30	Before the meal	☐
8	Tue Dec 01	Praising the cook	☐
9	Wed Dec 02	Table manners	☐
10	Thu Dec 03	Saying no to seconds (nicely)	☐
11	Fri Dec 04	Helping out	☐
12	Sat Dec 05	Review: at the table	☐
13	Sun Dec 06	Where you're from, what you do	☐
14	Mon Dec 07	How you two met	☐
15	Tue Dec 08	Your family, their country	☐
16	Wed Dec 09	The questions everyone asks	☐
17	Thu Dec 10	Getting to know them	☐
18	Fri Dec 11	Review: the questions they'll ask	☐
19	Sat Dec 12	Warm words	☐
20	Sun Dec 13	When you get lost (part 1)	☐
21	Mon Dec 14	When you get lost (part 2)	☐
22	Tue Dec 15	Buying a second to think	☐
23	Wed Dec 16	Review: when you get lost	☐
24	Thu Dec 17	Saying goodbye	☐
25	Fri Dec 18	Leaving them smiling	☐
26	Sat Dec 19	Your toast, part 1: the opening	☐
27	Sun Dec 20	Your toast, part 2: the heart	☐
28	Mon Dec 21	Your toast, part 3: raise your glass	☐
29	Tue Dec 22	Dress rehearsal	☐
30	Wed Dec 23	The night before	☐

Your daily lessons

Every day has the same rhythm: learn the new phrases, put them together in a real exchange, review a few from earlier days, then do one small mission. About 10–15 minutes.

Day 1

TUESDAY, NOV 24 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Hello, at any hour

Greet anyone, morning to night, and say your first line to Doña Rosa.

NEW PHRASES · 5

Buenos días.

Good morning.
Until about noon.

[Listen ›](#)

Buenas tardes.

Good afternoon.
From noon until dark.

[Listen ›](#)

Buenas noches.

Good evening. / Good night.
Both a greeting and a goodbye after dark.

[Listen ›](#)

Mucho gusto.

Nice to meet you.
The safest first phrase with anyone.

[Listen ›](#)

Mucho gusto, Doña Rosa.

Nice to meet you, Doña Rosa.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¡Bienvenido! Pásale, pásale.

Welcome! Come in, come in.

Mucho gusto, Doña Rosa.

Nice to meet you, Doña Rosa.

Them

El gusto es mío. ¿Cómo estuvo el viaje?

The pleasure is mine. How was the trip?

Muy bien, gracias. Estoy feliz de estar aquí.

Very good, thank you. I'm happy to be here.

[Listen >](#)

Today's mission. Tonight, greet Ana in Spanish for the right time of day. Then say "Mucho gusto, Doña Rosa" five times, slowly, as if Ana were Doña Rosa.

Day 2

WEDNESDAY, NOV 25 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Meeting each person

Introduce yourself, say who you are to Ana, and thank them for having you.

NEW PHRASES · 5

Encantado de conocerla.

Delighted to meet you. (to a woman)

Use conocerlo for a man, conocerlos for a group.

[Listen >](#)
Encantado de conocerlo.

Delighted to meet you. (to a man)

[Listen >](#)
Encantado de conocerlos a todos.

Delighted to meet you all.

[Listen >](#)
Soy Sam, el novio de Ana.

I'm Sam, Ana's boyfriend.

[Listen >](#)
Gracias por recibirme en su casa.

Thank you for welcoming me into your home.

[Listen >](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Encantado de conocerla.

Delighted to meet you. (to a woman)

Soy Sam, el novio de Ana.

I'm Sam, Ana's boyfriend.

Them

El gusto es mío. ¿Cómo estuvo el viaje?

The pleasure is mine. How was the trip?

Muy bien, gracias. Estoy feliz de estar aquí.

Very good, thank you. I'm happy to be here.

Gracias por recibirme en su casa.

Thank you for welcoming me into your home.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Good morning.

Buenos días.

2. Good afternoon.

Buenas tardes.

3. Good evening. / Good night.

Buenas noches.

Today's mission. Stand up and do the whole exchange out loud once, with a handshake, from the top. Do it twice without looking.

Day 3

THURSDAY, NOV 26 · ABOUT 12 MIN

How are you?

Ask how they are, answer when they ask you, and give them something warm back.

NEW PHRASES · 4

¿Cómo está, Doña Rosa?

How are you, Doña Rosa?

[Listen ›](#)

¿Cómo ha estado?

How have you been?

For the second visit onward.

[Listen ›](#)

Muy bien, gracias. ¿Y usted?

Very well, thank you. And you?

[Listen ›](#)

Ana me ha hablado mucho de ustedes.

Ana has told me so much about you all.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

¿Cómo está, Doña Rosa?

How are you, Doña Rosa?

Them

Muy bien, gracias. ¿Y tú, cómo estás?

Very well, thank you. And you, how are you?

Muy bien, gracias.

Very well, thank you.

Ana me ha hablado mucho de ustedes.

Ana has told me so much about you all.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Delighted to meet you. (to a woman) | Encantado de conocerla. |
| 2. Nice to meet you. | Mucho gusto. |
| 3. Delighted to meet you. (to a man) | Encantado de conocerlo. |

Today's mission. Ask Ana "¿Cómo está?" today and answer when they ask you back. Notice they might use tú with you while you use usted with them. That's normal.

Day 4

FRIDAY, NOV 27 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Your secret weapon

Learn the sentences that tell the family you're learning Spanish for them. Nothing you say will land better.

NEW PHRASES · 5

¿Hablas español?

Do you speak Spanish?

[Listen ›](#)

Un poquito. Estoy aprendiendo.

A little. I'm learning.

[Listen ›](#)

Estoy aprendiendo español para poder hablar con ustedes.

I'm learning Spanish so I can talk with you all.

One of the highest-impact sentences in the whole plan.

[Listen ›](#)

Perdón por mi español. Apenas estoy empezando.

Sorry about my Spanish. I'm just getting started.

[Listen ›](#)

Tengo muchas ganas de conocer a toda la familia.

