

## Personal a

\*The direct object of a sentence is the the person or thing that receives the action of the verb.

\*Answers "whom?" or "what?" after the verb.

Pepe reads the newspaper.

I see María.

\*The direct object of a sentence determines if the personal a is needed.

\*If the direct object is a person, domesticated animal (pet) or a group of people, a comes before the direct object.

Veo *a* María y *a* su perro.

Veo *a* María y su coche.

\*When alguien and nadie are the direct objects, they use the personal a.

Yo no veo *a* nadie.

## Conocer = *to know*

\*= to know or be acquainted with a person. *personal a*  
Ustedes conocen a mi novia, ¿verdad?

*You all know my girlfriend, right?*

\*= to be familiar or be acquainted with:

a city or town

a theory

*no personal a*

someone's work (of art, music, literature)

museums and other places

No conozco este libro. *I am not familiar with that book.*

¿Conoces la música de los Beatles?

*Are you familiar with the music of the Beatles?*

# ☀ conocer = *to know*



yo

*conozco*



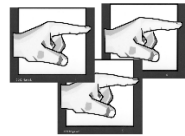
nosotros

*conocemos*



tú

*conoces*



vosotros

*conocéis*



él



ella *conoce*



ellos



ellas

*conocen*



Ud.

Uds.

## Querer = to want

\*= to want a thing.

Ellos quieren un coche nuevo. = *They want a new car.*

Todos queremos helado. = *We all want ice cream.*

Yo quiero Taco Bell. = *I want Taco Bell.*

\*May be followed by an infinitive = *to want to do*

¿Quieres ser abogado? *Do you want to be a lawyer?*

Ella no quiere ir. *She doesn't want to go.*

\*\*\**When talking about a profession, you do not use the indefinite article (un, una).*\*\*\*

\*Stem-changing verb, e-->ie

☀ **querer = to want**

 **yo**  
*quiero*

 **nosotros**  
*queremos*

  **tú**  
*quieres*

 **vosotros**  
*queréis*

 **él**

 **ellos**

 **ella** *quiere*

 **ellas** *quieren*

 **Ud.**

**Uds.**

## Venir = to come

\*Stem-changing verb, e-->ie

\*The yo form ends with -go, and no vowel change in the stem.

\*venir de = to come from

\*if the place starts with the article "el", then:

**de + el = *del***

The water comes from the ocean.

*El agua viene del océano.*

# venir

 yo

 nosotros

  tú

 vosotros

 él

 ellos

 ella

 ellas

 Ud.

Uds.

## 4.7 QUESTIONS AND QUESTION WORDS: A SUMMARY

Spanish has three types of questions: tag questions, *yes/no* questions, and information questions.

- Tag questions ask the listener to agree or disagree with what the speaker is saying. They are formed by adding **¿no?** or **¿verdad?** to the end of a statement. When the sentence is negative, only **¿verdad?** may be used.

Eres de Ecuador, **¿no?**

*You're from Ecuador, aren't you?*

Este libro es muy interesante,  
**¿verdad?**

*This book is very interesting,  
isn't it?*

Él no es muy fuerte, **¿verdad?**

*He is not very strong, is he?*

- *Yes/no* questions can be answered with **sí** or **no**. These questions usually begin with a verb. The subject, if expressed, often comes at the end of the sentence.

¿Está bien usted?

*Are you all right?*

¿Te gusta la clase de inglés?

*Do you like English class?*

¿Conoce Julio a Paquito?

*Does Julio know Paquito?*

¿Ya están listos todos?

*Is everybody ready?*



- The third type are questions that request information. These questions begin with a question word.

Question Words			
¿Quién(es)?	Who?	¿Cuánto(a)?	How much?
¿Qué?	What?	¿Cuántos(as)?	How many?
¿Cuál(es)?	Which? What?	¿Cuándo?	When?
¿Dónde?	Where?	¿Cómo?	How? What?
		¿Por qué?	Why?

- Note that all question words have written accents.
- While most question words have only one form, **quién** and **cuál** have two: singular and plural.

¿**Quién** es tu tía favorita?

*Who is your favorite aunt?*

¿**Quiénes** son esas chicas?

*Who are those girls?*

¿**Cuál** es tu abuelo?

*Which (one) is your grandfather?*

¿**Cuáles** son tus clases favoritas?

*What are your favorite classes?*

- When **cuánto** modifies a noun, it must agree in number and gender with that noun. It has four forms: **cuánto**, **cuánta**, **cuántos**, and **cuántas**.

¿**Cuánto** helado quieres?

*How much ice cream do you want?*

¿**Cuánta** tarea tienes?

*How much homework do you have?*

¿**Cuántos** estudiantes hay?

*How many students are there?*

¿**Cuántas** horas practicas?

*How many hours do you practice?*

When **cuánto** does not modify a noun, it has only one form.

¿**Cuánto** es?

*How much is it?*

¿**Cuánto** cuesta?

*How much does it cost?*

Both **qué** and **cuál** correspond to the English word *what*. They are not always interchangeable, however.

**Qué** asks for a definition or an explanation.

¿**Qué** es un “mariachi”?

*What is a **mariachi**?*

¿**Qué** está haciendo ahora?

*What is he doing now?*

**Cuál** asks for a selection.

¿**Cuál** es la capital de Venezuela?

*What (which city) is the capital of Venezuela?*

¿**Cuál** es tu primo?

*Which (one) is your cousin?*

¿**Cómo?** is used by itself to indicate disbelief or that the listener didn't hear what was said and wants it repeated. English usually uses *What?* in these instances.

¿**Cómo?** ¡Pero sólo tiene catorce años!

*What? But he's only fourteen years old!*

¿**Cómo?** Perdón, pero la música está muy fuerte.

*What? I'm sorry, but the music is too loud.*