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Spanish weather expressions

el frío : the cold No me gusta el frío. I don't like the cold. el caloríe : heat Me gusta mas el calor. I like the heat more. el viento : wind El viento es fuerte hoy. The wind is strong today. el sol : sun El sol me quema rápido. The sun burns me fast. el tiempo : weather El tiempo en Costa Rica es perfecta. The weather in Costa Rica is perfecta. ... Weather Phrases with the verb [HACER] ¿Qué tiempo hace? What's the weather like? (What weather is it doing?) Hace frío. It's cold. (It makes cold.) Hace caloríe. It's hot. (It makes hot.) Hace viento. It's windy. (It does wind.) Hace sun. It's sunny. (So does the sun) Hace buen tiempo. The weather is good. (It does good weather.) Hace mal tiempo. The weather is bad. (It does bad weather.) Hace fresco. It's lively. (It makes cool...) Weather phrases with the verb form [HAY] Hay niebla. It's foggy. Hay neblina. It's foggy. Hay sun. The sun is shining. Hay luna. The moon is out. Hay relámpagos. It's lightning. Hay humedad. It's humid. Hay nubes. It's cloudy. Hay lluvias torrenciales. It's pouring. Hay un vendaval. There's a storm. Hay granizo. It's hailing. Hay lloviznas. It's sprinkling. Weather phrases with the verb [ESTAR] Está oscuro. It's dark. Está nublado. It's cloudy. Está lluvioso. It's raining. Other weather terms simply use a single special verb Llueve It rains. or it's raining. From the verb llover (to rain) Llueve mucho en la selva. It rains a lot in the jungle. Nieva It snows. or it's snowing. From the verb nevar (to snow) Nieva en las montañas. It's snowing in the mountains. Truena It thunders. or it thunders. From the verb tronar (to thunder) Cuando truena también puede llover. When it thunders it can also rain. Llovizna It's drizzling. or the drizzle. From the verb lloviznar (to drizzle) Llovizna en las mañanas. It drips in the morning. Imagine this: You're alone waiting for the bus and someone is standing next to you, or maybe you're getting in an elevator and someone's already there. They nod and you want to look up some conversation, so you decide to comment on everyone's go-to topic, the weather. There is only one problem, the other person speaks only Spanish. Being able to discuss the weather is a good skill to have in your toolbox. Whether you want to know what to pack for your next holiday destination, or you're just looking to do some small talk, here are some words and phrases that are sure to come in handy. Snowy Weather To get you started, the following list describes some basic words that are likely to come up in a conversation about the weather. El sol - The sunLas nubes - CloudsLa niebla - FogLa neblina - FogLa lluvia - The rainLa llovizna - The drizzleLa tormenta - The stormEl tornado - The tornadoEl trueno - The thunderEl relámpago - The lightning strikeEl rayo - lynboltEl viento - The windLa brisa - BrisenEl granizo - The hailEl hielo - The iceLa nieve - The snowEl calor - The heatEl frío - The coldLa humedad - The humidityLa temperatura - The temperatureEl pronóstico - The forecast Spanish noun may be masculine or feminine; look at the article to know which one you are dealing with. See & download spreadsheetView & download answer key Soleado - Sunny Desejado - Clear Sky Caluroso - Hot Húmedo - Humid Frío - Cold Fresco - Cool Nublado - Cloudy Lluvioso - Rainy Gris - Gray/Overcast Ventoso - Windy Gélido - Icy, very cold Helado - Freezing Pair these adjectives with verb estar (to be) to discuss the weather, for example: ¿Está nublado? No, está despejado Some weather conditions have their own verbs, for example: Llover - To rain Lloviznar - To drizzle Diluviar - To pour down Granizar - To hail Nevar - To snow Verbs like these are quite special in Spanish, since they rarely conjugated in anything other than the third person singular, and the subject is not specified. Here are some examples that illustrate that: An invierno llueve mucho - In winter it rains very Está llovinzando - It's drizzling Diluvia - It pours down Mañana nevará - It will snow tomorrow In some other cases you may have to pair some of the above nouns and adjectives with other verbs. Some of the most common verbs used in these cases are estar (used for adjectives as mentioned above), haber (which is) and hacer (to do). You can see some of them