

Level B1: Intermediate / Intermedio

Expressing Nuance, Opinions & Subjunctive Mood

1. Topic Discussion: El trabajo remoto y el estilo de vida

At B1 level, you move beyond factual reporting into expressing opinions, nuances, hypothetical wishes, and emotions using the **Subjunctive Mood**.

Carlos: Creo que el teletrabajo es una ventaja enorme para conciliar la vida familiar.

*Carlos: I think remote work IS a huge advantage for work-life balance.
(Indicative = Certainty)*

Marta: Entiendo tu punto, pero no creo que sea la solución para todo el mundo. Es importante que las empresas ofrezcan flexibilidad.

Marta: I understand your point, but I don't think it IS the solution for everyone. It's important that companies OFFER flexibility. (Subjunctive = Opinion/Requirement)

2. Indicative vs. Subjunctive Matrix

The golden rule for adult learners: Indicative expresses *facts, reality & certainty*; Subjunctive expresses *subjectivity, doubt & wishes*.

Trigger Category	Indicative (Certainty)	Subjunctive (Subjectivity / Doubt)
Opinion / Belief	<i>Creo que viene hoy.</i> (I believe he is coming)	<i>No creo que venga hoy.</i> (I don't think he is coming)
Certainty vs Doubt	<i>Es seguro que van a ganar.</i> (It is certain they will win)	<i>Dudo que ganen el partido.</i> (I doubt they will win)
Impersonal Evaluation	<i>Es verdad que estudias mucho.</i>	<i>Es necesario que estudies más.</i>
Wishes & Hope	—	<i>Ojalá haga buen tiempo mañana.</i>

3. The WEIRDO Framework for Quick Reference

When do native speakers switch to Subjunctive?

Remember the acronym **WEIRDO** to instantly know when subjunctive is required:

- **Wishes & Desires** (*Quiero que, Deseo que...*)
- **Emotions** (*Me alegra que, Siento que...*)
- **Impersonal Expressions** (*Es importante que, Es posible que...*)
- **Recommendations** (*Te sugiero que, Recomendando que...*)
- **Doubt & Denial** (*Dudo que, No me parece que...*)
- **Ojalá** (*Ojalá que...*)

4. Intermediate Grammar Challenge

Complete with Indicative or Subjunctive: "Es evidente que el español _____ (ser) un idioma útil, pero es fundamental que nosotros _____ (practicar) a diario."

A) sea / practiquemos

B) es / practiquemos

C) es / practicamos



Teacher's Note for Adult Learners: The subjunctive is often presented as terrifying, but at B1 we break it down into logical conversational triggers. Once you grasp the triggers, speaking becomes natural and articulate!

Sample snippet from **Spanish Camino**. Ready to boost your fluency?

Book a trial lesson