I'm really looking forward to meeting the whole family.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Hablas español?

Do you speak Spanish?

Un poquito. Estoy aprendiendo.

A little. I'm learning.

Estoy aprendiendo español para poder hablar con ustedes.

I'm learning Spanish so I can talk with you all.

Them

¡Pero lo hablas muy bien!

But you speak it very well!

Gracias, es muy amable. Estoy practicando para ustedes.

Thank you, that's very kind. I'm practicing for you all.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. How are you, Doña Rosa?

¿Cómo está, Doña Rosa?

2. Nice to meet you, Doña Rosa.

Mucho gusto, Doña Rosa.

3. Delighted to meet you all.

Encantado de conocerlos a todos.

Today's mission. Record yourself on your phone saying "Estoy aprendiendo español para poder hablar con ustedes." Play it back next to the Listen clip. Do it again until they sound alike.

Day 5

SATURDAY, NOV 28 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Walking in the door

The first minute inside their home: say hello, compliment the house, and hand over the gift if you bring one.

NEW PHRASES · 5

Qué gusto verla.

So nice to see you. (to a woman)
verlo for a man, verlos for a group.

[Listen >](#)

¡Feliz Navidad!

Merry Christmas!

[Listen >](#)

¡Felices fiestas!

Happy holidays!

[Listen >](#)

Su casa es muy bonita.

Your home is lovely.

[Listen ›](#)

Es un gusto estar aquí con ustedes.

It's a pleasure to be here with you all.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¡Bienvenido! Pásale, pásale.

Welcome! Come in, come in.

Qué gusto verla.

So nice to see you. (to a woman)

¡Feliz Navidad!

Merry Christmas!

Su casa es muy bonita.

Your home is lovely.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Do you speak Spanish?

¿Hablas español?

2. I'm Sam, Ana's boyfriend.

Soy Sam, el novio de Ana.

3. How have you been?

¿Cómo ha estado?

Today's mission. Walk through your own front door and run the exchange start to finish, out loud. Yes, really. Your mouth remembers what your body did.

Day 6

SUNDAY, NOV 29 · ABOUT 10 MIN

Review: at the door

No new phrases today. Lock in everything from your first five days.

REHEARSE

Practice conversation: At the door. Play it on your listening page, then play it again and say your lines before you hear them.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. So nice to see you. (to a woman)	Qué gusto verla.
2. A little. I'm learning.	Un poquito. Estoy aprendiendo.
3. Very well, thank you. And you?	Muy bien, gracias. ¿Y usted?
4. Thank you for welcoming me into your home.	Gracias por recibirme en su casa.
5. Good morning.	Buenos días.
6. Merry Christmas!	¡Feliz Navidad!
7. I'm learning Spanish so I can talk with you all.	Estoy aprendiendo español para poder hablar con ustedes.
8. Ana has told me so much about you all.	Ana me ha hablado mucho de ustedes.

Today's mission. Play "At the door" on your listening page. Then play it again and say your lines before you hear them.

Day 7

MONDAY, NOV 30 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Before the meal

Handle the first thing many families ask, and react to the smell of the food.

NEW PHRASES · 6

¿Ya comiste?

Have you eaten?

Often the very first thing a grandmother says.

[Listen ›](#)

Todavía no, pero ya tengo hambre.

Not yet, but I'm hungry.

[Listen ›](#)

¡Qué rico huele!

It smells so good!

[Listen ›](#)

Todo está delicioso.

Everything is delicious.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Qué es esto? Se ve muy rico.

What is this? It looks delicious.

A safe way to ask about an unfamiliar dish.

[Listen ›](#)

Nunca había probado esto. Me encanta.

I've never tried this before. I love it.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Ya comiste?

Have you eaten?

Todavía no, pero ya tengo hambre.

Not yet, but I'm hungry.

Them

Sírvete, no te quedes con hambre.

Help yourself, don't go hungry.

Gracias. ¡Qué rico huele!

Thank you. It smells so good!

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Happy holidays! | ¡Felices fiestas! |
| 2. How are you, Doña Rosa? | ¿Cómo está, Doña Rosa? |
| 3. Sorry about my Spanish. I'm just getting started. | Perdón por mi español. Apenas estoy empezando. |

Today's mission. Next time you eat, say "¡Qué rico huele!" before the first bite, and "Todo está delicioso" after it.

Day 8

TUESDAY, DEC 01 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Praising the cook

Compliment Doña Rosa's cooking by name. Families remember this for years.

NEW PHRASES · 5

¿Te gusta la comida?

Do you like the food?

[Listen >](#)

¡Me encanta! Todo está muy rico.

I love it! Everything is delicious.

[Listen >](#)

Doña Rosa, ¡su pozole está delicioso!

Doña Rosa, your pozole is delicious!

[Listen >](#)

¿Usted lo preparó?

Did you make it?

Ask this right after the compliment. Cooks love talking about their dish.

[Listen >](#)

¿Me puede enseñar a prepararlo?

Could you teach me how to make it?

Say yes if they offer. A cooking lesson is a huge compliment.

[Listen >](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Te gustó la comida?

Did you like the food?

Doña Rosa, ¡su pozole está delicioso!

Doña Rosa, your pozole is delicious!

¿Usted lo preparó?

Did you make it?

¿Me puede enseñar a prepararlo?

Could you teach me how to make it?

Them

¡Claro que sí! Cuando quieras.

Of course! Whenever you like.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Have you eaten?

¿Ya comiste?

2. I'm really looking forward to meeting the whole family.

Tengo muchas ganas de conocer a toda la familia.

3. Your home is lovely.

Su casa es muy bonita.

Today's mission. Ask Ana what Doña Rosa's best dish is. If it isn't the one in this plan, tell us and we'll update your compliment.

Day 9

WEDNESDAY, DEC 02 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Table manners

Ask for things politely, take a little more, and leave the table the way they do.

NEW PHRASES · 5

¿Me puede pasar la sal, por favor?

Could you pass me the salt, please?

[Listen ›](#)

¿Me puede servir un poquito más, por favor?

Could you serve me a little more, please?

