



# the conjugation game

ANA MARÍA FALK

*YOUR SPANISH CONNECTION*

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

(+61)0432710844

yscani@optusnet.com.au

## INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

The aim of the game is to learn not only how to conjugate in Spanish but how to also become proficient and confident in doing so. In English, the process of conjugating is not always obvious; however in Spanish it becomes a very important process of the language, whether written or spoken. Knowing what the verb is doing and knowing how to work with it is a conscious effort when learning Spanish, therefore in practicing this game often the student gains an awakening of what would normally seem like a daunting and mysterious task of the ever present process of conjugated verbs in the Spanish language.

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED

1. Type some conjugated verbs in small cards so that they are on their own and able to be picked up individually as shown here

HABLAS

HABLAMOS

VIVIRÉIS

HE TOMADO

CAMINAREMOS

BEBIMOS

VIVIERON

NOTE THAT THE VEBS CAN BE FOR ANY LEVEL: BEGINNERS, INTERMEDIATE OR ADVANCED

2. Each student rules their own page in a work book to look something like this table below:

TABLE 1

VERBO CONJUGADO	INFINITIVO	1ª, 2ª, 3ª PERSONA SINGULAR / PLURAL	TIEMPO	TRADUCCIÓN AL INGLÉS
EJEMPLO				
HABLAS	HABLAR	2ª PERSONA SING.	PRESENTE	<i>You speak</i>
VIVIERON	VIVIR	3ª PERSONA PL.	PRETÉRITO	<i>They lived</i>
CAMINAREMOS	CAMINAR	1ª PERSONA PL.	FUTURO	<i>We will walk</i>
ETC.				

3. The table 2 (see below) is made by the teacher on an A4 page (laminated if possible) and given to one student or a group. This table is used for the purpose of placing the chosen verb after it has been analyzed on the above table (T1)

Now that all has been prepared ¡VAMOS A JUGAR!

## EL JUEGO (THE GAME)

### STEP 1

From the loose small cut out cards with the conjugated verbs the student chooses one at random and begins the analyzing process:

- Writes the conjugated verb down the verb they have chosen on the 1<sup>st</sup> column on T1
- They then determine the infinitive of the verb they are working with and write this on the Infinitive heading (2<sup>nd</sup> column)
- In further analyzing the verb, the student sets out to determine which person the verb is directed from and whether it is single or plural and writes this on the 3<sup>rd</sup> column eg: 1<sup>st</sup> person plural or what ever it may be!
- The tense of the verb is then worked out and placed on the 4<sup>th</sup> column
- The verb is then translated into English on the last column so that the student has a clear understanding of how the verb works and how it is applied as well as its finding out use in English.
- Finally, the student writes a full sentence in Spanish using the verb in its original form, eg:  
*En la clase todos HABLAMOS en español*

## STEP 2

On Table 2, the student then takes the little card where the verb is written and places it on this table according to the explanation below:

Example verb = HABLAMOS = is an -AR ending verb 1<sup>st</sup> person plural

- a) The student looks under the -AR ending column (T2)
- b) The student then finds their way to the 1<sup>st</sup> person plural box (*nosotros*) and places the verb on it. NOTE that it does not matter what tense the verb is in as they all go under the corresponding pronoun regardless of their tense.

¡BUENA SUERTE!

This game is written and prepared by Ana María Falk  
Spanish teacher for primary, secondary and adult education



TABLE 2

## el juego de conjugación

-AR		-ER		-IR	
YO	NOSOTROS, NOSOTRAS	YO	NOSOTROS, NOSOTRAS	YO	NOSOTROS, NOSOTRAS
TÚ	VOSOTROS, VOSOTRAS	TÚ	VOSOTROS, VOSOTRAS	TÚ	VOSOTROS, VOSOTRAS
ÉL, ELLA, USTED	ELLOS, ELLAS Y USTEDES	ÉL, ELLA, USTED	ELLOS, ELLAS Y USTEDES	ÉL, ELLA, USTED	ELLOS, ELLAS Y USTEDES