



Beginning Conversation Conversemos! Let's Talk™

Produced by Palomar College
30, 30-minute programs

Textbook:

Conversemos! – Let's Talk

By Carlos Z. Gomez and Janet R. Hafner

Conversemos! Let's Talk is a video series featuring Carlos and Janet, instructors who play the roles of teachers and students in this Spanish-language telecourse. Through the entertaining use of skits, well-known fairy tales, and a continuing melodrama, students watch and listen to language in natural settings, guessing at meaning and formulating rules about language. All activities in the programs are based on practical situations, and the grammar segments stem from these natural communicative activities. There is an emphasis on speaking and listening through the use of everyday vocabulary and communicative skills. Reading and writing skills will be developed from involvement with the spoken language. This series may be used as a non-broadcast or cable television course, as auxiliary material in a language lab, or as a classroom supplement.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Lesson 1: How to Tell Someone to Do Something

Introduces the vowel system, pronunciation techniques, and some simple commands, adverbs, nouns and the Article System.

Lesson 2: How to Describe Objects

Reviews vowel sounds and introduces the consonants "ñ," "qu," and "j." It describes objects using common adjectives and introduces the concept of noun and adjective agreement.

Lesson 3: Getting Ready for a Trip to the Restaurant

Introduces vocabulary for eating utensils and reviews the content of the Melodrama. Limited commands and indirect object pronouns.

Lesson 4: How to Order in a Restaurant

Discusses demonstrative adjectives and a visit to a restaurant and uses new adjectives to compare two Melodrama characters.

Lesson 5: How to Express Physical Conditions

Presents a simple dialogue about problems, and introduces the consonants "ll" and "ch."

Lesson 6: How to Ask Questions and Make Negative Statements

Explains intonation and interrogative form to be used in asking question in Spanish.
Ser vs. Estar

Lesson 7: How to Tell Time

Reviews the expressions used to count and tell time. Descriptive adjectives and phrases are used to compare two of the Melodrama characters. Expressing possession with "de"

Lesson 8: How to Use the Expressions – There Is and There Are

Clarifies prepositions of place and the relationships between each of the Melodrama characters and introduces the verb, "llamarse."

Lesson 9: How to Work with Verbs

Introduces some irregular verbs and the consonant "g" and demonstrates the simple present tense for regular verbs.

Lesson 10: A General Review

Reviews the vocabulary and grammar introduced in the first nine lessons and two important verbs ser and estar.

Lesson 11: The Different Ways to Express "Knowing"

Explains how to express future time using "ir" + a + infinitive.

Lesson 12: How to Go Shopping

Discusses vocabulary used when shopping for clothes, the verb "gustar", and demonstrates the pronunciation of the consonants "h" and "d."

Lesson 13: Parts of the Body

Discusses the days of the week, seasons and month and explores the use of the verbs "ir," "estar," "dar," and "ser."

Lesson 14: How to Follow a Recipe

Presents a version of the fairy tale "Jack and the Beanstalk," and includes vocabulary for foods and a recipe for making a salad.

Lesson 15: Going to the Doctor

Explores reflexive verbs and vocabulary used in a visit to a doctor's office, and explains the use of formal and familiar commands.

Lesson 16: How to Exercise

Introduces vocabulary that relates the physical exercise and diets and commands for exercises.

Lesson 17: How to Use Verbs in the Past Tense

Explains the correct pronunciation of the consonants "v," "b," and "y," and concludes with an installment of the Melodrama that describes two children.

Lesson 18: Talking About What You Did

How to use possessive adjectives, pronouns and the preposition "de". Presents a version of the fairy tale "Sleeping Beauty".

Lesson 19: How to Describe Actions in Progress; Common Daily Actions

Introduces the present continuous tense using the verb "estar". A new installment of the melodrama incorporates vocabulary and expressions involving Rosa.

Lesson 20: Using the Present Progressive Tense

Explains rules governing stress on syllables and how to form adverbs.

Lesson 21: A Guessing Game Using the Expression "Hay"

A Self-Test and reviews vocabulary and grammar and presents new terms for different shapes, size, and weights.

Lesson 22: Learning More Irregular Verbs in the Past Tense

Introduces vocabulary about household furniture and discusses the pronunciation of the consonants "t," "s," and "z."

Lesson 23: Using Idiomatic Expressions with "Hacer"

Discusses life history of Mexican president Benito Juarez. It explains idiomatic expressions using the verb "hacer."

Lesson 24: How to Form the Future Tense

Introduces new vocabulary and uses future tense verbs to describe Carlos' vacation plans.

Lesson 25: Learning How to Make a Comparison

Discusses political divisions in Mexico and how to pronounce diphthongs and explains how words are linked together to create sentences.

Lesson 26: Festival Days; Some Famous Songs

Features some famous Mexican holidays and songs and explains the use of the present perfect tense.

Lesson 27: How to Form the Imperfect Tense

Presents a dramatization of a love scene that reviews and incorporates several verb tenses.

Lesson 28: More Dramatizations - The Thrift & Sorrow

Discusses how to use certain verbs with infinitives and verbs followed by “a” and the infinitive. Features two minidramas that include idiomatic expressions of anger, fear, and sadness. The life of Father Miguel Hidalgo is discussed.

Lesson 29: Tongue Twisters

Explains the differences between “para” and “por”, understanding Spanish surnames, and shows the hosts making comparisons using the term “más.”

Lesson 30: The Final Party - 6 Scenes

Concludes the series with a party that has five separate scenes, allowing students to evaluate their understanding of conversational Spanish in different situations.