[Listen ›](#)

Sí, gracias. Un poquito.

Yes, thank you. Just a little.

[Listen ›](#)

¡Provecho!

Enjoy your meal!

Said when others are eating, or when leaving the table. Very common in Mexico.

[Listen ›](#)

Con permiso.

Excuse me.

Said when leaving the table or passing in front of someone.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

Sírvete, no te quedes con hambre.

Help yourself, don't go hungry.

Sí, gracias. Un poquito.

Yes, thank you. Just a little.

¿Me puede pasar la sal, por favor?

Could you pass me the salt, please?

¡Provecho!

Enjoy your meal!

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Do you like the food? | ¿Te gusta la comida? |
| 2. It's a pleasure to be here with you all. | Es un gusto estar aquí con ustedes. |
| 3. Good afternoon. | Buenas tardes. |

Today's mission. At dinner tonight, ask for something with "¿Me puede pasar..., por favor?" and say "Con permiso" when you get up.

Day 10

THURSDAY, DEC 03 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Saying no to seconds (nicely)

You will be offered more food. Compliment first, then decline, and raise your glass.

NEW PHRASES · 4

¿Quieres más?

Do you want more?

[Listen ›](#)

Sí, gracias. Está todo buenísimo.

Yes, thank you. Everything is wonderful.

[Listen ›](#)

Estaba delicioso, pero ya estoy lleno.

It was delicious, but I'm full.

Always compliment before declining seconds.

[Listen ›](#)

¡Salud!

Cheers!

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Te gustó la comida?

Did you like the food?

Sí, gracias. Está todo buenísimo.

Yes, thank you. Everything is wonderful.

Them

¿Quieres más?

Do you want more?

Estaba delicioso, pero ya estoy lleno. Muchas gracias.

It was delicious, but I'm full. Thank you so much.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Could you pass me the salt, please? | ¿Me puede pasar la sal, por favor? |
| 2. Not yet, but I'm hungry. | Todavía no, pero ya tengo hambre. |
| 3. Delighted to meet you. (to a woman) | Encantado de conocerla. |

Today's mission. Have Ana play Doña Rosa offering you a third plate. Decline warmly three times. They should insist each time; families often do.

Day 11

FRIDAY, DEC 04 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Helping out

Offer to help clear up. It's one of the fastest ways to win a parent over.

NEW PHRASES · 3

¿Le ayudo con algo?

Can I help you with anything?

Offering to help is one of the fastest ways to win a parent over.

[Listen >](#)

Déjeme ayudarle a recoger la mesa.

Let me help you clear the table.

[Listen >](#)

¿Quiere que lave los platos?

Would you like me to wash the dishes?

[Listen >](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Doña Rosa, ¿le ayudo con algo?

Doña Rosa, can I help you with anything?

Them

No, mi amor, tú eres el invitado.

No, dear, you're the guest.

Déjeme ayudarle, por favor. Es un gusto.

Please let me help. It's a pleasure.

Them

Ay, qué lindo. Bueno, pásame esos platos.

Oh, how sweet. All right, pass me those plates.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Do you want more?

¿Quieres más?

2. I love it! Everything is delicious.

¡Me encanta! Todo está muy rico.

3. How have you been?

¿Cómo ha estado?

Today's mission. Clear the table at home tonight while saying every line from today. Expect them to say no the first time; offer again.

Day 12

SATURDAY, DEC 05 · ABOUT 10 MIN

Review: at the table

No new phrases today. The table is where most of the visit happens; make these automatic.

REHEARSE

Practice conversation: At the table. Play it on your listening page, then play it again and say your lines before you hear them.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Can I help you with anything?

¿Le ayudo con algo?

2. Yes, thank you. Everything is wonderful.

Sí, gracias. Está todo buenísimo.

3. Could you serve me a little more, please?

¿Me puede servir un poquito más, por favor?

4. Doña Rosa, your pozole is delicious!

Doña Rosa, ¡su pozole está delicioso!

5. It smells so good!

¿Qué rico huele!

6. Let me help you clear the table.

Déjeme ayudarle a recoger la mesa.

7. It was delicious, but I'm full.

Estaba delicioso, pero ya estoy lleno.

8. Yes, thank you. Just a little.

Sí, gracias. Un poquito.

Today's mission. Play "At the table" and "Helping out". Pause before each of your lines and say it first.

Day 13

SUNDAY, DEC 06 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Where you're from, what you do

Answer the first two questions every family asks.

NEW PHRASES · 4

¿De dónde eres?

Where are you from?

[Listen ›](#)

Soy de Chicago.

I'm from Chicago.

[Listen ›](#)

¿A qué te dedicas?

What do you do for a living?

[Listen ›](#)

Trabajo en una escuela.

I work in a school.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿De dónde eres?

Where are you from?

Soy de Chicago.

I'm from Chicago.

Them

¿A qué te dedicas?

What do you do for a living?

Trabajo en una escuela.

I work in a school.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Would you like me to wash the dishes? | ¿Quiere que lave los platos? |
| 2. Enjoy your meal! | ¡Provecho! |
| 3. Do you speak Spanish? | ¿Hablas español? |

Today's mission. Ask Ana to fire both questions at you at random times today. Answer within three seconds.

Day 14

MONDAY, DEC 07 · ABOUT 12 MIN

How you two met

Tell your story in one sentence, plus how long you've been together.

NEW PHRASES · 4

¿Cómo se conocieron?

How did you two meet?

[Listen ›](#)

Nos conocimos en el trabajo, hace dos años.

We met at work, two years ago.

Your story, in the version your partner's family will hear.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Cuánto tiempo llevan juntos?

How long have you been together?

[Listen ›](#)

Llevamos dos años juntos.

We've been together two years.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Y cómo se conocieron ustedes?

So how did you two meet?

Nos conocimos en el trabajo, hace dos años.

We met at work, two years ago.

Them

¿Qué bonito! ¿Y hace cuánto tiempo?

How lovely! And how long ago?

Llevamos dos años juntos.

We've been together two years.

Them

Se ve que se quieren mucho.