in action below: Está caluroso - It's hot Hace calor - It's hot Hay niebla - There's fog So let's go back to the original situation. How can the conversation at the bus stop or elevator sound? It could be something like this: A: ¡Qué frío! B: Sí, está helado. A: ¿Lloverá? B: No sé, el pronóstico dice que no se espera lluvia, pero está muy húmedo. A: Sí, y hay muchas nubes grises. Quizás llueva mañana. B: Puede looks. In a more or less literal translation into English, it would sound something like this: A: How cold! B: Yes, it's icy. A: Will it rain? B: I don't know, the forecast says that rain is not expected, but it's very humid. A: Yes, and there are a lot of gray clouds. It can rain tomorrow. B: It could be. Sometimes, when you discuss the weather, you can talk about the temperature. If you're surprised at how low temperatures seem when looking at forecasts for Hispanic countries, be sure to use the right scale: Hispanics prefer Celsius over Fahrenheit. This means that a 30 degree forecast is actually quite toasty (86 degrees Fahrenheit), while temperatures can easily get as low as 10 degrees (about 50 Fahrenheit) even in warmer areas. Depending on where you are, there are a few ways to say the temperature in Spanish. The most common is to use either the verb estar or the verb hacer. if it's hot you can say something like: ¡Qué calor! Estamos a 30 grados. or ¡Qué calor! Hace 30 grados. Both of these sentences translate to: How hot! It's 86 degrees. In some regions the verb haber is also used, so on a cold day you can hear something like: Hay -5 grados, ¡está helado! (It's 23 degrees, it's freezing!) Remember that although people associate Spanish with tropical countries, Spanish is one of the most widely used languages in the world. In fact, you will find people who speak Spanish everywhere from snowy mountains to golden beaches. Finally, although local variations like the one in the previous section are common with everyday topics, the terms in this article should have you covered in almost every Hispanic country. Look out for new colorful expressions to spice up your vocabulary and sound like a true local! Google Ads blocks to computer version (300×600)Comments:The written lesson is below. Links to quizzes, tests m.m. are on the left. Remember that a idiom is an expression that cannot be immediately understood by analyzing its literal meaning. A few examples of idiom in English are: to drive someone crazy to lose it to be raining cats and dogsSpansk also has many idiomatic expressions. Although their literal translations sound strange to English speakers, they sound quite natural to natives. Here's an example: Idiom: Hace mucho fríoLiterally: It makes very coldTrue Meaning: It is very coldIn Spanish, there are a number of idiomatic terms that employ the verb hacer (literal meaning: to do or to do), and used to describe the weather.¿Qué tiempo hace? What's the weather like? Hace frío. It's cold. Hace caloríe. It's hot. Hace viento. It's windy. Hace sun. It's sunny. Hace buen tiempo. The weather is good. Hace mal tiempo. The weather is bad. Hace fresco. It's lively. Like idioms that use tenes, these idioms also contain a noun.el fríoel calorel vientoel solel tiempoBecause idioms using nouns, they are modified by adjectives, not adverbier. Hace mucho frío. It's very cold. There are also weather terms that use the verb hay: Hay niebla. It's foggy. Hay neblina. It's foggy. Hay sun. The sun is shining. Hay luna. The moon is out. Hay relámpagos. It's lightning. Hay humedad. It's humid. Hay nubes. It's cloudy. Hay lluvias torrenciales. It's pouring. Hay un vendaval. There's a storm. Hay granizo. It's hailing. Hay lloviznas. It's sprinkling. Other weather expressions use the verb estar along with an adjective:Está oscuro. It's dark. Está nublado. It's cloudy. Está lluvioso. It's raining. Other weather expressions use just a single verb:Llueve. It's raining. or it's raining. From the verb llover (to rain)Nieva. It's snowing. or it's snowing. From the verb nevar (to snow)Truena. It's thunderous. or it thunders. From the verb tronar (to thunder)Llovizna. It's drizzling. That's a duster. From the verb lloviznar (to drizzle)Here are some common ways to ask about the weather:¿Qué tiempo hace?¿Qué clima hace?¿Cómo está el clima en...? ¿Cómo está el tiempo?