

LESSON TRANSCRIPT

Absolute Beginner S1 #21

I have a Spanish request for you!

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INTRODUCTION

Jessi: Hi, everyone. I'm Jessi and joining me is?

Karen: Karen. Welcome to Absolute Beginner Season 1, Lesson 21, I have a Spanish request for you. Hola Jessi, ¿Cómo estás?

Jessi: Muy bien Karen, ¿y tú?

Karen: Muy bien, gracias.

Jessi: So, Karen, what are we going to learn in this lesson?

Karen: In this lesson, we are going to learn how to ask for something.

Jessi: Where does this conversation take place and who is it between?

Karen: The conversation takes place at Manuel's house, and it's between Manuel and a representative at a taxi company.

Jessi: So, the conversation is between two strangers which means they'll be speaking formal Spanish.

Karen: Okay, let's listen to the dialogue.

LESSON CONVERSATION

Manuel: Buenas tardes. Un taxi a la avenida Sierra, número 732, por favor.

Taxista: Claro que sí. En quince minutos llega.

Manuel: Gracias. ¿Aceptan tarjeta de crédito?

Taxista: Por supuesto.

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

Manuel: Buenas tardes. Un taxi a la avenida Sierra, número 732, por favor.

Taxista: Claro que sí. En quince minutos llega.

Manuel: Gracias. ¿Aceptan tarjeta de crédito?

Taxista: Por supuesto.

Karen: And now, with the translation.

Manuel: Buenas tardes. Un taxi a la avenida Sierra, número 732, por favor.

Karen: Good afternoon, a taxi to 732 Sierra Avenue, please?

Taxista: Claro que sí. En quince minutos llega.

Jessi: Certainly, it'll arrive in 15 minutes.

Manuel: Gracias. ¿Aceptan tarjeta de crédito?

Karen: Do you accept credit cards?

Taxista: Por supuesto.

Jessi: Of course.

POST CONVERSATION BANTER

Jessi: Karen, speaking of taxis, it's pretty common to take taxis in Spanish speaking countries, right?

Karen: Yes, it is actually. I'd say, it's very common to take taxis.

Jessi: I remember when I went to Mexico, there were taxis everywhere like these little green beetle bee bugs. How about the cost? Are they expensive? I mean, I've been into a lot of places and it can add up.

Karen: Actually, for the most part, taxis are very cheap compared to other countries. I remember when I went to Peru, I was shocked by it. The taxi rides were just a couple of dollars.

Jessi: That is really cheap, actually. And in the dialogue, Manuel made a phone call for a taxi.

Karen: Yes, that's right. This is actually recommended. There are countries that allow

anyone to use their car to work as taxi drivers, meaning, that those people are really working on their own.

Jessi: The ones that you might just flag down on the street?

Karen: Yes, that's right. They usually just drive around until someone stops them on the streets.

Jessi: So, there might not be any problem, but if you make a phone call for a taxi then you're actually getting someone who works for a taxi company?

Karen: Yes, that's right.

Jessi: Another thing, too, that I've heard is that if the taxi doesn't have a meter, you should negotiate your price beforehand.

Karen: That's correct. In the larger cities, they almost all should be metered, but in other places where they don't, you should decide on a price before you get in.

Jessi: Just some good tips to remember.

VOCAB LIST

Jessi: Let's take a look at the vocabulary for this lesson. The first word is.

Karen: Por favor

Jessi: Please.

Karen: por fa-vor, por favor.

Jessi: Next is?

Karen: claro que sí

Jessi: Yes, of course.

Karen: cla-ro que sí, claro que sí

Jessi: Next is?

Karen: llegar

Jessi: To arrive.

Karen: lle-gar, llegar

Jessi: Next is?

Karen: aceptar

Jessi: To accept.

Karen: a-cep-tar, aceptar

Jessi: Next is?

Karen: por supuesto

Jessi: Of course.

Karen: por su-pu-es-to, por supuesto

KEY VOCABULARY AND PHRASES

Jessi: Let's take a look at some of the words and phrases from this lesson. The first one is?

Karen: por favor

Jessi: And this means "please." This one's pretty easy.

Karen: That's right. It always means "please." Just note that "favor" means: favor, in English. So, basically, you're asking someone to do you a favor.

Jessi: Right, and that's a pretty good way to remember it. And the next phrase?

Karen: Claro que sí, of course, certainly. In the dialogue, the person at the taxi company says, claro que sí, after Manuel requested a taxi.

Karen: As in, certainly. I think, claro que sí, is a very useful one to know.

Jessi: Yes, it is. And here's a useful tip.

Karen: Oh, what's that?

