

## Top Ten Translanguaging Tips: Spanish & English



### Word Order

#### Spanish

- Mainly Subject-Verb-Object order, but variation is allowed
- Words to be emphasized are placed at the end of the sentence:

"No recuerdo el momento en que salió Pablo."

#### English

- Always Subject-Verb-Object, except for the Passive Voice
- Words to be emphasized are placed at the beginning of the sentence:

"I do not remember the moment in which Pablo left."

#### Spanish

- Infinitives (*infinitivo*) are created through inseparable, inflectional endings: *-ar*, *-er*, or *-ir*.
- They are placed at the end of the verb:

"*escribir rápidamente*"

#### English

- Infinitives are created using the preposition *to* and the verb with no tense
- They are separable and follow this pattern:

"*to write quickly*" or "*to quickly write*"



### Infinitive Verbs



### Negation

#### Spanish

- Double negation is used
- Double negative elements surround verbs with one on either side

"no quiero nada"

#### English

- Single negation is used; double negation is a grammatical error
- Auxiliary 'do' may be used where tense (the time of the verb) is unclear

"I do not want anything"

#### Spanish

- Uses sentence-initial question words
- Uses inverted structure: QuestionWord + Verb + Subject + remaining sentence components

"¿Por qué lee María?"

#### English

- Uses auxiliary verbs to form questions
- The tense of the question is indicated by the 'do' auxiliary and removed from the verb

"Why does Maria read?"



### Interrogatives



### Adjective-Noun Order

#### Spanish

- Adjectives follow the noun they modify
- Adjectives must match their noun in singularity or plurality and in gender

"las reglas difíciles en el lenguaje."

#### English

- Adjectives precede the noun they modify
- Adjectives are not pluralized or marked for gender

"the difficult rules in language"

# Top Ten Translanguaging Tips



## Articles

### Spanish

- Almost all nouns require articles, most of which are definite
- General concepts, days of the week, and likes/dislikes require articles:

"Los viernes estudiamos gramática."

### English

- Specific, countable nouns require definite articles
- General, plural nouns and noncount nouns do not require articles:

"On Fridays, we study grammar."

### Spanish

- Comparative forms are made using an independent structure: *más/menos* + adjective/noun:

"Aprendí más rápido con el OCWC"

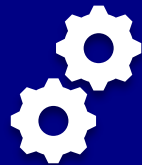
### English

- Comparative forms are made using an inflectional ending
- Inseparable *-er* is added to adjectives:

"I learned faster with the OCWC"



## Comparatives



## Auxiliary Verbs

### Spanish

- Verb tenses are inflected (suffixes)
- Time, number, and the actor of verbs are all indicated in sets of inflectional endings:

"Estoy estudiando gramática."

### English

- Many verb tenses are expressed in two-part structures of an auxiliary verb, expressing the tense, and another verb, expressing the meaning:

"I am studying grammar."

### Spanish

- Possessive forms are made using an independent preposition: *del*
- *Del* is placed between the possessed object and the possessor

"La gramática es el maullido del gato."

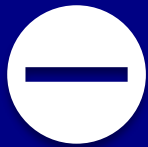
### English

- Possessive forms are made using an inflectional ending: *s*
- *'s* is used for a singular possessor and *'s* is used for a plural possessor

"Grammar is the cat's meow."



## Possessive Nouns



## Subject Omission

### Spanish

- Due to verb conjugation, free-standing subjects can be omitted
- The inflectional ending can indicate the subject:

"Nieva."

### English

- Subjects of verbs are always required for a complete sentence
- An omitted subject is a grammatical error:

"It is snowing."

## Further Resources & Guided Tutoring

### Online Campus Writing Center

Multilingual Writer Support

Writing | Language | Grammar | Speech