You can tell you care about each other a lot.

Sí, mucho. Ana es muy especial para mí.

Yes, very much. Ana is very special to me.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Where are you from?

¿De dónde eres?

2. Cheers!

¡Salud!

3. So nice to see you. (to a woman)

Qué gusto verla.

Today's mission. Tell Ana your how-we-met line, then ask them how their parents met: "¿Cómo se conocieron sus papás?" They'll love being asked.

Day 15

TUESDAY, DEC 08 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Your family, their country

Talk about your own family and how you like their country.

NEW PHRASES · 6

¿Cómo está tu familia?

How is your family?

[Listen ›](#)

Muy bien, gracias. Les mandan saludos.

Very well, thank you. They send their regards.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Es tu primera vez aquí?

Is this your first time here?

[Listen ›](#)

Sí, es mi primera vez. Me gusta mucho.

Yes, it's my first time. I like it a lot.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Te gusta México?

Do you like Mexico?

[Listen >](#)

Me gusta mucho, sobre todo la comida y la gente.

I like it a lot, especially the food and the people.

[Listen >](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Cómo está tu familia?

How is your family?

Muy bien, gracias. Les mandan saludos.

Very well, thank you. They send their regards.

Them

¿Te gusta México?

Do you like Mexico?

Me gusta mucho, sobre todo la comida y la gente.

I like it a lot, especially the food and the people.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. How did you two meet?

¿Cómo se conocieron?

2. Can I help you with anything?

¿Le ayudo con algo?

3. Everything is delicious.

Todo está delicioso.

Today's mission. Text your own family "Les mandan saludos" from Ana's family after the visit.
Today, just say it out loud five times.

Day 16

WEDNESDAY, DEC 09 · ABOUT 12 MIN

The questions everyone asks

The wedding question and the coming-back question. Have a smile and an answer ready.

NEW PHRASES · 4

¿Y cuándo es la boda?

So when's the wedding?

This one comes up a lot, usually as a joke. Smile, and use the next line.

[Listen ›](#)

Eso se lo pregunta a Ana.

You'd have to ask Ana about that.

A light, friendly dodge for the wedding question.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Cuándo vuelven?

When are you two coming back?

[Listen ›](#)

Ojalá que pronto.

Hopefully soon.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

¿Y cuándo es la boda?

So when's the wedding?

Eso se lo pregunta a Ana.

You'd have to ask Ana about that.

Them

¿Cuándo vuelven?

When are you two coming back?

Ojalá que pronto.

Hopefully soon.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. How is your family? | ¿Cómo está tu familia? |
| 2. I'm from Chicago. | Soy de Chicago. |
| 3. Did you make it? | ¿Usted lo preparó? |

Today's mission. Agree with Ana on how you'll both answer the wedding question. Then practice your line with a straight face. It's harder than it looks.

Day 17

THURSDAY, DEC 10 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Getting to know them

Ask the questions that get the family talking, then sit back and listen.

NEW PHRASES · 4

Ana me contó que a usted le gusta cocinar.

Ana told me you like cooking.

Use what you know about them. It shows you listened to your partner.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Hace cuánto vive aquí?

How long have you lived here?

[Listen ›](#)

¿Cómo era Ana de niña?

What was Ana like as a child?

Families love this question. Expect stories and photos.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Me puede contar una historia de Ana?

Could you tell me a story about Ana?

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Ana me contó que a usted le gusta cocinar.

Ana told me you like cooking.

¿Cómo era Ana de niña?

What was Ana like as a child?

Them

¡Uy, tengo muchas historias!

Oh, I have so many stories!

¿Me puede contar una historia de Ana?

Could you tell me a story about Ana?

[Listen >](#)
QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. So when's the wedding?

¿Y cuándo es la boda?

2. We met at work, two years ago.

Nos conocimos en el trabajo, hace dos años.

3. Excuse me.

Con permiso.

Today's mission. Pick the one question you'll ask each person on the cheat card. Write their name next to it.

Day 18

FRIDAY, DEC 11 · ABOUT 10 MIN

Review: the questions they'll ask

No new phrases today. Practice answering fast, the way the questions will actually come.

REHEARSE

Practice conversation: How did you two meet?. Play it on your listening page, then play it again and say your lines before you hear them.

[Listen >](#)
QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Ana told me you like cooking.

Ana me contó que a usted le gusta cocinar.

2. You'd have to ask Ana about that.

Eso se lo pregunta a Ana.

3. Very well, thank you. They send their regards.

Muy bien, gracias. Les mandan saludos.

4. How long have you been together?

¿Cuánto tiempo llevan juntos?

5. What do you do for a living?

¿A qué te dedicas?

6. How long have you lived here?

¿Hace cuánto vive aquí?

7. When are you two coming back?

¿Cuándo vuelven?

8. Is this your first time here?

¿Es tu primera vez aquí?

Today's mission. Ask Ana to quiz you: they ask any question from Days 11–15 in Spanish, you answer in under three seconds.

Day 19

SATURDAY, DEC 12 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Warm words

Small sentences that make people feel good: about the family, the music, and coming back.

NEW PHRASES · 5

Qué bonita familia tienen.

What a lovely family you have.

[Listen ›](#)

Me siento muy bienvenido aquí.

I feel very welcome here.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Cómo se llama esta canción?

What's this song called?

[Listen ›](#)

No sé bailar, pero lo intento.

I can't dance, but I'll try.

[Listen ›](#)

Me gustaría volver pronto.

I'd like to come back soon.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Qué bonita familia tienen.

What a lovely family you have.

Me siento muy bienvenido aquí.

I feel very welcome here.

Them

Aquí tienes tu casa. Vuelve cuando quieras.

This is your home too. Come back whenever you like.

Me gustaría volver pronto.

I'd like to come back soon.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. What was Ana like as a child? | ¿Cómo era Ana de niña? |
| 2. Yes, it's my first time. I like it a lot. | Sí, es mi primera vez. Me gusta mucho. |
| 3. Do you want more? | ¿Quieres más? |

Today's mission. Put on a song in Spanish and ask Ana "¿Cómo se llama esta canción?" Bonus: ask which song their family always plays.

