

LESSON NOTES

Newbie #2

How are you all?

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ENGLISH

1. JOSÉ : How are you, Ma'am, and Claudia?
2. BEATRIZ : We are well.
3. JOSÉ : And how are Cristina and Javier?
4. BEATRIZ : They are well too.
5. JOSÉ : Great!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
y	and	coordinating conjunction	
nosotros	we	pronoun	masculine
bien	well,good	adverb	
también	also, as well, too	adverb	-
¡qué bueno!	Great! How Great!	exclamation	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Tú y yo somos amigos. "You and I are friends."	Nosotros estamos presentes. "We are present."
Están bien. "They're fine."	Estoy bien. "I'm fine."
Yo también fui al dentista la semana pasada. "I also went to the dentist last week."	Hablo español también. "I speak Spanish as well."
¡Qué bueno verte! "How great to see you!"	

GRAMMAR

The verb "estar" means "to be". Last lesson, we looked at "I am", "you are", "(s)he is". These are called the First, Second and Third Person Singular, conjugated in the Present Tense of the Indicative Mood. Today, we will look at the corresponding plural forms.

First Person Plural: "nosotros estamos." (We are.)
Second Person Plural: "vosotros estáis" (You all are, *informal*.)
Third Person Plural: "ellos están" (they are, *masculine*)
Third Person Plural: "ellas están" (they are, *feminine*)
Third Person Plural: "ustedes están" (you all are, *formal*)

In Latin America, the form, "ustedes están", takes the places of "vosotros estáis". So there, the **formal** and **informal** second person plural is always "ustedes están". Again, this is only so in Latin America. In Spain, the second person plural, "vosotros", is reserved for informal forms of address; and the third person plural, "ustedes", for formal.

CULTURAL INSIGHT

In Spanish, there are "formal" and "informal" ways of saying things. This happens quite a lot in speaking to other people. There is the formal way of saying "You" ("usted"), and there is the informal way: "tú". Both of them mean "you", but the **formal** way shows respect for the person being spoken to, and the **informal** way shows confidence in the person being spoken to. The form of address, "usted", is used in business, with acquaintances and with people older than we are. In general, it's used with people whom we don't know well or whom we want to treat with noticeable respect. The form of address, "tú", is used with friends, with people to whom you need not show respect, because it is already implicit. Also, remember that these personal pronouns are often omitted, because the "person" is implicit in the ending of the verb. Pronouns are included frequently to distinguish one person from another, when there could otherwise be confusion.