

Infinitives

Verbs are words that are most often used to name actions. Verbs in English have different forms depending on who is doing the action or when the action is occurring:

I **walk**, she **walks**, we **walked**, etc.

The most basic form of a verb is called the infinitive. In English, you can spot infinitives because they usually have the word "to" in front of them:

to swim, **to** read, **to** write

Infinitives in Spanish, though, don't have a separate word like "to" in front of them. Spanish infinitives are only one word, and always end in *-ar*, *-er*, or *-ir*.

nadar, *leer*, *escribir*

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Negatives

To make a sentence negative in Spanish, you usually put *no* in front of the verb or expression. In English you usually use the word "not."

No me gusta cantar.

*I do **not** like to sing.*

To answer a question negatively in Spanish you often use *no* twice. The first *no* answers the question. The second *no* says, "I do *not* . . . (*don't*)." This is similar to the way you answer a question in English.

¿Te gusta escribir cuentos?

Do you like to write stories?

No, no me gusta.

*No, I **don't**.*

In Spanish, you might use one or more negatives after answering "*no*."

¿Te gusta cantar?

Do you like to sing?

No, no me gusta **nada**.

*No, I **don't** like it **at all**.*

If you want to say that you do not like either of two choices, use *ni* . . . *ni*:

No me gusta **ni** nadar **ni** dibujar.

*I **don't** like **either** swimming **or** drawing.*

*I like **neither** swimming **nor** drawing.*

¿Recuerdas?

Did you remember that *nada* has another meaning?

- ¿Qué pasa? **Nada**.

In this case, *nada* means "nothing."

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Expressing agreement or disagreement

To agree with what a person likes, you use "*a mí también.*" It's like saying "me too" in English.

Me gusta pasar tiempo con amigos.

I like to spend time with friends.

A mí también.

Me too.

If someone tells you that he or she dislikes something, you can agree by saying "*a mí tampoco.*" It's like saying "me neither" or "neither do I" in English.

No me gusta nada cantar.

I don't like to sing at all.

A mí tampoco.

Me neither.