Day 20

SUNDAY, DEC 13 · ABOUT 12 MIN

When you get lost (part 1)

Someone talks fast and you catch nothing. That's normal. Here's how to stay in the conversation.

NEW PHRASES · 4

¿Me lo puede repetir, por favor?

Could you repeat that, please?

[Listen >](#)

Más despacio, por favor.

Slower, please.

[Listen >](#)

Todavía estoy aprendiendo español.

I'm still learning Spanish.

[Listen >](#)

Perdón, no entendí.

Sorry, I didn't understand.

[Listen >](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

Oye, y entonces cuando fuimos al pueblo el año pasado...

Hey, and so when we went to the town last year...

Perdón, ¿me lo puede repetir más despacio?

Sorry, could you repeat that more slowly?

Them

Claro. ¿Ya conoces el pueblo de la familia?

Of course. Do you know the family's town yet?

Todavía no. Todavía estoy aprendiendo español.

Not yet. I'm still learning Spanish.

[Listen >](#)
QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. What a lovely family you have.

Qué bonita familia tienen.

2. Hopefully soon.

Ojalá que pronto.

3. Let me help you clear the table.

Déjeme ayudarle a recoger la mesa.

Today's mission. Ask Ana to speak only Spanish to you for five minutes. Use every one of today's lines at least once.

Day 21

MONDAY, DEC 14 · ABOUT 12 MIN

When you get lost (part 2)

Ask what a word means, ask how to say something, and check your own Spanish.

NEW PHRASES · 5
¿Cómo se dice ... en español?

How do you say ... in Spanish?

[Listen >](#)
¿Qué significa ...?

What does ... mean?

[Listen >](#)
¿Me lo puede escribir?

Could you write it down for me?

[Listen >](#)
Entiendo un poquito.

I understand a little.

[Listen >](#)
¿Lo dije bien?

Did I say it right?

[Listen >](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

Oye, y entonces cuando fuimos al pueblo el año pasado...

Hey, and so when we went to the town last year...

Entiendo un poquito.

I understand a little.

Más despacio, por favor.

Slower, please.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Could you repeat that, please?

¿Me lo puede repetir, por favor?

2. Could you tell me a story about Ana?

¿Me puede contar una historia de Ana?

3. I work in a school.

Trabajo en una escuela.

Today's mission. Look up one word you know you'll need (a dish, a relative, a place) and ask Ana "¿Cómo se dice ... en español?"

Day 22

TUESDAY, DEC 15 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Buying a second to think

The two words that ask 'sorry, what?' and the line that buys you time.

NEW PHRASES · 3

¿Mande?

Pardon? / Sorry, what was that?

Very common in Mexico, and very friendly. ¿Perdón? works too.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Perdón?

Pardon?

[Listen ›](#)

Un momento, déjeme pensar.

One moment, let me think.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

Claro. ¿Ya conoces el pueblo de la familia?

Of course. Do you know the family's town yet?

¿Mande?

Pardon? / Sorry, what was that?

¿Perdón?

Pardon?

Un momento, déjeme pensar.

One moment, let me think.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. How do you say ... in Spanish?

¿Cómo se dice ... en español?

2. I feel very welcome here.

Me siento muy bienvenido aquí.

3. We've been together two years.

Llevamos dos años juntos.

Today's mission. Save the lock-screen cheat card from your listening page. Your rescue phrases are on it.

Day 23

WEDNESDAY, DEC 16 · ABOUT 10 MIN

Review: when you get lost

No new phrases today. Getting lost is guaranteed. Being calm about it is the skill.

REHEARSE

Practice conversation: When you get lost. Play it on your listening page, then play it again and say your lines before you hear them.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Pardon? / Sorry, what was that?	¿Mande?
2. What does ... mean?	¿Qué significa ...?
3. Slower, please.	Más despacio, por favor.
4. What's this song called?	¿Cómo se llama esta canción?
5. Ana told me you like cooking.	Ana me contó que a usted le gusta cocinar.
6. Pardon?	¿Perdón?
7. Could you write it down for me?	¿Me lo puede escribir?
8. I'm still learning Spanish.	Todavía estoy aprendiendo español.

Today's mission. Watch two minutes of a show in Spanish. Every time you're lost, say a rescue phrase out loud.

Day 24

THURSDAY, DEC 17 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Saying goodbye

Goodbyes take a while. Thank them, say goodbye to each person, and mean it.

NEW PHRASES · 4

Muchas gracias por todo.

Thank you so much for everything.

[Listen ›](#)

Fue un placer conocerlos.

It was a pleasure to meet you all.

[Listen ›](#)

Gracias por todo, Doña Rosa.

Thank you for everything, Doña Rosa.

[Listen ›](#)

Cúidese mucho.

Take good care.

Cúidense for a group.

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Ya nos tenemos que ir. Muchas gracias por todo.

We have to go now. Thank you so much for everything.

Them

¿Tan pronto? Quédense un ratito más.

So soon? Stay a little longer.

Me encantaría, pero ya es tarde. Fue un placer conocerlos.

I'd love to, but it's late. It was a pleasure to meet you all.

Gracias por todo, Doña Rosa.

Thank you for everything, Doña Rosa.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. One moment, let me think. | Un momento, déjeme pensar. |
| 2. Sorry, I didn't understand. | Perdón, no entendí. |
| 3. Do you like Mexico? | ¿Te gusta México? |

Today's mission. Practice saying goodbye to each person on your cheat card by name. Plan for it to take twenty minutes on the day.

Day 25

FRIDAY, DEC 18 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Leaving them smiling

The last lines at the door, including a promise to come back.

NEW PHRASES · 6

Nos vemos pronto.

See you soon.

[Listen ›](#)

Que descansen.

Have a good rest.

[Listen ›](#)

Ya me tengo que ir, pero volveré pronto.

I have to go now, but I'll be back soon.

[Listen ›](#)

Salúdeme a la familia.

Say hello to the family for me.

