

The Travelling Koala: Spanish School for English Speakers

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INTERMEDIATE C (UPPER INTERMEDIATE)

Thematic Overview

One of the aims of this course is revise and reflect on the previous two courses, intermediate A and B, and as such, it is a bit like beginner C. There was a lot of material in intermediate A and B, but it's always worth coming back to it and going over it all in order to consolidate what we've learnt.

There will be very little new content introduced in this course. We will revisit the grammar topics listed below, but it's also important to take a bit of a detour from learning grammar, and focus on other skills.

If beginner C was all about consolidation of the grammar while building confidence speaking, then this unit is about consolidation of the grammar, in addition to talking about films and books. The weekly task outside of class for intermediate C is to watch a film (prescribed each week), and write a short review on it (it doesn't have to be anything too deep or intense – up to you though!). Each week, we'll read one or two summaries out in class, as well as have a brief chat about what we liked and didn't like about the film. We will of course have the usual conversation topics about the weekend and what we're up to, as you can never practise these too much!

Grammatical Overview

The Present Perfect

- A revision of the tense we introduced back in intermediate A. It's used to talk about recently completed actions (I have done, have made, have arrived etc.) using the verb **haber (he, has, he etc.)**.

The preterit and imperfect combined

- A revision of the preterit and imperfect when used together in narratives and stories. This idea was covered in a fair amount of detail in intermediate B, but it requires a lot of practice to get it right!

Reciprocal verbs, lo, numbers and necessities

- Looking at these intermediate B topics one more time.
- Parecerse, encontrarse, llevarse bien con, lo que, bueno, lo interesante etc.
- Numbers beyond 100

Reported speech: the preterit, imperfect, conditional and future

- A revisit of this tricky but important aspect of conversation which was covered in intermediate B. For this, we need the preterit = *hablé, hablaste* etc., imperfect = *hablaba, hablabas* etc., conditional = *hablaría, hablarías* etc., future = *hablaré, hablarás* etc.

More than one indirect object pronoun in a sentence (double object pronouns)

- This was covered in intermediate B, but it takes time to master! This is where we use word combinations like: se lo, me la, se los, te los, me los etc.

Negative Sentences

- A look back over these intermediate A topics.
- Using double and triple negatives in Spanish.
- Words such as **nadie, nada, ninguno** etc.

Comparisons and Superlatives

- Another couple of intermediate A topics that are worth revising.
- Making comparisons using **tan + como, tanto + como, más que, menos que** etc.
- Stressing the maximum or minimum character of things with **superlatives**.