¿Cómo está el clima hoy? The first exercise and test will cover ten of the most common and useful of these terms:¿Qué tiempo hace? Hace frío. Hace caloríe. Hace viento. Hay niebla. Hay granizo. Hay relámpagos. Llovizna.Nieva.Llueve.Practice exercises 2-4 and test 2 will cover all the expressions in this lesson. Just as you can't control the rain, you can't possibly control every conversation your Spanish language journey can lead you into. However, you can bring an umbrella. Over the last two years of my time abroad in Spain, there have been countless moments when bringing up the weather has saved me from otherwise uncomfortable silences with the Spaniards. Luckily, for a sometimes awkward conversationalist like me, the weather in Madrid is sporadic enough (and extreme enough) to always be a relevant topic when I find myself grasping at straws to do small talk. While it may be the easiest way to strike up conversation with a stranger, discussing the weather is also seen as the indicator that the conversation has gotten a little awkward or tedious when talking to close friends. Either way, it's certainly the conversation standard no matter what culture you come from, and for this reason, it's an important tool to have while trying to navigate small talk in a foreign language. Let's get you started with the basic weather terms, and then we'll build to some fun phrases about the weather that really get a conversation flowing! The basics: Asking about WeatherKnowing weather in advance, especially when in a foreign country, can be the difference between having a disastrous day or a glorious one. For this reason, knowing how to ask about the weather is basic when traveling. Here is the most basic way to ask what the weather is like in Spanish: ¿Qué tiempo hace? Literal translation: What weather does it do? Figurative translation: What's the weather like? In Spanish, the word tiempo is extremely versatile. Depending on the context, it can be used to mean one of the following:TimeWeatherA momentA half (in a sporting event entretiempo or mid tiempo is half-time) Cycle (think washing cycle for clothes) Tempó or movement (music) Tense (grammar) Now that we have cleaned up, let's continue with the use of tiempo as it relates to the weather. A few other alternatives to ask about the weather are:¿Cómo está el tiempo? - What's the weather like?¿Qué climatíe hace? — What is the weather?¿Cómo está el clima? - How's the weather going? Note that the Spanish word clima begins with the masculine article el despite its feminine an ending. There are lots of words that break the gender rule like in Spanish and unfortunately just have to be remembered. As you can see, while in English the word climate is not used to talk about current weather conditions, in Spanish el clima can be synonymous with el tiempo (weather) in small talk. But it is also used to talk about climate just like in English. Single Verb Weather ExpressionsThrough many Spanish weather phrases, verbs hacer, haber or estar require to be complete, there are a few weather expressions that can also stand alone. Here they are: Llover (for rain) LlueveTranslation: It rains, it rains. Not once, not twice, but on three different occasions I looked out of a window while I was in a room with a Spaniard and said the brutally embarrassing words: está lloviendo. This, you may have noticed, does not mean it rains, as I would have liked to have said, but rather it cries. Maybe they just took me for a poetic soul and assumed I was referring to the big guy upstairs, but more than likely they took me for a very confused guiri (foreigner). Está lloviendo would have been the right phrase at the moment, but a simple llueve is also appropriate, since the verb llover does not have to rely on estar to be a complete thought. Nevar (for snow)NievaTranslation: It snows, it snows. If I would have had the opportunity to comment on the snow in Madrid in the past two years I'm sure I would have found an equally mortifying phrase to bother myself with, but-ak-the closest thing to snow I've seen here has been more like aguanieve (literally: water ice), which means sludre. As with the verb llover, to say it snows the Spanish verb Nevar can be used in two different ways: está nevando or nieva. It is important to note that nieve with an e-inference is the noun for snow and not the