[Listen ›](#)

La próxima vez cocino yo.

Next time I'll cook.

[Listen ›](#)

¡Feliz Año Nuevo!

Happy New Year!

[Listen ›](#)

PUT IT TOGETHER

Read it out loud. Then cover your lines and say them from memory.

Them

Aquí tienes tu casa. Vuelve cuando quieras.

This is your home too. Come back whenever you like.

La próxima vez cocino yo.

Next time I'll cook.

**Gracias, Doña Rosa. Nos vemos pronto.
Cúidense mucho.**

Thank you, Doña Rosa. See you soon. Take good care.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Thank you so much for everything. | Muchas gracias por todo. |
| 2. I understand a little. | Entiendo un poquito. |
| 3. So when's the wedding? | ¿Y cuándo es la boda? |

Today's mission. Say the whole goodbye from the door of your home, to Ana, start to finish.

Day 26

SATURDAY, DEC 19 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Your toast, part 1: the opening

Start building the toast you'll give. Today: how to open, and the thank-you.

NEW PHRASES · 4

Quiero decir algo, aunque mi español no sea perfecto.

I'd like to say something, even though my Spanish isn't perfect.

Opening line. Buys goodwill immediately.

[Listen >](#)

Gracias por recibirme en su casa y en su familia.

Thank you for welcoming me into your home and your family.

[Listen >](#)

Gracias por recibirme como parte de la familia.

Thank you for welcoming me as part of the family.

[Listen >](#)

Estoy aprendiendo español por ustedes, poco a poco.

I'm learning Spanish for you all, little by little.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. See you soon. | Nos vemos pronto. |
| 2. Pardon? / Sorry, what was that? | ¿Mande? |
| 3. How long have you lived here? | ¿Hace cuánto vive aquí? |

Today's mission. Read today's lines standing up, the way you'll say them. Slowly. Look up from the page at the end of each line.

Day 27

SUNDAY, DEC 20 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Your toast, part 2: the heart

The lines about Ana and the family. These are the ones people remember.

NEW PHRASES · 4

Amo a Ana con todo mi corazón.

I love Ana with all my heart.

[Listen ›](#)

Ahora entiendo de dónde viene todo lo bueno de Ana.

Now I understand where everything good about Ana comes from.

A reliable crowd-pleaser.

[Listen ›](#)

Perdón por los errores. Lo importante es que lo intento.

Sorry for the mistakes. What matters is that I'm trying.

[Listen ›](#)

Doña Rosa, gracias por su comida y por su cariño.

Doña Rosa, thank you for your cooking and your warmth.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. It was a pleasure to meet you all. | Fue un placer conocerlos. |
| 2. I can't dance, but I'll try. | No sé bailar, pero lo intento. |
| 3. Have a good rest. | Que descansen. |

Today's mission. Say your full toast (in the Your toast section) three times today. Ask Ana which line got them.

Day 28

MONDAY, DEC 21 · ABOUT 12 MIN

Your toast, part 3: raise your glass

The closing lines. Today you can say the whole toast, start to finish.

NEW PHRASES · 4

Este año tengo mucho que agradecer.

This year I have so much to be thankful for.

[Listen ›](#)

Por la familia. ¡Salud!

To family. Cheers!

Closing line.

[Listen ›](#)

Por muchas navidades más juntos. ¡Salud!

To many more Christmases together. Cheers!

[Listen ›](#)

Los quiero mucho a todos.

I love you all very much.

Best for a family you've already met, or a very warm crowd.

[Listen ›](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. I have to go now, but I'll be back soon.

Ya me tengo que ir, pero volveré pronto.

2. Could you repeat that, please?

¿Me lo puede repetir, por favor?

3. Pardon?

¿Perdón?

Today's mission. Say your full toast three times with a glass in your hand. Turn on "Repeat it" on your listening page and say it along with the audio.

Day 29

TUESDAY, DEC 22 · ABOUT 10 MIN

Dress rehearsal

Run the whole visit, from the door to the goodbye, with Ana.

REHEARSE

Practice conversation: Saying goodbye. Play it on your listening page, then play it again and say your lines before you hear them.

[Listen >](#)

QUICK REVIEW · COVER THE SPANISH AND SAY IT FIRST

1. Did I say it right?	¿Lo dije bien?
2. Thank you for everything, Doña Rosa.	Gracias por todo, Doña Rosa.
3. What was Ana like as a child?	¿Cómo era Ana de niña?
4. Say hello to the family for me.	Salúdeme a la familia.
5. One moment, let me think.	Un momento, déjeme pensar.
6. Slower, please.	Más despacio, por favor.
7. I'd like to come back soon.	Me gustaría volver pronto.
8. You'd have to ask Ana about that.	Eso se lo pregunta a Ana.

Today's mission. Do every practice conversation in order with Ana playing the family. Finish with your toast.

Day 30

WEDNESDAY, DEC 23 · ABOUT 10 MIN

The night before

Nothing new. Go to bed knowing you're ready.

Today's mission. Read the "If you remember only ten things" page once, play your toast once, and get some sleep. Tomorrow: say it warmly and slowly.

If you remember only ten things

Read this page the night before and again in the car. These lines carry the whole visit.

Mucho gusto, Doña Rosa.

Nice to meet you, Doña Rosa.

[Listen ›](#)

Soy Sam, el novio de Ana.

I'm Sam, Ana's boyfriend.

[Listen ›](#)

Estoy aprendiendo español para poder hablar con ustedes.

I'm learning Spanish so I can talk with you all.

[Listen ›](#)

¡Qué rico huele!

It smells so good!

[Listen ›](#)

Doña Rosa, ¡su pozole está delicioso!

Doña Rosa, your pozole is delicious!

[Listen ›](#)

Estaba delicioso, pero ya estoy lleno.

It was delicious, but I'm full.

[Listen ›](#)

¿Le ayudo con algo?

Can I help you with anything?

[Listen ›](#)

¿Me lo puede repetir, por favor?

Could you repeat that, please?

[Listen ›](#)

Todavía estoy aprendiendo español.

