

## LESSON TRANSCRIPT

# Absolute Beginner S3 #1 Introducing Yourself in Mexican Spanish

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# 1

# INTRODUCTION

Alisha: Hi everyone! Alisha here.

Fernando: Hola, soy Fernando. Hi, I'm Fernando.

Alisha: Welcome to SpanishPod101.com. This is Absolute Beginner Season 3, Lesson 1 - Introducing Yourself in Mexican Spanish. Thanks for joining us!

Fernando: In this series, you'll learn Spanish as its spoken in Latin America, and more specifically, Mexico. I'll be the native speaker here to help you learn Spanish...

Alisha: And I'll be the native English speaking guide to help you along the way!

Fernando: Alisha, what can you tell us about the dialogue in this first lesson?

Alisha: This dialogue takes place at a business meeting and is between two coworkers from the same company, Alejandro, and Jorge.

Fernando: The speakers are meeting for the first time, so they will be speaking formal Spanish.

Alisha: Lets listen to the conversation.

# LESSON CONVERSATION

A: Hola, soy Alejandro.

B: Hola, soy Jorge.

A: Mucho gusto.

B: Mucho gusto.

Alisha: Let's hear the conversation one time slowly.

A: Hola, soy Alejandro.

B: Hola, soy Jorge.

A: Mucho gusto.

B: Mucho gusto.

Alisha: Now let's hear it with the English translation.

A: Hola, soy Alejandro.

Hello! I am Alejandro.

B: Hola, soy Jorge.

Hello! I am Jorge.

A: Mucho gusto.

It's a pleasure to meet you. (Literally, much pleasure)

B: Mucho gusto.

It's a pleasure to meet you too. (Literally, much pleasure for me too)

## POST CONVERSATION BANTER

Alisha: Okay, so we have a very basic, beginner level conversation here.

Fernando: Yes, one you'll have many times when you visit Mexico or another Spanish-speaking country and meet new people.

Alisha: Fernando, could you tell us about the common customs when greeting someone in Mexico?

Fernando: Sure! In casual and formal situations, it is important to make eye contact and shake hands. For women, a kiss on the cheek is common.

Alisha: Oh, like in some European countries?

Fernando: Yes, except that in Mexico, it is only one kiss on the left or right cheek, and not two. Also, note that this is often an “air kiss”, and not a real one.

Alisha: I see! What about business situations?

Fernando: In formal business situations, it’s strictly handshakes.

Alisha: Okay, keep that in mind listeners! Now let’s move onto the vocab.

## VOCAB LIST

Let's take a look at the vocabulary for this lesson.

The first word we shall see is:

hola [natural native speed]

hello

hola [slowly - broken down by syllable]

hola [natural native speed]

Next:

soy [natural native speed]

I am

soy [slowly - broken down by syllable]

soy [natural native speed]

Next:

Mucho gusto. [natural native speed]

It's a pleasure to meet you.

Mucho gusto. [slowly - broken down by syllable]

Mucho gusto. [natural native speed]

## KEY VOCABULARY AND PHRASES

Alisha: Let's take a closer look at the usage for some of the words and phrases from this lesson. What will we talk about first, Fernando?

Fernando: Mucho gusto

Alisha: Repeat After Fernando-

Fernando: mucho gusto. (pause)

Alisha: This means "Nice to meet you". So after you meet someone for the first time and give your name, you can say this!

Fernando: Mucho gusto.

Alisha: And this is okay for both formal and informal situations?

Fernando: Yes, no problem.

Alisha: And how do you respond to this?

Fernando: We simply say Mucho gusto, in return!

Alisha: Well, that's easy enough!

Fernando: Yes. Mucho gusto – mucho gusto.

Alisha: All right, now let's learn how to introduce ourselves, in the grammar point.

## LESSON FOCUS

Alisha: The focus of this lesson is how to introduce yourself.

Fernando: Using phrases such as “Hola, soy Fernando.”

Alisha: There are several ways of introducing yourself, just as in English. But let’s just focus on the usage of the verb “to be”.

Fernando: One of the verbs for “to be” in Spanish is SER. Here, we conjugate it, so that it becomes SOY. SOY means “I am”. For example, Soy Fernando.

Alisha: Which means “I’m Fernando.”

Fernando: Right. You might also hear “Yo soy”.

Alisha: What’s the “yo” for?

Fernando: Well, “yo” means “I”, and “soy” means “I am”. It sounds redundant, but is perfectly fine to say in Spanish. Yo soy Fernando. But because “soy” already means I AM, the “yo” is not necessary.

Alisha: So simply saying “Soy” and then your name is enough?

Fernando: That’s right.

Alisha: Great. Can we hear the examples we heard in the dialogue?

Fernando: Sure. Alejandro says “Hola, soy Alejandro”

Alisha: Hi, I’m Alejandro.

Fernando: And then Jorge says, Hola, soy Jorge.

Alisha: “Hi, I’m Jorge.” Okay listeners, ready to try it out? Fernando will introduce himself – please respond and introduce yourself - out loud, no matter where you are!

Fernando: Ready? Hola, soy Fernando. [pause]

Alisha: How did you do? You should have said...

Fernando: Hola, soy... and then your name.

Alisha: Great. And if we want to complete this introduction, we add...?

Fernando: Mucho gusto!

Alisha: That's right! "Nice to meet you." Show us how it sounds all together.

Fernando: Hola, soy Fernando. Mucho gusto.

Alisha: Excellent. Listeners, are you ready to put this all together? Please respond to Fernando!

Fernando: Hola, soy Fernando. Mucho gusto. [pause]

Alisha: Okay, sounding good! Not too bad, right? I think that's going to do it for this lesson.

Fernando: In the next lesson, we'll learn more greetings for formal situations.

Alisha: So be sure to stay tuned! Thanks for listening everyone.

Fernando: See you next time. Hasta la próxima!

Alisha: Bye everyone.