

Subjunctive Mood

1. The subjunctive (*el subjuntivo*) is one of the three moods in Spanish, the other two being the indicative (imperfect, preterit, present, future, etc.) and the imperative (used to give commands).

2. The subjunctive is not a tense; rather, it is a mood. **Tense** refers to when an action takes place (past, present, future), while **mood** merely reflects how the speaker feels about the action. The subjunctive mood is rarely used in English, but it is widely used in Spanish

3. The subjunctive is used to express desires, doubts, the unknown, the abstract, and emotions.

If you encounter a sentence with a main clause followed by a second clause, and the main clause does **not** introduce a quality of **certainty** or **objectivity**, the sentence will usually use the **subjunctive mood** in the second clause, since the sentence will **not** be reporting something certain.

Note “Ojalá” is a common expression used in Spanish. It is used to express a wish that something happen. Thus, the subjunctive is used with this expression.

4. Forming the subjunctive:

Endings: For all but the most irregular of verbs, the endings for the present subjunctive are as follows:

-ar verbs: **-e, -es, -e, -emos, -éis, -en**

-er and **-ir** verbs: **-a, -as, -a, -amos, -áis, -an**

Regular verbs: Attach the above endings to the stem (the infinitive minus the last two letters):

<u>hablar</u>		<u>comer</u>		<u>vivir</u>	
hable	hablemos	coma	comamos	viva	vivamos
hables		comas		vivas	
hable	hablen	coma	coman	viva	vivan

Verbs which in the present indicative have a special **yo** form ending in an **-o** use the stem of that form for all the present subjunctive forms: Verbs with the addition of a **-g-** in the **yo** form:

<u>decir</u>	say	<u>digo:</u>	diga, digas, diga, digamos, digáis, digan
<u>hacer</u>	do	<u>hago:</u>	haga, hagas, haga, hagamos, hagáis, hagan
<u>oír</u>	hear	<u>oigo:</u>	oiga, oigas, oiga, oigamos, oigáis, oigan
<u>poner</u>	put:	<u>pongo:</u>	pongas, ponga, ponga, pongamos, pongáis, pongan
<u>salir</u>	go out:	<u>salgo</u>	salga, salgas, salga, salgamos, salgáis, salgan
<u>tener</u>	have:	<u>tengo</u>	tenga, tengas, tenga, tengamos, tengáis, tengan
<u>traer</u>	bring:	<u>traigo</u>	traiga, traigas, traiga, traigamos, traigáis, traigan
<u>valer</u>	be worth:	<u>valgo</u>	valga, valgas, valga, valgamos, valgáis, valgan
<u>venir</u>	come:	<u>vengo</u>	venga, vengas, venga, vengamos, vengáis, vengan

Verbs with the infinitive ending **-cer** (with **-zco** in the **yo** form):

conocer	<i>know</i>	conozco :	conozca, conozcas, conozca, etc.
obedecer	<i>obey</i>	obedezco :	obedezca, obedezcas, obedezca, etc.
pertenecer	<i>belong</i>	pertenezco :	pertenezca, pertenezcas, pertenezca, etc.

Irregular verbs (verbs where the **yo** form does not end in **-o**):

Verbs whose first person singular form of the present indicative does not end in **-o** have irregular present subjunctive forms:

dar	<i>give</i>	doy	dé, des, dé, demos, deis, den
estar	<i>be</i>	estoy	esté, estés, esté, estemos, estéis, estén
haber	<i>have</i>	he	haya, hayas, haya, hayamos, hayáis, hayan
saber	<i>know</i>	sé	sepa, sepas, sepa, sepamos, sepáis, sepan
ser	<i>be</i>	soy	sea, seas, sea, seamos, seáis, sean
ir	<i>go</i>	voy	vaya, vayas, vaya, vayamos, vayáis, vayan

Examples:

Mi hermano quiere que yo hable con la maestro.

My brother wants me to talk to the teacher

El quiere que yo le diga a la maestra una mentira.

He wants me to tell her a lie.

Su amigo necesita que yo vaya a las once.

His friend wants me to go at eleven.