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Books & courses by Maria Fernandez

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Please review this book

Lesson 7

In this lesson we're going to hear a another dialogue at the hotel, we're going to practise the new words with the audio flashcards, we're going to learn how to describe 'la' nouns, and finally we're going to compare the vowels and the letter 'h'.

DIALOGUE

We're going to hear this lesson's dialogue twice:

Sr. Rodríguez: ¿Tienen habitaciones libres?

Recepcionista: No, lo siento, está todo ocupado.

Sr. Rodríguez: Vale, muchas gracias.

And here is the dialogue with its translation:

Sr. Rodríguez: ¿Tienen habitaciones libres?

Mr Rodríguez: Do you have any rooms free?

Recepcionista: No, lo siento, está todo ocupado.

Receptionist: No, I'm sorry, everything's full.

Sr. Rodríguez: Vale, muchas gracias.

Mr Rodríguez: OK, thank you very much.

VOCABULARY AUDIO FLASHCARDS

Now we're going to hear the 7 new words and phrases that came up in the dialogue together with their translation:

tienen

you have, they have

libres

free, vacant

no

no

lo siento

I'm sorry

todo

everything, all

ocupado

full, busy

vale

OK

Let's now practise saying those new words. I'll say them in English. Can you say them to me in Spanish?

I'm sorry

lo siento

OK

vale

free, vacant

libres

you have, they have

tienen

everything, all

todo

full, busy

ocupado

no

no

Now that we're familiar with the new words, let's hear the dialogue once more. Can you repeat each line after the native speakers?

Sr. Rodríguez: ¿Tienen habitaciones libres?

Recepcionista: No, lo siento, está todo ocupado.

Sr. Rodríguez: Vale, muchas gracias.

SPANISH GRAMMAR

In this lesson we're going to learn how to describe 'la' nouns.

In Lesson 3 we saw that the word 'la' (the) is used before feminine nouns. Now we're going to see how you describe those feminine nouns. Here are two examples:

La mesa negra - The black table

La llave marrón - The brown key

Notice that describing words ending in **o** in the masculine change their ending to **a** in the feminine (negro - negra). All other describing words stay the same, for instance: azul, marrón.

Here are six examples with masculine and feminine nouns. Compare them:

El teléfono azul - The blue telephone

La mesa azul - The blue table

El pasaporte negro - The black passport

La llave negra - The black key

El baño marrón - The brown bathroom

La habitación marrón - The brown bedroom

Important notes:

1. Only describing words ending in **o** in the masculine change to **a** in the feminine: negro - negra, encantado - encantada, bueno - buena.
2. Describing words ending in a letter other than **o** in the masculine have exactly the same form in the feminine: azul, marrón, individual, libre. In other words, these forms are both masculine and feminine.
3. Using the correct form when describing a noun will greatly increase your chances of communicating successfully.

To illustrate these points, here are six examples:

La mesa es marrón.

The table is brown.

La mesa marrón es mía.

The brown table is mine.

La llave es negra.

The key is black.

La llave negra es mía.

The black key is mine.

La habitación es azul.

The bedroom is blue.

La habitación azul es mía.

The blue bedroom is mine.

To practise what we've learned, can you say the following ten sentences in Spanish? I'll give you the answer after you tell me:

The key is blue.

La llave es azul.

The telephone is blue.

El teléfono es azul.

The passport is black.
El pasaporte es negro.

The table is black.
La mesa es negra.

The bathroom is brown.
El baño es marrón.

The bedroom is brown.
La habitación es marrón.

The brown bedroom is mine.
La habitación marrón es mía.

The key is black.
La llave es negra.

The black key is mine.
La llave negra es mía.

The blue table is mine.
La mesa azul es mía.

SPANISH PRONUNCIATION

In this lesson we're going to compare the vowels and the letter 'h'. Please repeat after me:
a, e, i, o, u.

1. The Spanish h + vowel sounds exactly the same as the vowels on their own.
2. Saying the h like in English makes Spanish words difficult to understand.
3. There are many Spanish words starting with h that have a similar or identical spelling in English. Watch out for those words, as it is tempting to pronounce their 'h' like in English.

To practise these letters, listen to these five Spanish words which look very similar in English but don't sound the same:

humor

hipopótamo

historia

autor

alcohol

Let's now practise saying these five words. Repeat them after me:

humor

hipopótamo

historia

autor

alcohol

And here are five words from this lesson's dialogue. Repeat after me:

tienen

habitaciones

está

ocupado

gracias

To sum up, let's hear the dialogue one last time:

Sr. Rodríguez: ¿Tienen habitaciones libres?

Recepcionista: No, lo siento, está todo ocupado.

Sr. Rodríguez: Vale, muchas gracias.

SPANISH LEARNING TIP

By now you will have come across certain words or phrases that you're finding difficult to say, and you may be wondering whether you have to master them before listening to new lessons.

My advice is to make a note of them and to proceed with your course. Then, every three or four days, go back to your list of difficult words and practise saying them, just for a few minutes.

As you learn more about the Spanish language, you'll find that the difficulties go away, and that you can pronounce words better and with more confidence.

Patience and persistence will help you overcome every hurdle.

This is the end of Lesson 7.