

LESSON NOTES

Absolute Beginner S1 #23 A Spanish Miracle

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INFORMAL SPANISH

1. De nuevo en la calle.
2. SAMUEL: ¡Quiubo Paco!
3. PACO: ¡Qué milagro, Samuel! ¿Qué haces por acá?
4. SAMUEL: Pues, es fin de semana.
5. PACO: Eso sí. Vamos a dar un rol.

ENGLISH

1. On the street.
2. SAMUEL: What's up, Paco?
3. PACO: Samuel, what a miracle! What are you doing here?
4. SAMUEL: Hey, it's the weekend.
5. PACO: Indeed it is. Let's go hang out.

VOCABULARY

| Spanish | English | Class | Gender |
|---------------|--|-------|--------|
| quiubo | What's up? How's it going? (Mexican slang) | | |
| ¡Qué milagro! | What a miracle! | | |

| | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| por acá | around here | | |
| pues | so, so then | conjunction, pause-word | |
| rol | role, list | | |
| fin de semana | weekend | noun | masculine |
| eso | that | demonstrative pronoun | masculine |
| vamos a (+ infinitive) | we're going to (+infinitive) | verbal phrase | |

SAMPLE SENTENCES

| | |
|---|---|
| ¿Quiubo Jorge? "What's up Jorge?" | Qué milagro verte! "What a miracle it is to see you!" |
| Por acá hay un restaurante al que podemos ir. "There's a restaurant around here we could go to." | Pues yo no veo el problema. "So I do not see the problem." |
| Hace tiempo que no damos un rol. "We haven't hung out in a long time." | ¿Te gustaría ir a la playa conmigo este fin de semana? "Would you like to go to the beach with me this weekend?" |
| ¡Eso sí que no! "Certainly not!" | Vamos a viajar al sur. "We're going to travel to the south." |

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

quiubo ("What's up?")

The word *quiubo* is not one that Spanish speakers from every country use. It is commonly used in Mexico and also in Costa Rica. *Quiubo* comes from *que hubo* and we only use it with people that we know. It wouldn't be proper to use *quiubo* in formal situations.

qué milagro ("What a miracle!")

In Spanish, people use *qué milagro* when they are surprised at something. They also can use it in a sarcastic way. *Qué milagro* literally means "What a miracle!"

por acá ("around here")

Por in this case means "around," and *acá* means "here." When we use *por acá* together, we can translate it as "around here" or "this way."

pues ("well")

Pues in most cases means "well." Sometimes it can also mean "then."

rol ("role" or "list": here we use it in the slang expression *dar un rol*, meaning "to hang out" or "to go around")

This word is also one word that we use in Latin America just like *quiubo*, and it means "let's go around the block" or "let's go around somewhere else." It doesn't specify where; it just means something like "hang out." It is slang and, of course, it is not proper to use it in formal situations. The real translation of *rol* is "roll," "list," and "role."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Latin American Regionalisms.

Eso sí. Vamos a dar un rol

"That's right. Let's go around."

In this lesson, we'll take a look at some Latin American regionalisms. As we all know, every country has its own slang. It can be difficult at times because certain words can mean different things in different countries.

Here are some regionalisms the speakers use in this dialogue.

Quiubo

Quiubo is short for *que* ("what") *hubo* (the imperfect form of the verb *haber*) and is similar to "What's up?" or "How's it going?" in English. Some similar Spanish expressions are *que hay*, *que tál*, *que pasó*, and *que onda* (which we use in Mexico).

For Example:

1. *¡Hola Ricardo, ¿qué pasa!*
"Hey, Ricardo, what's up?"

Dar un Rol

In the dialogue, we see how the speakers use *rol*. If we look at the real meaning of the word *rol*, it means something totally different. In the dialogue, we can see that it does not mean "list," "roll," or "role." If you hear the phrase *dar un rol* in casual conversation, it is very likely that it means "to go somewhere."

For Example:

1. *Hola Juan, vamos a dar un rol por la playa.*
"Hey, Juan, let's go around the beach."
2. *Maria y yo vamos a dar un rol por la avenida La Mar.*
"Maria and I are going around avenue La Mar."

Other Examples from This Series: *Mande* (from Lesson 5)

We use *mande* when you don't understand what someone says and you want them to repeat it. In this way, it's very similar to *¿Cómo?* Note, though, that Spanish speakers in Mexico mostly use this word.

For Example:

1. *Eva: ¿Qué hora es?*
"What time is it?"
2. *Marco: ¿Mande?*
"Excuse me?"

Examples from This Dialogue

1. Samuel: *¡Quiubo Paco!*
"What's up, Paco?"
2. Paco: *Eso sí. Vamos a dar un rol.*
"Indeed it is. Let's go hang out."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

Talking to Your Spanish Neighbors

In towns that are not very big in size, it is likely to see friends on the streets. Normally people just say hello, but other people hang out for a little bit. Friendship between neighbors and owners of businesses is very common because they are part of their everyday life.