

# B2 Spanish Grammar Essentials

Core Grammar Topics, Short Explanations & Practical Examples

- Level: B2
- Grammar Summary
- Peninsular Spanish Focus

**B2 Grammar Quick Reference:** This document covers advanced upper-intermediate Spanish structures, including past subjunctive tenses, conditional sentences, indirect speech, temporal connectors, and passive voice constructions.

## TOPIC 01

### 1. Pretérito imperfecto de subjuntivo (tuviera / tuviese)

Formed from the 3rd person plural of the *pretérito indefinido* (minus *-ron* + *-ra*, *-ras*, *-ra*, *-ramos*, *-rais*, *-ran*). Used in the past matrix for hypothetical conditions, wishes, or past subjunctive contexts.

**Mi profesor me recomendó que leyera más periódicos en español para mejorar mi vocabulario.**  
*(My teacher recommended that I read more Spanish newspapers to improve my vocabulary.)*

## TOPIC 02

### 2. Pretérito perfecto de subjuntivo (haya comido)

Formed with **haya, hayas, haya, hayamos, hayáis, hayan** + past participle. Used to express actions completed in a recent or connected past/future frame within subjunctive contexts.

**Me alegra mucho que hayas aprobado el examen de conducir esta mañana.**  
*(I am very glad that you passed the driving test this morning.)*

## TOPIC 03

### 3. Hypothetical conditional sentences (Si + imperfecto de subjuntivo + condicional)

Used to express improbable or contrary-to-fact hypotheses in the present or future using **Si + imperfecto de subjuntivo** followed by the **condicional simple**.

**Si tuviera más tiempo libre, viajaría por todo el norte de España.**  
*(If I had more free time, I would travel all across northern Spain.)*

#### TOPIC 04

### 4. Temporal clauses: *cuando, en cuanto, tan pronto como, hasta que*

Temporal conjunctions take the **subjunctive** when referring to future actions or unfulfilled events, but take the **indicative** when describing routine or past completed actions.

**Te llamaré en cuanto llegue a la oficina por la mañana.**

*(I will call you as soon as I arrive at the office in the morning.)*

#### TOPIC 05

### 5. Reported speech in the past (Estilo indirecto en pasado)

When reporting statements or requests introduced by a past tense verb (*dijo que, preguntó si*), present indicative shifts to imperfect, preterite to pluscuamperfecto, and imperatives to imperfect subjunctive.

**María me dijo que no podía venir porque se había quedado sin batería.**

*(María told me that she couldn't come because her phone had run out of battery.)*

#### TOPIC 06

### 6. Concessive clauses: *aunque, a pesar de que + indicativo / subjuntivo*

**Aunque + indicativo** states a known, objective fact (*even though*). **Aunque + subjuntivo** introduces hypothetical or irrelevant obstacles (*even if*).

**Aunque llueva mañana, iremos a hacer la ruta de senderismo.**

*(Even if it rains tomorrow, we will go on the hiking route.)*

#### TOPIC 07

### 7. Passive constructions: *ser + participio vs. Pasiva refleja (se + verbo)*

The formal passive (*ser + participio + por*) is used in news and formal written register, whereas the passive *se* is preferred in natural written and spoken Spanish.

**El cuadro fue restaurado por un especialista, pero aquí se venden solo reproducciones.**

*(The painting was restored by a specialist, but only reproductions are sold here.)*

#### TOPIC 08

### 8. Advanced verbal periphrases (*llevar + gerundio, tener que + inf, acabar de + inf*)

Express duration (*llevar + gerundio + tiempo*), completion (*acabar por + inf / gerundio*), or accumulation/state (*tener + participio*).

**Llevo tres años estudiando español en esta escuela y he aprendido muchísimo.**

*(I have been studying Spanish at this school for three years and I've learned a lot.)*

#### TOPIC 09

### 9. Relative clauses with unknown or non-existent antecedents

Relative pronouns (*que, quien, donde*) trigger the **subjunctive** when the antecedent is hypothetical, negative, or unknown to the speaker.

**Buscamos un piso que tenga tres habitaciones y esté cerca del metro.**

*(We are looking for an apartment that has three bedrooms and is near the metro station.)*

#### TOPIC 10

### 10. Value judgments and feelings about past events

Structures like *fue una lástima que, me pareció bien que, me molestó que* trigger the **imperfecto or pluscuamperfecto de subjuntivo** depending on completion.

**Fue una lástima que no pudieras venir a la cena del viernes pasado.**

*(It was a pity that you couldn't come to last Friday's dinner.)*

#### TOPIC 11

### 11. Advanced discourse markers (*para que, a fin de que, ya que, puesto que, de ahí que*)

**Para que / a fin de que + subjuntivo** express purpose with a subject change; **ya que / puesto que + indicativo** introduce evident cause; **de ahí que + subjuntivo** introduces consequence.

**Te envío el documento por correo para que lo revises antes de la reunión.**

*(I'm sending you the document by email so that you can review it before the meeting.)*