

Present Tense

The present tense is used to talk about **what happens right now**. It is used to tell actions, such as *I eat (yo como)* or *they dance (ellos bailan)*. It can also be used for states-of-being such as *I am (yo soy)*.

The present tense endings are as follows:

-AR verbs: *-o, -as, -a, -amos, -áis, and -an*

-ER verbs: *-o, -es, -e, -emos, -éis, and -en*

-IR verbs: *-o, -es, -e, -imos, -ís, and -en*

Preterite Tense

The **preterite tense** is used to talk about actions that happened entirely in the past. If you want to say *I ate* or *they danced*, use this tense. However, the preterite tense only applies under specific circumstances, so be sure you know when exactly to use it.

The preterite tense endings are as follows:

-AR verbs: *-é, -aste, -ó, -amos, -asteís, -aron*

-ER/-IR verbs: *-í, -iste, -ió, -imos, -isteís, -ieron* (yes, these forms are the same!)

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Not published yet.

Last updated 2nd January, 2018.

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