I'm still learning Spanish.

[Listen ›](#)

Muchas gracias por todo.

Thank you so much for everything.

[Listen ›](#)

Practice conversations

Read both sides out loud. Then cover the page and answer from memory. These are the moments that actually happen.

At the door

You arrive. Doña Rosa opens the door.

Them

¡Bienvenido! Pásale, pásale.

Welcome! Come in, come in.

Muchas gracias, Doña Rosa. Mucho gusto.

Thank you so much, Doña Rosa. Nice to meet you.

Them

El gusto es mío. ¿Cómo estuvo el viaje?

The pleasure is mine. How was the trip?

Muy bien, gracias. Estoy feliz de estar aquí.

Very good, thank you. I'm happy to be here.

Them

¿Tienes hambre? Ya casi está la comida.

Are you hungry? The food is almost ready.

Sí, ya huele delicioso. Le traje un pequeño regalo.

Yes, it already smells delicious. I brought you a small gift.

[Listen >](#)

How did you two meet?

The family asks about you and Ana.

Them

¿Y cómo se conocieron ustedes?

So how did you two meet?

Nos conocimos en el trabajo, hace dos años.

We met at work, two years ago.

Them

¡Qué bonito! ¿Y hace cuánto tiempo?

How lovely! And how long ago?

Llevamos dos años juntos.

We've been together two years.

Them

Se ve que se quieren mucho.

You can tell you care about each other a lot.

Sí, mucho. Ana es muy especial para mí.

Yes, very much. Ana is very special to me.

[Listen >](#)

At the table

The food arrives. This is your moment.

Them

Sírvete, no te quedes con hambre.

Help yourself, don't go hungry.

Gracias. ¡Qué rico huele!

Thank you. It smells so good!

Them

¿Te gustó la comida?

Did you like the food?

Doña Rosa, ¡su pozole está delicioso!

Doña Rosa, your pozole is delicious!

Them

¿Quieres más?

Do you want more?

Estaba delicioso, pero ya estoy lleno. Muchas gracias.

It was delicious, but I'm full. Thank you so much.

[Listen >](#)

When you get lost

Someone speaks fast and you catch nothing. This is normal.

Them

Oye, y entonces cuando fuimos al pueblo el año pasado...

Hey, and so when we went to the town last year...

Perdón, ¿me lo puede repetir más despacio?

Sorry, could you repeat that more slowly?

Them

Claro. ¿Ya conoces el pueblo de la familia?

Of course. Do you know the family's town yet?

Todavía no. Todavía estoy aprendiendo español.

Not yet. I'm still learning Spanish.

Them

¡Pero lo hablas muy bien!

But you speak it very well!

Gracias, es muy amable. Estoy practicando para ustedes.

Thank you, that's very kind. I'm practicing for you all.

[Listen >](#)

Helping out

The meal is over and plates are being cleared.

Doña Rosa, ¿le ayudo con algo?

Doña Rosa, can I help you with anything?

Them

No, mi amor, tú eres el invitado.

No, dear, you're the guest.

Déjeme ayudarlo, por favor. Es un gusto.

Please let me help. It's a pleasure.

Them

Ay, qué lindo. Bueno, pásame esos platos.

Oh, how sweet. All right, pass me those plates.

¿Me puede enseñar a prepararlo algún día?

Could you teach me to make it someday?

Them

¡Claro que sí! Cuando quieras.

Of course! Whenever you like.

[Listen >](#)

Saying goodbye

Time to leave. Say goodbye to each person.

Ya nos tenemos que ir. Muchas gracias por todo.

We have to go now. Thank you so much for everything.

Them

¿Tan pronto? Quédense un ratito más.

So soon? Stay a little longer.

Me encantaría, pero ya es tarde. Fue un placer conocerlos.

I'd love to, but it's late. It was a pleasure to meet you all.

Them

Aquí tienes tu casa. Vuelve cuando quieras.

This is your home too. Come back whenever you like.

Gracias, Doña Rosa. Nos vemos pronto. Cuídense mucho.

Thank you, Doña Rosa. See you soon. Take good care.

[Listen >](#)

Culture guide: Mexico

What to expect, so nothing catches you off guard.

Greetings, and why they take a while

- Greet each person individually where possible. Follow your partner's lead on this family's greetings and goodbyes.
- Ask your partner whether this family prefers a handshake, hug or cheek kiss. Follow their lead.
- Follow your partner's lead on the first greeting. Copying what they do is always safe.
- Expect goodbyes to take twenty minutes. Nobody leaves quickly, and that slowness is part of the warmth.

Usted, tú, and names

- Ask your partner what each person prefers to be called. Start with usted and switch to tú when invited. Use Señora or Señor with their name as the default example; use Doña or Don only when your partner confirms it suits that person. Do not use Mamá with a name as a newcomer unless the family invites it.
- Use tú with their siblings and cousins your own age.
- Don't be surprised if they use tú with you while you use usted with them. That's normal and not a signal to switch.
- They may call you mijo or mija, literally 'my son' or 'my daughter'. It's a sign of affection; take it as a win.

Arriving

- Bring something: a dessert, a bottle of wine, flowers for the host, or something from your home city.
- For a house party, arriving 15 to 30 minutes after the stated time is normal. For a restaurant or a mass, be on time.
- Compliment the house early. 'Qué bonita casa' costs nothing and lands well.
- Take off your coat and settle in. Looking like you might leave soon reads as distance.

At the table

- Try everything, even a small amount. Refusing a dish outright can feel like refusing the person.
- Say 'provecho' when you pass someone eating, or when you leave the table.
- You will be offered seconds. Compliment first, then decline: 'Estaba delicioso, pero ya estoy lleno.'
- Sobremesa is the long conversation after the meal, still sitting at the table. It's the heart of the evening, so don't stand up to leave when the plates are cleared.
- Offering to help clear or wash up is noticed and appreciated, even if they refuse.

