

Nombre: _____
Nota Cultural

Fecha: ____/____/____
Español 7



Los Nombres Españoles.

You might think **Francisco Xavier López Medina** is an unusually long name.

Actually, Spaniards and Latin Americans commonly use both their first and middle names. They also generally use two last names: first the father's (in Paco's case, López) and then the mother's maiden name (for Paco, it's Medina). In the phone book, Paco's name would be listed under "L" as López Medina.

Common first names among Spanish speakers are José Francisco and Juan Pablo for males. María Sofía and Magdalena are common for females. Many girls' names originally commemorated the Virgin Mary. Roman Catholics often celebrate not only their birthdays but also the feast day of the saint they are named after. For example, Susana might celebrate her Día del Santo, or Saint's Day, on August 11th in honor of St. Susan.

Los Saludos y Despedidas.

Spanish speakers often greet each other with a handshake or a kiss. In Spain, friends may greet each other with a light kiss on both cheeks. Latin Americans kiss on only one cheek. When men greet each other they often shake hands, pat each other on the back, or hug. Young people often shake hands when they meet or say goodbye. Family members usually greet each other with a kiss.



Mini-situaciones.

What would you say (en español) in the following situations?

- 1) A friend introduces you to a new student.
- 2) You want to ask the person sitting next to you what his/her name is.
- 3) You've just been introduced to your new Spanish teacher.
- 4) You want to tell the new classmate who you are.
- 5) Your new counselor has just said, "Mucho Gusto."
- 6) You want to introduce your friend Ana to another classmate.