

3. Who is ...?

The learning objectives in this chapter are:

1. **Learn how to say, “Who is ...?” in Spanish.**
2. **Meet the words for *a* and *some*.**
3. **Find out how to say The United States in Spanish.**

Hola, and welcome back for un poco más de español. You can estudiar. You can make mucho esfuerzo. But there is nothing, absolutamente nada, that compares to persistencia. La definición de persistencia es continuar with something, even if it is difícil. En mi opinión, the only thing needed to learn español is that you continuar. En mi opinión, la persistencia trumps el esfuerzo.

Remember what esfuerzo means? The last clase was mucho esfuerzo. It's good, but no es necesario. Can you guess what “no es necesario” means? No es necesario.

Bueno, lets continuar with a new word. Who? En español, the word for who is quién. ¿Quién? The sounds in this word are /k-ee-en/. It doesn't matter what language you speak, que lenguaje hablas, if you say the sounds /ee-e-ee-e/ a little /y/ sound barges its way in. Try it. Yeh! /ee-e/. So quién sounds like it has a y, even though it isn't there! So how do you say who? ¿Quién? Did you remember?

Now, let's have a little general knowledge quiz. Do you know, ¿quién es el presidente de the United States? United States. They say States United. Los Estados Unidos. ¿Quién es el presidente de los Estados Unidos? Imagina if someone asked you to say something in Spanish and you could come out with that! It would be impresionante. And the answer to ¿quién es el presidente de Los Estados Unidos? Bueno, cambia. When you escuchas este audio-libro the answer might have cambiado from when I escribo la clase.

Let's have otros ejemplos. ¿Quién es the Chancellor of Germany? Do you know? ¿Quién es el presidente de Rusia? Suficientes líderes. How about otros aspectos of life. Marido means husband. I like that. He's married, so he's un marido. Here's a question for you. ¿Quién es el marido de Megan Markle?

Es means is. En español, you don't always need to say it is, or he is, or she is. You can, if you want to, but often en español people just say es, rather than él es or ella es. Does that make sentido? I don't have to say él es un príncipe. I can just say es un príncipe. El marido de Megan Markle es un príncipe. Es Príncipe Harry.

Bueno. Last question. Último ejemplo. But before el ejemplo, ask yourself, how do you say who en español? Ready? ¿Quién es el actor who played Harry Potter?

You will probablemente be able to guess from contexto, but I'm going to tell you a couple of things anyway. Un and una mean a, as in I have una idea. Isn't that a great word, idea! The other thing I want to tell you is that unos and unas mean some. Mi idea, then, is for you to escribir unos ejemplos of your own. Escribir means write. Like scribble. You just need to think of unas personas famosas. What do you think unas personas famosas means? I don't really need to ask, do I! Then, escribe unos ejemplos starting with the words quién es. You might not know mucho español, so you can finish el ejemplo en inglés if you like. The trick is to start using el español that you do know inmediatamente. Keep calma y escribe un poco de español.

One more word that's un favorito mio, a favourite of mine, and that is conmigo. I love the way it sounds. Conmigo. It means with me. I will put a gold star sticker on your progress chart if you escribes some quién es ejemplos and share them conmigo. Gold star, remember!

Activities to take to your children:

- 1. Make a quiz based on "¿Quién es ...?" questions. You can follow your own child's interests. ¿Quién es the number 9 for Newcastle United? ¿Quién es your favorito judge on The Voice? You may need to do some research!**
- 2. Do a USA geography challenge using the Spanish name, Los Estados Unidos. Remember to say /ooneedos/ and not /yooneedos/. Study a map with your child and see who has the better memory, with questions such as:**
 - Name a state in the south of Los Estados Unidos.**
 - Name 2 states in the west of Los Estados Unidos.**
 - Name 3 estados in the centre of Los Estados Unidos.**