

Irregular Preterite Verbs

The verbs **estar**, **poder**, **poner**, **saber**, and **tener** have a unique stem in the preterite, but they all take the same endings.

Verb	Stem	Preterite Endings
estar	estuv-	-e -imos
poder	pud-	-iste -isteis
poner	pus-	-o -ieron
saber	sup-	
tener	tuv-	

Note that there are no accents on these endings.

Preterite of -ir Stem-changing Verbs

Stem changing -ir verbs in the preterite change only in the **usted / él / ella** and the **usted / ellos / ellas** forms.

e → i in 3rd person singular and plural **o → u** in 3rd person singular and plural

pedir to ask for		dormir to sleep	
pedí	pedimos	dormí	dormimos
pediste	pedisteis	dormiste	dormisteis
pidió	pidieron	durmíó	durmieron

Nota gramatical: To describe how long something has been going on, use:

hace + the period of time + que + the present tense.

Hace meses que quiero comprar esa pintura, pero todavía no tengo el dinero.
I've been wanting to buy that painting for months, but I still don't have the money.

To ask how long something has been going on, use:

cuánto tiempo + hace + que + the present tense.

¿Cuánto tiempo hace que quieres comprar esa pintura?

How long have you been wanting to buy that painting?

Nota gramatical: To describe how long ago something happened, use:

hace + the period of time + que + the preterite.

Hace dos años que fui a Puerto Rico.

I went to Puerto Rico two years ago.

Repaso: Present Tense Irregular yo Verbs

Some present-tense verbs are irregular only in the **yo** form.

hacer	poner	salir	traer
hago	pongo	salgo	traigo
conocer	dar	saber	ver
conozco	doy	sé	veo
decir	venir		tener
digo	vengo		tengo

Pronouns after Prepositions

Pronouns that follow **prepositions** are different from subject pronouns and object pronouns. Use these **pronouns** after prepositions like **para**, **de**, **a**, and **con**.

Pronouns after Prepositions

mí	nosotros(as)
ti	vosotros(as)
él, ella, usted	ellos, ellas, ustedes

When you use **mí** and **ti** after the preposition **con**, they combine with **con** to form the word **conmigo** and **contigo**.

Nota gramatical: Other verbs are conjugated like *gustar*, such as *encantar*, *interesar*, *importar*, and *quedar*.

A Marta **le encantan** las pulseras. *The bracelets delight Marta.*