

El español en Estados Unidos

USA TODAY **¿Entiende Ud. español?** *By Deborah Sharp, USA TODAY*
¿Entiende Ud. español? If your answer to, "Do you understand Spanish?" is "no," get ready to be left behind. With the surge over the past decade in the Hispanic population in the United States, speaking Spanish is becoming more of a necessity than a choice in many parts of the country. From feedlot managers in Nebraska to New York City stockbrokers, Americans are scrambling to learn a language that is now spoken by many of the 35.3 million Hispanics in the United States.



Si usted no habla español, puede quedarse rezagado
 (If you don't speak Spanish, you might be left behind)

Spanish roots spread in USA
 By Deborah Sharp
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With the surge over the past decade in the Hispanic population in the United States, speaking Spanish is becoming more of a necessity than a choice in many parts of the country. From feedlot managers in Nebraska to New York City stockbrokers, Americans are scrambling to learn a language that is now spoken by many of the 35.3 million Hispanics in the United States.

American are finding that not knowing Spanish can be a hindrance, whether dealing with immigration or advancing at a business level in the "hot" service industry. Even pop culture references and over the hands of the multilingual — from the new census, "¿Entiende Ud. español?" to the very life, "¿Usted habla español?" — make it more difficult to speak Spanish.

"There's nothing foreign about Spanish anymore. It's the second language of the United States," says Debra...

Necessary phrases
 ...which takes the average English-speaking adult about five years to achieve. Instead, they come basic and workplace phrases such as "Please come in for lunch" (*Por favor, por favor, venga*). Teachers often take phrases and translate to specific occupations. For police, "Stop! Deten!" means "¡Alto! ¡Detente!" For medical workers, "Where does it hurt?" (*¿Dónde duele?*)

Though no one expects fluid conversation in one's second language, Spanish phrases serve as a starting point for better communication. His students include phrases from local idiom to foreigners in Fresno County, Calif., where the Hispanic population has jumped 110% to nearly 18,000 in the past decade. Hispanic make up 47% of the county's population of 40,523.

Interpreting and bookkeeping jobs have had thousands of Mexican immigrants to the northern county.

"In learning how to communicate, getting people's names, asking if they have questions on their bills," says Amanda Romero, 21, a pre-nurse computer clerk and one of Nagai's Spanish students.

"It's amazing how much more valuable you are as an employee in Fresno City if you can speak two languages," she says.

President George W. Bush made bilingual English and Spanish, both with a Texas accent. Democratic leaders contrasted accordingly with plans for their own weekly bilingual radio as opposed.

Hard to ignore
 It is increasingly difficult to ignore the spread of Spanish in the United States. But CNN offers instruction in Spanish.

The Yellow Pages in many cities add a Spanish-language entry. And Spanish is working its way into everyday use. In these an American left who can't understand with spicy jargon using the proper Spanish-sounding that "they are 1 like an E. coli-free, hot-o-pasta-ya!"

From airplanes to online, Spanish-language media have exploded. Radio stations now that double in the last decade to 533. Broadcast TV stations jumped 70% to 17 according to industry estimates. And those figures don't include cable and satellite or numerous outlets that devote only a portion of radio or TV programming to Spanish. Even Walt Disney World is adding a one window (opened in the last few years) this year, with the launch of a Spanish language Web site for Hispanics.

For Communist Spanish language business has boomed. Slack says the firm based in Palm Beach, Fla., offered its first certification in 1997. Since then, the number of instructors increased to teach the company's materials has tripled by more than 1,000 in 600 titles. Its workplace and classroom materials, about 25,000 students since Communist Spanish became an industry in 1997. The materials are used in hundreds of community colleges. Classes are tailored for clients, from the Alabama Criminal Justice Center to the Wisconsin State Corp.

As a former college professor of Spanish, Slack says traditional language training leaves many ill-prepared for workplace needs. "At the end of two years of high school or college Spanish, you can read Don Quixote, but you can't help someone you're both account. You can't even understand it."

