

Present Tense of -ER and -IR Verbs

◆ 1 ◆ Regular -ER Verbs

- a. The present tense of regular *-er* verbs is formed by dropping the infinitive ending *-er* and adding the personal endings *-o, -es, -e, -emos, -éis, -en*.
- b. The present tense has the following meanings in English:

usted come *you eat, you're eating, you do eat*
ella come *she eats, she's eating, she does eat*

comer to eat (I eat, I'm eating, I do eat)			
yo	como	nosotros, -as	comemos
tú	comes	vosotros, -as	coméis
usted	} come	ustedes	} comen
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

◆ 2 ◆ Common -ER Verbs

aprender	to learn	esconder	to hide (something)
beber	to drink	leer	to read
comer	to eat	prometer	to promise
correr	to run	responder	to answer
creer	to believe	vender	to sell

b. In a question (an interrogative sentence), the subject usually comes after the verb.

Felipe corre todos los días. *Felipe runs every day.*
 ¿**Corre Felipe** todos los días? *Does Felipe run every day?*

EXERCISE E

Jorge's grandfather is hard of hearing and often repeats what Jorge says in the form of a question. Tell what his grandfather asks after Jorge makes each of the statements below.

EXAMPLE: Mis amigos aprenden el japonés.
 ¿**Aprenden** el japonés **tus amigos**?

1. Mi papá promete llegar a casa temprano.
2. Yo como demasiado.
3. Tú comprendes mis preguntas.
4. Uds. leen todos los días.
5. El señor Robles vende árboles.
6. Graciela no responde a mis cartas.
7. Los niños beben mucha leche.
8. José corre en el parque todos los días.

4 ♦ Regular -IR Verbs

- a. The present tense of regular -ir verbs is formed by dropping the infinitive ending -ir and adding the personal endings -o, -es, -e, -imos, -ís, -en.
- b. The present tense has the following meanings in English:

usted vive *you live, you're living, you do live*

ella vive *she lives, she's living, she does live*

vivir to live (I live, I'm living, I do live)			
yo	vivo	nosotros, -as	vivimos
tú	vives	vosotros, -as	vivís
usted	} vive	ustedes	} viven
él		ellos	
ella		ellas	

NOTE:

The endings of -er and -ir verbs are the same in the present tense except for the *nosotros* and *vosotros* forms.