term for it snows, as this is a common confusion for English speakers. Tronar (to thunder)TruenaTranslation: It thunders, it's thundering. Once again, truena or está tronando are just as viable options. Chispear / Lloviznar (for drizzle) Chispea / LloviznaTranslation: The drizzle, it is drizzling. While WordReference.com will say that these two words are synonymous, my Spanish man claims that chispear refers to the moment when you first notice a few drops falling from the sky, while lloviznar is more of a stable but extremely light rain. Using Verb Hacer to discuss WeatherThe Spanish verb hacer will be your best friend when discussing the weather. It is the most basic and common verb to use when talking about the weather in a general sense, but can be difficult to get used to as it translates literally to English as doing or doing, which can be confusing. Here's a list of common weather phrases that use the verb hacer, that the literal translation for all these sentences is it does, but the figurative translation is it is. Hace (muy) buen tiempo — Weather is (very) goodHace un día (muy) desejado — It's a (very) clear dayHace (muy) mal tiempo — Weather is (very) bad (un tiempo revuelto — troubled weather)Hace un día (muy) tormentoso - It's a (very) stormy day (la tormenta - storm)Hace (mucho) frío - It's (very) coldHace (mucho) caloríe mark - It's (very) hotHace (mucho) fresco - It's (very) lively/coolHace (mucho) sun - It's (very) sunnyHace un día (muy) soleado - It's a (very) sunny dayHace (mucho) viento - It's (it's (muy) soleado very) windy (una racha - a gust of wind) Hace aire - It is airy (la brisa - breeze)Use of Verber Haber and Estar to discuss WeatherThe verbs haber and estar is also extremely useful when forming weather expressions in Spanish. When haber is used it is always in hay form, and estar is always in third-person singular form, which is está. Although hay means there is/there is, it's usually translated to that's when we talk about the weather. As you will notice, the phrases formed by these verbs can sometimes be used interchangeably. The following is a list that gives you both haber and estar phrase options when it comes to discussing the weather. I've already mentioned some of the most basic estar phrases when I talked about single verb weather terms, so I've left some of these ones out. Está nublado/Hay nubes — It's cloudy (I've also heard that hace nubes is okay, although in Spain this is definitely not used)Está llovinzando/Hay lloviznas — It's sprinklingEstá lloviendo muy fuerte/Hay lluvias torrenciales — It's pouringEstá granizando/Hay granizo — It's hailing (una granizada —a hailstorm)Está abochornado — It's muggy (un bochorno — sultry or muggy weather)Hay humedad/Está húmedo — It's humidHay niebla — It's foggyHay neblina — It's mistyHay tormenta — It's stormyHay relámpagos — It's lightningHay un huracán — There's a hurricaneHay un tornado — There's a tornadoHay un terremoto — There's an earthquakeHay una inundación — There's a floodHay sol — The sun is shiningHay luna — The moon is outNow that you've learned the basics, it's time to start making weather personal. After all, that's why it's such an important topic of discussion to begin with — it affects us all personally on a daily basis! Here is a list of terms that you can use to describe how weather affects your personal state of well-being. Spanish term to discuss more extreme weather ¿Tienes frío / caloríefore what? — Are you cold/hot? Estoy (muy) sudado (a) - I'm (very) sweaty ¡Estoy sudando como un pollo! - I'm sweating. a chicken! (Think: I sweat like a pig!) Me estoy asando - I'm roastingEstoy cocido (a) - I cook (hot)Estoy

congelado(a) / Estoy helado (a) - I freeze cold / I'm frozen ¡Qué frío / calorieforgo! - I'm so cold/hot! Me muero de calor / frío - I am dying of heat / coldSoy muy friolero (a) - I am a sissy when it comes to the cold (the word friolero (a) does not exist in English). In Latin America, they say friolento (a). Common Spanish term for discussing WeatherEver tried to literally translate the common English saying it rains cats and dogs from English to Spanish? Don't. In Spanish, it would sound nothing short of absurd. Here you will find the correct Spanish equivalent of this sentence and more unique Spanish terms regarding the weather. A lot of these phrases are the ones that I heard (and said) a lot this past summer here in Madrid, where we hit hundreds in June.Hace un calor tremendo - It's burning hotHace un calor ... - It means the same as the term above, but the tremendo part is understood without being indicated. Hace un + your word choice (frío, caloric, viento) is a simple formula for really getting over the extreme level of cold or heat or wind at any given time. Your intonation has to go up at the end of the last word, but for this phrase to work. You also have to kind of pull out the final vocals.