Even so, progress is encouraging regarding their children to study Spanish. Spanish class requests have soared more than 90% since the 1970s. The U.S. Department of Education projects that high school enrollment this year at 17.5 million students and expects very more than one-quarter of them are studying Spanish.

La reciente publicación de un titular en la portada del USA Today, redactado en español, con la rotunda afirmación de que si se quiere progresar en Estados Unidos se debe hablar español, tiene un significado muy importante más allá de cualquier especulación o de cualquier buen propósito. Es el reconocimiento expreso, en el diario de mayor difusión del país, de una realidad lingüística que articula una compleja realidad socio-cultural y —lo que interesa verdaderamente en el desarrollo de Estados Unidos—, sostiene un mercado en expansión imparable. Sin temor a simplificar, es indiscutible que la importancia del español en este país es económica. Nos referimos a más de treinta millones de hispanos que

aumentan cada día su capacidad de consumo y que cada vez ocupan puestos de mayor relevancia en todos los ámbitos; no en vano, dentro de muy pocos años será la minoría más importante.

1) ¿Cómo se dice en español?

- a) the front page
- b) beyond
- c) good intention
- d) daily newspaper
- e) unstoppable
- f) undeniable
- g) circles, areas

2) Contesta en español:

a) ¿Qué dice el artículo del periódico USA Today de la lengua española hoy en EE.UU?

b) En términos sencillos, ¿qué importancia tiene el español para los Estados Unidos?



c) ¿Qué importancia tiene el alto porcentaje de hispanohablantes para la economía estadounidense?

La comunidad hispana

La comunidad hispana es la más dinámica y emergente en el seno de la sociedad americana y se trata de la tercera comunidad hablante de español después de México y de España. Al tratarse de una comunidad en clara expansión y que se desarrolla en el país más poderoso, su importancia es aún mayor para el futuro de la lengua de lo que sería en otro marco de referencia; de su dinamismo da idea la campaña del English Only y los intentos de suprimir la educación bilingüe por parte de grupos que ven una amenaza, ciertamente imaginaria, al modelo que estiman de valor universal con claro olvido de la realidad mestiza de Estados Unidos a lo largo de su historia.

Answer in English:

a) What comparison is made with Mexico and Spain?

b) What two things have arisen over recent years in reaction to the expansion of the Spanish language in the USA?

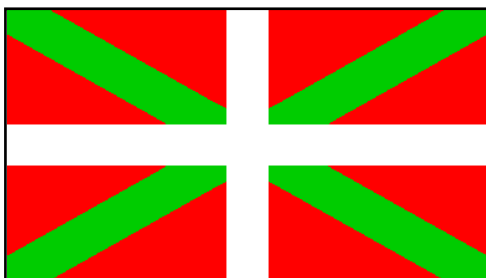
c) What do these things clearly forget about American history?

¿Qué opinas tú?

¿Qué piensas tú? En Estados Unidos, ¿debería ser el inglés la lengua oficial? ¿Todo el mundo en EE.UU debería hablar inglés?

¿Y en España? ¿Todos los españoles, incluso los catalanes, los vascos y los gallegos tienen que saber hablar castellano?

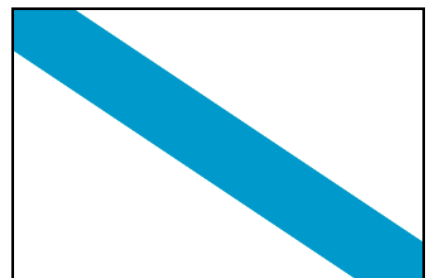
En el Reino Unido, ¿todos los ingleses deberían estudiar por lo menos una lengua extranjera? ¿Hay excepciones?



La bandera vasca (la ikurriña)



la bandera catalana (la senyera)



la bandera gallega