

## LESSON NOTES

# Absolute Beginner S1 #19

## What a Kind Thing to Say in Spanish!

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## INFORMAL SPANISH

1. MIGUEL: Oye, ¡qué bonita te ves! Te cortaste el pelo.
2. ÁNGELA: Sí, ¿no es muy corto?
3. MIGUEL: No, te queda perfecto.
4. ÁNGELA: Ay, qué lindo.

## ENGLISH

1. MIGUEL: Hey, you look so nice! You cut your hair.
2. ÁNGELA: Yes. It's not too short?
3. MIGUEL: No, it's perfect on you.
4. ÁNGELA: Oh, how nice.

## VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
corto	short, small, meager	adjective	
lindo	pretty, nice, lovely	adjective	masculine
bonito	pretty	adjective	
perfecto	perfect	adjective	

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

¡Qué lindo! "How nice!"	Tenemos una casa linda. "We have a pretty house."
¡Qué bonito día! "What a nice day!"	Fue una obra perfecta en todos los aspectos de producción. "It was a perfect piece in all aspects of the production."

## VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

### **bonito** ("pretty," "lovely")

We use this adjective to describe people and objects that are visually appealing.

### **cortarse el pelo** ("to get a haircut")

This phrase literally means "to cut one's hair."

### **corto** ("short")

This adjective describes length. For "short in stature," use **bajo**. For a "short length of time," use **breve**.

### **perfecto** ("perfect")

This adjective is nearly a perfect cognate in English and Spanish.

### **lindo** ("pretty," "lovely")

Like **bonito**, we can use this adjective to describe something or someone who is visually appealing. In addition, it can also refer to abstract things, like ideas or situations; in this case, we often translate it as "nice."

## GRAMMAR

### **The Focus of This Lesson Is Forming Exclamations Using Interrogative Pronouns.**

**¡Qué bonita te ves!**

**"You look great!"**

We usually use interrogative pronouns for questions; however, we can also use them in exclamations, especially when we are trying to convey a sense of wonder.

## Review: Interrogative Pronouns

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Interrogative pronouns function as variables in a non-yes/no questions; they take the place of the noun or phrase that we are inquiring about. In English, we often refer to interrogative pronouns as the "wh-" words:

1. "Who?"
2. "What?"
3. "Which?"
4. "When?"
5. "Where?"
6. "Why?"
7. "How?"
8. "How much?" or "How many?"

These are the interrogative pronouns in Spanish:

1. ***quién, quiénes*** ("who"/"whom")  
We use this question word when the answer to the question is a person. Note the plural form is *quiénes*.
2. ***qué*** ("what")  
This is the all-purpose question word; the answer may be an object, idea, concept, organization, or anything not human.
3. ***dónde*** ("where")  
We use this question word when the answer to the question is a place.
4. ***cuándo*** ("when")  
We use this question word when the answer is a moment in time.

5. **cuál, cuáles** ("which," "which one," "which ones")  
We use this question word for options when we have defined possible options.
6. **cómo** ("how")  
We use this question word when the answer to the question is a manner.
7. **cuánto, cuánta, cuántos, cuántas** ("how much," "how many")  
We use these question words when the answer to the question is a quantity. For neuter concepts, use the masculine *cuánto*. When referring to a specific noun, this word will agree in person and number with the noun in question.

## Formation and Sample Sentences

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To make exclamations with adjectives, use the interrogative pronoun *qué* followed by an adjective.

### For Example:

1. *¡Qué rico!*  
"How delicious!"
2. *¡Qué tonto eres!*  
"You're so dumb!"
3. *¡Qué ridículo se le ve!*  
"She looks so ridiculous!"

We may also use the interrogative pronoun with a noun, without an article.

### For Example:

1. *Es una mujer. Y, ¡qué mujer!*  
"She's a woman, and what a woman she is!"
2. *¡Qué ciudad más bonita!*  
"What a lovely city!"

We can also form exclamations with *cómo* and *cuánto*.

**For Example:**

1. *Cuánto te quiero, mi amor.*

"I love you so much, my darling."

2. *¡Cómo te extraño!*

"I miss you so much!" or "Oh! how I miss you!"

3. *Cómo molestas.*

"You are irritating."