¡Ay qué caloric! - It's so hot!¡Qué frío/calor hace! - It's really cold/hot! Hace muchísimo frío/calor — It's very, very cold/hotAquí siempre hace mucho frío/calor en esta época — It's always very cold/hot here at this time of yearHace un día horrible — It's a terrible day (weather wise, there is) Hace un día muy bueno/ malo - It's a very good/bad dayNo hace nada de frío/caloric - It's not cold/hot on allHace un frío que pela - Literally: It makes a cold that peels, figuratively: It's icy. Estamos a ____ grados (bajo cero) — We are at ____ degrees (below zero)Está lloviendo a cántaros — It rains cats and dogs (un cántaro is a pitcher or pitcher, so you can see where they come from with this saying) La primavera, la sang altera - Think: Spring is in the air. (Literally: Spring, the blood changes.) Hasta el 40 de mayo, no tea quites el sayo - Don't take your sweater off until May 40thMay 40th is a stupid way to say June 9th. This extremely madrileño (from Madrid) phrase refers to the fact that Madrid weather can be a bit fickle, so you shouldn't assume there won't be any rain or cold just because the summer weather seems to have arrived. Sayo is an old-fashioned Spanish word that means smock or tunic, but would refer to a sweater in modern times. Here are a few more Madrid-specific phrases about the summer heat that I am become more personally aware of. Por mucho que quiera ser, a julio poco ha de llover — As much as it wants to rain, in July it will make it very littleJulio caliente, quema al más valiente - July heats and burns even the bravestA agosto, sandía y melón buen refresco son — In August, watermelon and mellon are good refreshment. I've already eaten quite a few of both this summer. Agosto, fríe el rostro - August fries your faceFeel sorry to me - the face-frying worst is yet to come. Here's a funny song by Efecto Pasillo, a band from the Canary Islands (where I'm going to escape the Madrid heat for a week this summer!) to listen to while reflecting on everything you've learned. The basic message of the song is that the weather doesn't matter as long as you're close to someone you love. I've included some of the texts below with a translation. No importa que llueva si estoy cerca de ti La vida se convierte en juego de niños cuando tú estás junto a mí. Si hay nieve o si truena si estoy cerca de ti narana nananaEh, no tengo mucho que ofrecerte ves, un par de canciones pa' cantarte bien. En mi cartera treinta primaveras de amor mis poemas pa' todo el mes. Escucho los latidos de tu corazón son pasos que se acercan más y más a mí El mundo gira como un vals y bailo al son de tu vivir. Y ahora mira niña escúchame..... Te llevaré a donde la luz del sol nos mueva donde los sueños ahora están por construir Te enseñaré a nadar entre un millón de estrellas Si te quedas junto a mí.... It doesn't matter that it rains If I'm near you Life becomes child's play When you're next to melf there's snow or if it thunders If I'm near you narana nananaEh I don't have much to offer you, you see a few songs to sing well to you In my wallet thirty springs of love My poems for the whole monthI listen to your heartbeats They are steps That gets closer and closer to me The world becomes like a waltz and I dance to the sound of your life and now see girl listen to me ... I will take you to where the sun's light moves us, where dreams are not yet built I will show you how to swim among a million stars If you stay with meSo, thanks to all these great expressions, you will finally have a linguistic umbrella to bring with you to each Spanish conversation. You will be prepared, rain or shine! And if you love the idea of learning Spanish with music and other authentic videos, you'll love FluentU! 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