

Irregular Stem-Changing verbs.

Where the fun begins!

Unlike the irregular verbs we did which can be identified by their endings (-guir, -uir, -ger, -gir consonant + cer or cir, vowel + cer or cir and so on) there are some irregular verbs which cannot be identified and are only known through practice. Those are the best! (not really)

MOST (not all) irregular stem-changing verbs fall under three categories: e-ie, i-e and o – ue.

REMEMBER IRREGULAR STEM CHANGING VERBS HAVE CHANGES IN ALL FORMS EXCEPT

NOSOTROS!!!!!!

All I can do is expose you to the most popular verbs in each category and through regular reading and practice you'll be able to spot them easily!

e – ie

Querer – to want

Cerrar – to close

Defender – to defend

Empezar – to begin

perder – to lose

pensar – to think

Sentir – to feel

divertirse (reflexive verb) – to have fun

Comenzar – to begin

e-i

pedir – to ask

repetir (the second e) – to repeat

servir – to serve

**elegir (it's always the second e) – to choose/select*

seguir – to follow

corregir – to correct

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e-ie

recomendar – to recommend

preferir – to prefer

mentir – to lie

entender – to understand

sentarse (reflexive verb) – to sit down

despertarse (reflexive verb)– to wake up

sugerir – to suggest

preferir – to prefer

o-ue

volver – to return

acostarse (reflexive verbs) – to go to bed

contar – to tell (a story)/ to count

demostrar – to demonstrate/to show/to prove

dormir – to sleep

almorzar – to have lunch

costar – to cost

encontrar – to find

recordar – to remember

morir – to die

poder – to be able to

Nota bien:

Jugar (to play) is the only commonly used verb whose stem changes from u – ue.

Adquirir (to acquire) and inquirir (to inquire) are the only two commonly used verbs whose stem changes i-ie.

elegir – what do you we have here? A verb that ends in –gir which is also a stem-changing verb. So what happens? We follow the rule! Remember? Verbs that end in –gir undergo a change in the first person singular (Yo) only, “g” changes to “j” and then we add “o” BUT elegir is also a stem changing verb so watch the fun happen: **Yo elijo, tú eliges, éi/ella/vd elige,*

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nosotros elegimos, ellos/ellas/vds eligen. Oh the irregular verbs are so exciting! Can you spot another verb like this?

Reflexive verbs? Reflexive verbs use reflexive pronouns to indicate that someone or something is performing an action on or for itself. We won't go too deep into this right now, just know that something special happens with the conjugation of these verbs. Yay...

Task Time: Write 5 sentences using an irregular verb from each group!

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Practica!

Completa la conversación

Lola: Hola, Sara. ¿Cómo te va?

Sara: Bastante bien. Y tú, Lola, ¿qué hay de nuevo?

Lola: Pues, yo (pensar) _____ tener una cena para mis amigos este sábado.

Sara: ¡Qué buena idea! ¿(Poder-yo) _____ ayudar con las preparaciones?

Lola: ¡Claro que sí! ¿(Querer-tú) _____ ir al mercado central conmigo ahora?

Sara: Sí, yo siempre (encontrar) _____ carne muy buena allí. Y frutas también.

Lola: ¿Por qué no (almorzar-nosotras) _____ primero? Tengo mucha hambre.

Sara: Yo también. ¿Dónde (preferir-tú) _____ comer?

Lola: Hmm. ¿Por qué no vamos a McDonalds? Me gustan sus hamburguesas.

Sara: ¿Qué horror! Yo no (entender) _____ esto. La comida rápida

(tener) _____ mucha grasa.

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Lola: Bueno. Yo (tener) _____ otra idea. Allí hay un café que me gusta mucho. Sé

que el chef (servir) _____ una sopa muy rica.

Sara: No... yo (querer) _____ algo diferente. ¿Sabes si nosotras

(poder) _____ pedir una ensalada de camarones aquí?

Lola: No lo sé. Debes leer el menú. ¿Por qué no (pedir-tú) _____ chuletas de cerdo? Es el plato del día.

Sara: ¡Qué dilema! Generalmente yo (almorzar) _____ un yogurt y nada más.

Lola: ¿Y (pedir-nosotras) _____ vino con el almuerzo?

Sara: No es una buena idea. ¡Yo (dormir) _____ en seguida si bebo vino a esta hora!