

El imperfecto (-ER / -IR verbs)

Semillas: Elementary Spanish II



Let's review! ¿Qué es el *imperfecto*?

The imperfect tense in Spanish is used to talk about **past actions** that were **habitual, repeated or ongoing**. It is also used to **describe** people and places or set a scene in the past.

We have learned how to form the imperfect tense with verbs that end in –AR. Take off the ending and add:

-aba	-ábamos
-abas	-abais
-aba	-aban



How do we form *el imperfecto* of –ER / -IR verbs?

Paso 1. Take off the –ER / -IR ending of an infinitive verb

- Comer-> Com-
- Abrir->Abr

Paso 2. Add the appropriate ending based on the subject

Yo comía	Nosotros comíamos
Tú comías	Vosotras comíais
Ella comía	Ellos comían

Some examples

Mis amigos y yo siempre **dormíamos** bajo las estrellas.

My friends and I always used to sleep under the stars.

Cada año, **descubrías** sitios nuevos para acampar.

Each year, you discovered new places to camp.

Cuando **hacía** buen tiempo, Eva y Sara **preferían** tomar una siesta en sus hamacas.

When the weather was nice, Eva and Sara preferred to take a nap in their hammocks.

