

LESSON NOTES

Lower Intermediate S3 #1

After a Spanish Dinner

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#1

DIALOGUE - MEXICAN SPANISH

MAIN

1. Jorge : ¿Qué te trajo a esta ciudad, Alfredo?
2. Alfredo : Fueron una serie de hechos. Primero que nada, la ciudad es bonita y tranquila. Segundo, tengo amistades que me ayudaron a adaptarme. Y tercero, el talento aquí es abundante.
3. Andrea : ¿Te viniste a rodear de talento o viniste a contribuir más al talento?
4. Alfredo : Depende con qué ojos me ves. En realidad pueden ser las dos cosas, ¿no crees?
5. Jimena : Alfredo, conociéndote, viniste a rodearte de talento. Pero Andrea, es buena tu pregunta. Yo agregaría el hecho de que Alfredo recién se divorció.

ENGLISH

1. Jorge : What brought you to this city, Alfredo?
2. Alfredo : It was a series of reasons. First of all, the city is pretty and quiet. Second, I have friends that helped me adapt. And third, the talent here is abundant.
3. Andrea : Did you come here to surround yourself with talent or did you come to contribute to the talent?
4. Alfredo : It depends on how you see me. In reality, it could be both, don't you think?
5. Jimena : Alfredo, knowing you, you came to surround yourself with talent. But Andrea, it's a good question. I would add the fact that Alfredo just got divorced recently.

VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class
traer	to bring	verb
primero (a)	first	adjective, adverb, pronoun
segundo	second	adjective, adverb, pronoun
tercero	third	adjective
divorciarse	to get a divorce, to divorce oneself	verb

SAMPLE SENTENCES

Si no me traes los documentos lo más pronto posible, estás despedido. "If you don't bring me the documents as soon as possible, you're fired."	Nos pidieron que trajéramos nuestras propias bebidas a la fiesta. "We were asked to bring our own drinks to the party."
Traeme la cuenta, por favor. "Bring me the check, please."	Ayer yo traje un diccionario a la clase. "Yesterday, I brought a dictionary to class."
Ve tú primero. "You go first."	por diez segundos for ten seconds
Hay 60 segundos en un minuto. There are sixty seconds in a minute.	sólo un segundo just a second
Quedan cincuenta y ocho segundos en el cronómetro. There are fifty eight seconds left on the stopwatch.	El verbo 'dices' está en la segunda persona. "The verb <i>dices</i> is in the second person."
Mi tercera fiesta de cumpleaños fue grabada en video. My third (3rd) birthday party was all caught on tape.	tercera base third base
tercer lugar third place	El verbo 'llama' está en la tercera persona. "The verb <i>llama</i> is in the third person."
Se divorció de su esposa hace tres meses. "He got divorced from his wife three months ago."	

VOCABULARY PHRASE USAGE

traer ("to bring") Note that in the preterit tense the irregular stem **traj-** takes the alternate endings -e, -iste, -o, -imos, -isteis, and -eron.

primero ("first") This word is primarily adjectival, but it can also be a pronoun, and we can use it adverbially to list a series. Before masculine nouns, use the form **primer**.

segundo ("second") This word is primarily adjectival, but it can also be a pronoun, or we can use it adverbially when listing off a series.

tercero ("third") This word is primarily adjectival, but it can also be a pronoun, or we can use it adverbially to list a series. Before masculine nouns, use the form **tercer**.

divorciarse ("to get divorced") Literally, this means "to divorce oneself" and takes the preposition **de**, meaning "from."

GRAMMAR

The Focus of This Lesson Is Ordering Your Thoughts in a Series.

Fueron una serie de hechos. Primero que nada, la ciudad es bonita y tranquila. Segundo, tengo amistades que me ayudaron a adaptarme. Y tercero, el talento aquí es abundante.

"It was a series of reasons. First of all, the city is pretty and quiet. Second, I have friends that helped me adapt. And third, the talent here is abundant."

When writing or speaking in paragraphs, it is often useful to use adverbs to organize your thoughts into a series. In this lesson, Alfredo uses ordinal numbers to list three reasons why he moved to the city. Below are some additional options used to organize thoughts into a series.

Spanish	"English"
<i>Primero,...</i>	"First,..."
<i>Para empezar,...</i>	"To begin with,..."
<i>Segundo,...</i>	"Second,..."
<i>Tercero,...</i>	"Third,..."
<i>Pues,...</i>	"Then,..."
<i>Luego,...</i>	"Then,..."
<i>Entonces,...</i>	"Then,..."
<i>Por último,...</i>	"Finally,..."
<i>Finalmente,...</i>	"Finally,..."

CULTURAL INSIGHT

After Dinner Spanish Conversation

La sobremesa is the custom of staying at the table after the midday meal or after dinner to chat. This is common in many Spanish-speaking countries. It is often observed by families, and is an expectation when guests are invited to a meal. Often, hosts will offer coffee, tea, or dessert during this conversation; however, they often continue the conversation even if no beverage or dessert is involved.

For students of Spanish, *la sobremesa* is a prime opportunity to practice conversational Spanish (or at the very least, to hear it) in a relaxed, family setting.