

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S1 #18 Here's Another Excuse in Spanish for Not Having Your Work Done

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INFORMAL SPANISH

1. BELÉN: ¡No puedo trabajar!
2. PATRICIO: ¿Por qué?
3. BELÉN: ¡No hay internet!
4. PATRICIO: ¡Aprovecha entonces!

ENGLISH

1. BELÉN: I can't work!
2. PATRICIO: Why not?
3. BELÉN: There's no Internet!
4. PATRICIO: Then enjoy it!

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
trabajar	to work	verb	
hay	there is, there are	verb	
el internet	Internet	noun	masculine
aprovechar	to enjoy, to take advantage of	verb	

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>A mí no me gusta trabajar en este restaurante.</p> <p>"I do not like to work in this restaurant."</p>	<p>Cuando hace mucho calor, no hay nada mejor que la limonada.</p> <p>"When it's really hot, there's nothing better than lemonade."</p>
<p>Cuando hay vagancia no hay desarrollo.</p> <p>"When the laziness is present, there is no development."</p>	<p>Cuando hay un cambio de clima, siempre me da alergia.</p> <p>"When there is a change in the weather, my allergies start to bother me."</p>
<p>Al final, hay dos opciones.</p> <p>"In the end, there are two options."</p>	<p>Sin el internet no podría hacer mi tarea.</p> <p>"Without Internet, I wouldn't be able to do my homework."</p>

Deberíamos aprovechar de la hora y salir de una vez.

"We should take advantage of the time and leave right away."

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

trabajar ("to work")

hay ("there is," "there are")

el internet ("Internet")

aprovechar ("to enjoy," "to take advantage")

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Existence with the Verb *Haber*.

¡No hay internet!

"There's no Internet!"

The verb *haber* has two functions: one is to be the auxiliary verb we use for all the compound verb forms (e.g., "I **have** eaten," "We **had** spoken," etc.). The second function of *haber* is to express the existence of things, people, actions, and events (e.g., "**There is** a man."). In this lesson, we focus on the second function.

In the present indicative, *haber* has a special form for existence: *hay* ("there is," "there are"). Unlike the English "there is" and "there are," the Spanish *hay* is invariable with respect to number; that is, it's *hay* for both singular and plural.

Formation

In the present tense of the indicative mood, the verb *haber* has only one form:

- *hay* ("there is," "there are")

This is a verb of existence. If we take the sentence *Hay nubes en el cielo* ("There are clouds in the sky"), we can substitute *hay* for *existen* ("exist") and we get "Clouds exist in the sky." Saying *hay* in this sense is a way of stating the existence of something, someone, some place, etc.

To say that something (or someone) does not exist, the negation adverb *no* ("not") directly precedes the conjugated verb *hay*.

Sample Sentences

1. *Hay una botella de vino en la mesa.*
"There is a bottle of wine on the table."
2. *Hay mariscos en el saltado.*
"There are shellfish in the stir-fry."
3. *Hay carne en la sopa.*
"There is meat in the soup."

4. *Hay bebidas para tomar.*
"There are beverages to drink."
5. *Hay diez personas en el bus.*
"There are ten people on the bus."
6. *Hoy no hay tamales.*
"There are no tamales today."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Chatting online in Spain

What AOL Instant Messenger is/was to the United States, MSN Instant Messenger is to the Spanish-speaking world. It's as simple as that. Why is that? Very simple: AOL was only accessible in the United States. And granted, although AOL Instant Messenger could be accessed in countries such as Mexico, Colombia, and Spain, because much of AOL's news and other news was only in English the website did not appeal overall to Spanish speakers. With MSN, there was a broader marketing effort to attract Spanish speakers and therefore engage them into downloading the free instant messenger program. Hence why so many people from Spanish-speaking countries continue to use MSN IM as their main chat program; I count myself as one of those. Especially (oddly enough) at work.

Now though, because of Google's ever-expanding reach into all countries, it is slowly taking over as the the main way of chatting online.

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