



## Free Learning Tools for BCA Spanish Conversation Groups



### Extra en Español

<https://learnenglishspanishonline.com/spanish/extra-en-espanol-video-series/>

*Extra* is an educational television program scripted in the format of a sitcom like *Friends*. The Spanish version consists of 13 half-hour episodes. Sam, with only a very basic grasp of Spanish, comes to stay in Spain with his pen pal Lola, her roommate Ana, and neighbor Pablo, who lives across the hall. Sam's effort to get a grip on the language provides the dynamic for the series' language learning content. The storyline of *Extra* is very engaging, and Sam's atrocious Spanish will make you feel much better about your own skills! However, because it was filmed in Spain, you may notice some pronunciation's and words that are different from the type of Spanish spoken here and in Mexico. Each video is closed-captioned in Spanish, and if the dialog is a little too fast for you, you can slow it down by changing the playback speed under the settings for the YouTube Player. We will review one *Extra* video each week and use it as a basis for the week's primary conversation topic. **NOTE: We provide a glossary of words and phrases to help you follow along with each video.**



### Butterfly Spanish

[www.butterflyspanish.com](http://www.butterflyspanish.com)

Ana is a delightful teacher from Mexico City who has developed over 50 free videos available on YouTube. Each video covers an important aspect of Spanish conversation, with an emphasis on everyday situations. A great way to start understanding the spoken Spanish word and learn more about Mexican culture. We will use a number of Ana's videos during the program, especially to stimulate everyday conversation.



### Easy Spanish

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAL4AMMMXKxHDu3FqZV6CbQ/videos>

Juan Coronado and his team produce Spanish learning videos mostly in Mexico City and other parts of Mexico. The videos show local language and culture in everyday situations, consisting mostly of street conversations with native speakers. Because the videos are subtitled in both Spanish and English, they are very easy to follow.



## Weekly Mexican Spanish Words with Alex

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\\_bC0YvGkS4RZuFKVEIFSSiJo2-GznPWR](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_bC0YvGkS4RZuFKVEIFSSiJo2-GznPWR)

Alex is an instructor with SpanishPod101 who has developed a series of short videos covering important words and phrases used throughout Mexico. As a native of Mexico, Alex's word selection is very helpful, and she offers lots of side comments how words and phrases are used in everyday conversation.



## Duolingo

<https://www.duolingo.com/>

**Duolingo** is a platform that includes a language-learning website and app, as well as a language proficiency assessment exam. Duolingo mimics the structure of video games in several ways in order to engage its users, and it is very effective in moving beginning students to the advanced beginner or intermediate level. The company uses the "freemium model"; the app and website are accessible without charge, although a premium service is available for a fee. Currently, Duolingo offers 94 courses in 23 languages, and has over 300 million registered users across the world



## Google Translate

<https://translate.google.com>

Although this free program won't always get the words and phrases exactly right, it's a great study tool to create presentations and conversations for your weekly discussion sessions. It also provides a great way to practice pronunciation since you can hear the sound of each word or phrase by selecting the speaker button. Hint: Try entering a word or phrase in English, and then re-enter it again in Spanish. That will allow you to review a number of possibilities and pick the best translation for your purpose. Also, you can use Google Translate offline if you designate that in the settings.

**Quizlet** (<https://quizlet.com/>). Quizlet is a mobile and web-based study application used by millions of high school and college students to compile and study information, especially for foreign languages. Like Google Translate, you can see and hear each word as you study. You can access Quizlet on the internet and also download an app for your tablet or smart phone. Pre-assembled lists of words and phrases can be accessed for a small fee, or you can assemble your own word lists at no charge. The study algorithm use in Quizlet actively helps you to learn new words by focusing on the words that are the most difficult for you. *NOTE: Let's Speak Spanish provides a link to a custom Quizlet list for each weekly exercise.*

**Study Spanish.com** ([www.studyspanish.com](http://www.studyspanish.com)). This is a very useful website that provides free access to pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary lists. Basically, it's a free Spanish reference book for everything you need to prepare your conversations.

**Spanish Conjugation** (<https://www.spanishconjugation.net/>). This is a simple and quick site to check the conjugation of any Spanish verb in any of the 17 (Yes, 17!) Spanish tenses. Don't worry, though; we use no more than 3 or 4 tenses in this program!