Jessi: Okay, well, "claro que sí" means: of course, yes, but what about if we want to say, "of course, not"?

Karen: Ah, you could just change the "sí" for a "no," am I right?

Jessi: Yes, that's exactly how to say it, "claro que no": of course, not. And our next phrase?

Karen: Por supuesto.

Jessi: "Of course." Now, we just look at "claro que sí" which we also said means: of course.

Karen: Yes, that's right. Their meanings are the same, so we can use either one if we want to say, "Of course."

Jessi: Yes, both are fine. Also, if we want to say, Of course not, but using "por supuesto", we say "por supuesto que no".

Karen: Okay, so just add "que" and then "no". Por supuesto que no, like, of course not. That's interesting.

Jessi: They both mean the same thing, and they were both used in the dialogue. And the next word?

Karen: Llegar

Jessi: To arrive. And this is an AR verb. How did we see it used in the dialogue?

Karen: When the person on the phone says, "En quince minutos llega", they're talking about the taxi.

Jessi: Right. En quince minutos llega, so "llega", this is in the third person singular because it's talking about the taxi specifically that's on the way. And the last word?

Karen: aceptar

Jessi: To accept. And this is a cognate meaning it's very similar to its English

counterpart, accept, “aceptar”.

Karen: That’s exactly right. And like you said, it means to accept.

Jessi: How did they use it in the dialogue?

Karen: Manuel asks, “¿Aceptan tarjeta de credito?” Do you accept credit cards? Like “llegar”, it’s used in the third person. But in this case, it’s plural, “aceptan” because he’s talking about all the taxis in the company and not just one taxi.

Jessi: Kind of like, do they all take credit cards?

Karen: That’s right.

Jessi: Okay. On to the grammar point.

LESSON FOCUS

Karen: In this lesson, you’ll learn how to ask for something.

Jessi: Yes. It sounds simple, and really, it is. All you have to do is use the phrase, por favor, so it’s like this: item, plus, por favor.

Karen: Really simple. Let’s here how it was used in the dialogue.

Jessi: Un taxi a la avenida Sierra, número 732, por favor.

Karen: A taxi to 732 Sierra Avenue, please.

Jessi: There’s a lot of extra information in that sentence, but really, it all comes down to: Un taxi, por favor.

Karen: Right, Un taxi, por favor. Taxi, please. How about some other examples?

Jessi: Sure. You can put a lot of things before, “por favor”. For example, Un pan, por favor.

Karen: Pan, is bread and “un” means a, or one. So you’re basically just asking for a piece of bread: Un pan, por favor. Another one?

Jessi: Una caja, por favor.

Karen: Caja, is box. So, a box please, or one box, please. By the way, “caja” is feminine, so we need “una” in front of it. Una caja.

Jessi: That’s right. Any others?

Karen: How about, Un momento, por favor.

Jessi: Ah, you hear this one a lot. One moment please. Now, you’re not asking for an actual item this time, but you’re still asking for something, right?

Karen: That’s right. Un momento, por favor.

Jessi: Okay, I think this point using “por favor”, is pretty easy to understand. So to go a step further, what are some other ways we can ask for something?

Karen: Good question. Another common way to ask for something would be “Me da, plus, the item”.

Jessi: Me da, so that uses the reflexive verb “darse”, to give someone.

Karen: That’s right, so it’s like, you’re asking, Can you give me blank?

Jessi: Can we hear an example?

Karen: Sure. For example, at a restaurant, you could say, “Me da una servilleta.”

Jessi: “Could you give me a napkin?”

Karen: That form is used for strangers. If you were to ask a friend, you would use “tú form”, das. “Me das una servilleta”.

Jessi: Great. So in this lesson, we learned a few different ways to ask someone for something.

Karen: Listeners, try practicing the next time you have to ask for something in Spanish.

Jessi: Yes. And you’re sure to get what you want. Well, that’s going to wrap it up for this lesson.

Karen: Listeners, do you know the powerful secret behind rapid progress?

Jessi: Using the entire system. Lesson notes are important part of this system.

Karen: They include the transcript and translation of the conversation.

Jessi: Key lesson, vocabulary.

Karen: And detailed grammar explanations.

Jessi: Lesson notes accompany every audio and video lesson.

Karen: Use them on the site or mobile device or print them out.

Jessi: Using the lesson notes with audio and video media will rapidly increase your learning speed. Go to [SpanishPod101.com](https://spanishpod101.com) and download the lesson notes for this lesson right now. Make sure to leave us a comment with your feedback and suggestions. We look forward to hearing from you. Until next time.

Karen: Hasta luego.