Unidad 1

El pretérito de los verbos –AR
(The preterite of –AR verbs)

Palabras del pasado
Words that express the PAST:
• Ayer - yesterday
• Anoche - last night
• La semana pasada - last week
• El año pasado - last year
• Ayer por la tarde - yesterday afternoon
• Ayer por la mañana - yesterday morning

El pretérito
A tense tells you when the action took place. The preterite tense is one of 2 main past tenses in Spanish.

Los usos del pretérito:
• Actions completed in the past
• Actions with clearly defined beginnings or endings in past
• Actions repeated a specific number of times in the past

Las terminaciones de verbos -AR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verbo</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hablar</td>
<td>hablé</td>
<td>hablamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tú</td>
<td>hablaste</td>
<td>hablasteis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ud./Él/ Ella</td>
<td>habló</td>
<td>hablaron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yo</td>
<td>-é</td>
<td>-amos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nosotros</td>
<td>-aste</td>
<td>-asteis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nosotras</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uds./Ellos/Ellas</td>
<td>-ó</td>
<td>-aron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ejemplos de verbos

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verbo</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nadar</td>
<td>Yo nadé</td>
<td>Acampar - Acampamos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I swam</td>
<td>– We camped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomar</td>
<td>Tú tomaste</td>
<td>Mandar - Mandasteis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>You took</td>
<td>– You all sent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitar</td>
<td>Él visitó</td>
<td>Mirar - Ellos miraron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>He visited</td>
<td>– They watched</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stem-Changing Verbs
You do not have to make normal (e-ie, e-i; o-ue, u-ue) stem changes in the preterite.
Ella juega - She plays (present)
Ella jugó - She played (preterite)
Ellos empiezan - They begin (present)
Ellos empezaron - They began (preterite)

However, the preterite has many irregulars verbs that we will be covering!

### Verbos irregulares

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Preterite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ella juega</td>
<td>She plays</td>
<td>Ella jugó</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellos empiezan</td>
<td>They begin</td>
<td>Ellos empezaron</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Verbos –CAR, -GAR, -ZAR
Verbs that end in –CAR, -GAR or –ZAR will make spelling changes in the “yo” form preterite only.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>-CAR</th>
<th>-GAR</th>
<th>-ZAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c→qu</td>
<td>g→gu</td>
<td>z→c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Present</th>
<th>Preterite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Buscar</td>
<td>buscar</td>
<td>Busqué</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Llegar</td>
<td>llegar</td>
<td>Llegué</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comenzar</td>
<td>comenzar</td>
<td>Comencé</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>