

## LESSON NOTES

# Absolute Beginner S3 #15 Making Plans for the Day in Spanish

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# 15

## INFORMAL SPANISH

1. ALEJANDRO:           ¿Qué quieres hacer hoy?
2. ASHLEY:                Quiero ir a Coyoacán.
3. ALEJANDRO:           ¿Vamos al Museo de Frida Kahlo?
4. ASHLEY:                ¡Buena idea! ¡Vamos!

## ENGLISH

1. ALEJANDRO:           What do you want to do today?
2. ASHLEY:                I want to go to Coyoacán.
3. ALEJANDRO:           Shall we go to the Frida Kahlo Museum?
4. ASHLEY:                Good idea! Let's go!

## VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
ir	to go	verb	
a	to, at	preposition	
hoy	today	noun	masculine
querer	to want	verb	
qué	what	interrogative adverb, adjective	
idea	idea	fem. noun	feminine

de	of	preposition	n/a
hacer	to do	verb	
al	to the	preposition+article	
bueno	good	adjective,expression - answering the phone	feminine

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Mi esposa y yo iremos a Dubai la próxima semana.</p> <p>"My wife and I will go to Dubai next week."</p>	<p>¡Vamos a la playa!</p> <p>"Let's go to the beach!"</p>
<p>Hoy fue un día caluroso de verano extraordinario.</p> <p>"Today was an extraordinarily hot summer day."</p>	<p>El desfile es hoy.</p> <p>"The parade is today."</p>
<p>Quiero dormir temprano hoy.</p> <p>"I want to go to sleep early today."</p>	<p>No quiero que mis niños gasten todo su dinero en dulces.</p> <p>"I don't want my children to spend all their money on sweets."</p>
<p>No quiero eso.</p> <p>"I don't want that."</p>	<p>¿Qué es esto?</p> <p>"What is this?"</p>
<p>No es una mala idea.</p> <p>"It's not a bad idea."</p>	<p>Es el 22 de agosto.</p> <p>"It's August 22nd."</p>

<p>No sé qué hacer. "I don't know what to do."</p>	<p>¡Tengo mucho trabajo que hacer! "I have so much work to do!"</p>
<p>Ella va al cine. "She goes to the movies."</p>	<p>Después de una tarde fría el chocolate es muy bueno. "After a cold afternoon, hot chocolate is great."</p>
<p>Buenos días. "Good morning."</p>	

## VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

### ***¡Buena idea!***

*¡Buena idea!* is an expression that we use to mean "a good idea" in English to convey approval for an idea or plan. You may also say *¡qué buena idea!* or "What a great idea!"

### ***¡Vamos!***

We use this expression to encourage others to act. Some people also say *¡ánimo!* ("Cheer up!"), although it is not very common in Mexico. The root verb is *ir* ("to go"). Another common expression is *¡vamos, vente!* or "Come, let's go!"

## GRAMMAR

**The Focus of This Lesson Is to Teach You the Use of the Verb *Querer* ("to Want Something").**

***¿Qué quieres hacer hoy? Quiero ir a Coyoacán.***

**"What do you want to do today? I want to go to Coyoacán."**

When using the verb *querer* ("to want") in a sentence in Spanish, you must distinguish between two kinds of structures. The most simple one is *querer* followed by a noun: for example, *Yo quiero una manzana* ("I want an apple"). A more complex one involves using another verb. If the verb is intransitive, the sentence finishes there. But if the verb is transitive, a noun or a direct object may follow. See the following examples.

### Sentences with *Querer* Followed by a Noun

<b>Personal Pronoun</b>	<b>Verb "to Want"</b>	<b>Noun</b>	<b>"English"</b>
<i>Yo</i>	<i>quiero</i>	<i>una manzana</i>	"I want an apple."
<i>Tú</i>	<i>quieres</i>	<i>un dulce</i>	"You want a sweet."
<i>Él</i>	<i>quiere</i>	<i>una casa</i>	"He wants a house."
<i>Ella</i>	<i>quiere</i>	<i>el dinero</i>	"She wants the money."
<i>Usted*</i>	<i>quiere</i>	<i>todo</i>	"You want everything."

### Sentences with *Querer* Followed by an Intransitive Verb

<b>Personal Pronoun</b>	<b>Verb "to Want"</b>	<b>Intransitive Verb</b>	<b>"English"</b>
<i>Yo</i>	<i>quiero</i>	<i>comer</i>	"I want to eat."
<i>Tú</i>	<i>quieres</i>	<i>dormir</i>	"You want to sleep."
<i>Él</i>	<i>quiere</i>	<i>soñar</i>	"He wants to dream."
<i>Ella</i>	<i>quiere</i>	<i>vivir</i>	"She wants to live."
<i>Usted*</i>	<i>quiere</i>	<i>gozar</i>	"You want to enjoy."

### Sentences with *Querer* Followed by a Transitive Verb + Direct Object

<b>Personal Pronoun</b>	<b>Verb "to Want"</b>	<b>Transitive Verb</b>	<b>Direct Object</b>	<b>"English"</b>
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Yo	<i>quiero</i>	<i>comer</i> **	<i>pollo</i>	"I want to eat chicken."
Tú	<i>quieres</i>	<i>ver</i>	<i>televisión</i>	"You want to watch TV."
Él	<i>quiere</i>	<i>hacer</i>	<i>cosas</i>	"He wants to do things."
Ella	<i>quiere</i>	<i>ir</i>	<i>a Coyoacán</i>	"She wants to go to Coyoacán."
Usted*	<i>quiere</i>	<i>aprender</i>	<i>español</i>	"You want to learn Spanish."

\* *Usted* is the formal pronoun for "you."

\*\* Notice that some verbs such as *comer* ("to eat") can be transitive or intransitive.

In this dialogue, when Alejandro asked Ashley *¿qué quieres hacer hoy?* Ashley responded using a transitive verb: *Quiero ir a Coyoacán*. Here, the direct object is *a Coyoacán* because it is receiving the action of the verb *ir* ("to go"). To use *querer* in question form, you can simply add question marks and take out the personal pronoun.

### For Example:

Affirmation	Question
<i>Tú quieres comer tacos.</i> ("You want to eat tacos.")	<i>¿Quieres comer tacos?*</i> ("Do you want to eat tacos?")

\* Notice how the personal pronoun *tú* disappears.

### For Example:

- ¿Qué quieres comer?*  
"What do you want to eat?"
- Quiero comer pan.*  
"I want to eat bread."

## Examples From This Dialogue

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1. *¿Qué quieres hacer hoy?*  
"What do you want to do today?"
2. *Quiero ir a Coyoacán.*  
"I want to go to Coyoacán."

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

### Mexicans Won't Disappoint You

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Normally in Mexico, people will try to be very easygoing and agree to go along with the plan that their guests or friends suggest. But sometimes frustration gets in the way, and they have a hard time saying what they really feel for fear of disappointing or confronting someone. Make sure that you say exactly what you want from the beginning. To avoid being judged negatively, try keeping a smile and praising your friend's ideas by saying "Good idea!" or "That's fantastic!" and so forth. But, in the long run, you will have more friends if you can stay true to yourself.