Conversation

- Safe and welcome: food, your family back home, how you met, your work, soccer, how much you like their city.
- Expect teasing (albur is Mexican wordplay, often cheeky). Laughing at yourself wins the room.
- Many families say grace before eating. Follow along quietly, even if you don't share the faith.
- Avoid opening with immigration, cartels, or politics. If they raise it, listen more than you speak.
- Asking what your partner was like as a child unlocks stories, photos, and instant affection.

Christmas with a Mexican family

- Nochebuena, December 24, is the main event. Dinner is late, often near midnight, and everyone hugs at twelve saying '¡Feliz Navidad!'
- Some families go to Misa de Gallo, the midnight mass, before or after eating.
- December 25 is quieter, with the recalentado: reheated leftovers, which many people prefer to the dinner itself.
- Las Posadas run December 16 to 24: songs, candles, a piñata, and hot ponche.
- Día de Reyes, January 6, brings the rosca de reyes. Whoever finds the little figurine hosts tamales on February 2.
- Typical dishes: tamales, pozole, bacalao, romeritos, roast pork leg, ponche navideño, buñuelos.

Dates worth remembering

- Mother's Day is May 10, not the second Sunday. A message in Spanish that day means a great deal.
- Saint's days and birthdays are often celebrated with Las Mañanitas, sung to the person in the morning.
- September 15 to 16 is Independence Day, with the grito at 11pm on the 15th.

Your toast

On the day, you'll say this to Ana's family. We wrote this version for you; the lines below are the building blocks you learn in the last lessons. Practice it ten times, slowly.

Gracias por recibirme como parte de la familia. Ahora entiendo de dónde viene todo lo bueno de Ana. ¡Feliz Navidad a todos! ¡Salud!

Thank you for welcoming me as part of the family. Now I understand where everything good about Ana comes from. Merry Christmas, everyone! Cheers!

[Listen >](#)

Quiero decir algo, aunque mi español no sea perfecto.

I'd like to say something, even though my Spanish isn't perfect.

Opening line. Buys goodwill immediately.

[Listen >](#)

Gracias por recibirme en su casa y en su familia.

Thank you for welcoming me into your home and your family.

[Listen >](#)

Gracias por recibirme como parte de la familia.

Thank you for welcoming me as part of the family.

[Listen >](#)

Amo a Ana con todo mi corazón.

I love Ana with all my heart.

[Listen >](#)

Ahora entiendo de dónde viene todo lo bueno de Ana.

Now I understand where everything good about Ana comes from.

A reliable crowd-pleaser.

[Listen >](#)

Estoy aprendiendo español por ustedes, poco a poco.

I'm learning Spanish for you all, little by little.

[Listen >](#)

Perdón por los errores. Lo importante es que lo intento.

Sorry for the mistakes. What matters is that I'm trying.

[Listen >](#)

Doña Rosa, gracias por su comida y por su cariño.

Doña Rosa, thank you for your cooking and your warmth.

[Listen >](#)

Este año tengo mucho que agradecer.

This year I have so much to be thankful for.

[Listen >](#)



Por la familia. ¡Salud!

To family. Cheers!
Closing line.

[Listen ›](#)

Por muchas navidades más juntos. ¡Salud!

To many more Christmases together. Cheers!

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Los quiero mucho a todos.

I love you all very much.

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Your family group-chat pack

Ready-to-send messages for the family WhatsApp. Copy them from your listening page, or type them from here. A short message in Spanish on the right day means a lot.

Christmas

¡Feliz Navidad, familia! Gracias por recibirme con tanto cariño. Les mando un abrazo a todos.

Merry Christmas, family! Thank you for welcoming me with so much love. Sending everyone a hug.

New Year

¡Feliz Año Nuevo a todos! Les deseo un año lleno de salud y alegría.

Happy New Year, everyone! I wish you a year full of health and joy.

After a family dinner

Doña Rosa, muchas gracias por la comida de hoy. ¡Todo estuvo delicioso!

Doña Rosa, thank you so much for today's meal. Everything was delicious!

Good morning in the group

¡Buenos días, familia! Que tengan un bonito día.

Good morning, family! Have a lovely day.

You got home after a visit

Ya llegamos bien a casa. ¡Gracias por todo!

We got home safely. Thank you for everything!

Good news in the family

¡Muchas felicidades! Qué gusto me da.

Congratulations! I'm so happy for you.

Someone shares a photo

¡Qué bonita foto! Se ven muy bien todos.

What a lovely photo! Everyone looks great.

You miss them

Los extrañamos mucho. ¡Ojalá nos veamos pronto!

We miss you all a lot. Hopefully we'll see each other soon!

After a gift

¡Muchas gracias por el regalo! Me encantó.

Thank you so much for the gift! I loved it.

A voice note for a grandparent

Abuelita, le mando un abrazo muy fuerte. Estoy aprendiendo español para poder hablar con usted.

Abuelita, I'm sending you a big hug. I'm learning Spanish so I can talk with you.

For Ana: how to help Sam shine

Sam has been practicing Spanish for your family. A few small things from you make a huge difference on the day.

Before the day

- Double-check the cheat card on page 1: names, and what Sam should call each person.
- Tell your family ahead of time: "Sam has been learning Spanish for you." Everyone slows down and cheers.
- Practice the three questions your family always asks, with you playing your mom.
- Listen to the toast once. Say it's perfect.

At the table

- Let Sam go first. Count to five before you translate anything.
- If they're stuck, whisper the first word, not the whole sentence.
- Agree on a signal (a touch on the arm) that means "please jump in now".
- Laugh with them, never at them, and don't correct them in front of everyone.

Afterwards

- Tell them one moment that really landed with your family.
- Keep using the phrases at home: ask "¿Qué quieres cenar?" once in a while.

After the big day

Tell us what they said. Reply to the email your plan came in, or send a voice note, with anything you didn't catch. We'll translate it for you.

And tell us how it went. We read every one, and it's the best part of our week.

Your bonus phrasebooks. Meet the Family and Christmas With Their Family, with audio, are included with your plan: [download them here](#).

Next occasion? Your Family Profile is saved. A new countdown for a family dinner, holiday, birthday, wedding, trip or another family moment is \$19: familiaready.com/next.