

LESSON NOTES

Newbie S1 #22

Are you ready? Let's Go!

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#22

FORMAL SPANISH

1. AUGUSTO: ¡Oiga, Cecilia! ¿Está lista?
2. CECILIA: Sí. Ahora voy.
3. AUGUSTO: Tengo muchas ganas de salir esta noche.
4. CECILIA: Ya estoy lista. ¡Vamos!

ENGLISH

1. AUGUSTO: Hey, Cecilia! Are ya' ready?
2. CECILIA: Yeah. I'm goin' right away.
3. AUGUSTO: I really feel like goin' out tonight.
4. CECILIA: Now I'm ready. Let's go!

INFORMAL SPANISH

1. AUGUSTO: ¡Oye, Cecilia! ¿Estás lista?
2. CECILIA: Sí. Ahora voy.
3. AUGUSTO: Tengo muchas ganas de salir esta noche.
4. CECILIA: Ya estoy lista. ¡Vamos!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
listo(a)	ready, intelligent	adjective, noun, interjection	feminine
ahora	now, just now, right away	adverb, conjunction	
noche	night	noun	feminine
¡Vamos!	Let's go!	expression	
salir	to leave, to go out	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

La semana que viene comés yogur y listo...	Ahora salimos.
"Next week, you eat some yogurt and you're all set..."	"We leave right away."

¿Cuál es tu plan para este viernes en la noche?	La noche está fresca.
"What's your plan for this Friday night?"	"The night is cool."
¡Vamos!	Salimos esta noche.
"Let's go!"	"We're going out tonight."

GRAMMAR

One aspect of the present tense of the indicative mood in the Spanish language is that it can express a command. This is the case with the expression "¡Vamos!" (Let's go!). The first person plural in the imperative mood is actually "vayamos", but this is not used in spoken Spanish and rarely used in written Spanish. For all practical purposes, "¡Vamos!" means "Let's go!"

One way to think about it is by comparing it to the phrase "I'm out of here!" You'll notice that this phrase is actually in the present indicative. It's not a command, but it expresses a command. If it were a command, it would be "*Let's* get out of here!" The same occurs with the expression "¡Vamos!" (Let's go!).

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Throughout the Spanish-speaking world, and particularly in Latin America, punctuality is *not* a common custom. In fact, most Latin Americans are very laid back when it comes to making plans or setting a time to meet up. The word "ahora" (now) is indicative of this custom, as it means "now", and also "just now" and "right away". This flexibility of time runs deep throughout the cultures of Latin America, and it's important to remember this, as it is quite different from many other cultures, like the German and American cultures, which tend to be quite punctual. But this lack of hurry is not necessarily laziness; rather, it can be seen as a way of enjoying the relaxation of everyday life. While many Americans, for example, work hard to eventually retire and be able to relax and enjoy the pleasures of life, many Latin Americans retire from work on a daily basis to enjoy these pleasures regularly.