

TalkAbroad - Student Workbook

SPAN 102 – Beginner Spanish II

Old Dominion University

Overview

2 15-minute conversations

Topics: Places & Clothing, Daily Routing & Food

- Review: Pre-conversation activities
- Interact: Conversation outlines
- Reflect: Post-conversation activities

Purpose: TalkAbroad will coordinate regular conversation practice for you with native speakers during the semester. This workbook will guide you through that process with preparation activities, conversation topics, and reflection activities.

Student Quick Setup

Step-by-step instructions with screenshots are located in the section labeled [Detailed Student Setup](#) at the end of this document.

1. Navigate to talkabroad.com
2. Click on “Create Account” or “Login” if you already have an account
3. When prompted enter section code “XXXXXXXXXXXX” (provided by professor –see the syllabus)
4. Click “Add Credits” to purchase conversation credits.
5. Click “Make a Reservation” on the homepage and scroll through the partners.
6. [Complete a test call](#) before scheduling.
7. Choose a partner and schedule a conversation using their calendar.
8. Complete your conversation.

Contact our [support team](#) with any questions.

Conversation 1 - Places & Clothing

Prepare (45 min)

- Schedule your conversation
 - Remember to schedule at least 36 hours in advance.
- Review
 - Review vocabulary relevant to conversations about places and clothing.
 - Learn at least 10 new words about places and clothing.

Una faja (Cummerbund)	La farmacia (Pharmacy)
Una chaqueta Sport (Sports Jacket)	La policía (Police Station)
Planchar (To Iron)	La acera (Sidewalk)
Una minifalda (Miniskirt)	La municipalidad (Municipality)
Unos calzoncillos (Underwear)	La posada (Inn)

- Plan
 - Write a list of 5-7 questions you can ask your conversation partner about themselves, where they live and their favorite places to visit and vacation, what forms of lodging and transportation they used. As questions about places they go to shop and what clothing they purchase for their travel and vacations, or what clothing they wear on a daily basis and on special occasions.
 - Avoid questions that elicit a simple one-word (yes/no) answer.
 - Think about how you would respond to each of the questions if they were asked to you (prepare for any vocabulary that you might not know).
 - Read through the Interact and Reflect portion of the sequence to help anticipate any other questions you might need to ask of your partner.
1. Hola, ¿cómo te llamas? **Mi nombre es Dashsirra?**
 2. ¿Dónde vives? **Vivo en Virginia en los Estados Unidos**
 3. ¿Qué haces ahora? **Hablar español.**
 4. ¿Dónde ir de compras para la ropa?
Voy de compras en el centro comercial para la ropa.
 5. ¿Cuál es tu película favorita?
MI favorito es el odio que le das
 6. ¿Adónde te gusta ir de vacaciones?
Me gusta ir a la playa.
 7. ¿Cómo se viaja en coche, avión de tren?
Viajo en auto.
 8. ¿Qué ropa empacas en tu maleta para vacaciones?
Empaco pantalones cortos, trajes de baño, chanclas, gafas de sol.

- Practice
 - Practice asking and answering your questions out loud. If available, find a partner from class and practice together.
- Consider
 - What are some places that you notice you are having trouble communicating? Are there any new words or structures that you can learn before your conversation?

I find myself struggling with the words vacaciones, viaja, and empacas. I can learn how to properly say those words by breaking them down a pronouncing them or hearing them being pronounced to me.

- What are some techniques to help navigate a conversation? What sort of phrases would be helpful?

Some help techniques that will help me with the conversation would be studying before my meeting and having flashcards.

Interact (15 min)

Remember, you do not have to talk for the entire 15 minutes. It is a conversation.

- (3-5 minutes) Introduce yourself to your conversation partner and get to know some basic information about each other.
- (10 minutes) Share a little about where you live. Ask your conversation partner about where they live. Don't limit your conversation to just physical descriptions. Think about culture too! You can also ask and share about favorite places to visit and modes of transportation to get there. Share about the clothes you wear on a daily basis. Ask your conversation partner about the clothes they wear. What do you wear on special occasions?
- Tips
 - Try to *think* in the language of your conversation. Your ability to think in English is much more complex right now and often, problems arise when you think of something to say in English that you are not able to say in the target language.
 - If there are words or major ideas that you don't understand, please ask your partner to help explain/elaborate.
 - Remember, the conversation will be recorded so you don't have to understand 100% of what your partner says during the conversation. You will have time later to look up specific words.
 - If your conversation goes a bit off topic, *that is ok!* The important takeaway from this is that you are building the ability and confidence to interact in the language.
 - When your partner answers a question, try to ask a related follow-up question instead of moving directly to another prepared question that might not be related.

Reflect (60 minutes)

- Review
 - Download and listen to the audio recording of your conversation.
- Write in English
 - Overall, how did your conversation go? Explain.

The conversation over all was good. I was able to understand what my partner was saying and asking. We talked about our favorite color, where we live, I favorite place to shop and more. We shared things about our family. My partner was really understanding if I didn't pronounce a word right. My partner also corrected me and gave me the right word to say.

- About what percentage of your partners' speech did you understand?

I understood about 75% of what my partner was saying to me.

- What are three things that you would phrase or say differently after having listened to your conversation?

Three things I would have said or phrase different would be me answering what I pack in my suitcase, I am I my sister favorite, and what I like to do. I didn't incorporate everything I like to do I just said one thing I like to do.

- List three interesting things you learned about your conversation partner based on their answers to your questions.

I learn my partner doesn't live with his family, he like to wear tennis shoes, he likes to listen to music.

- What sort of cultural inferences or comparisons can you make about your interaction with your partner? If there is insufficient evidence, what comparisons can you make between your families?

We both have a sister, it was sunny where my partners' at and where I am at, he like to go swimming/ beach. We have quite a few things in common.

- List three new words you learned from this conversation.

No sé – I don't know

La zapatilla de tenis- tennis shoe

La música- music

- Is there anything else about the language that you noticed?

Some of the words in Spanish are similar to English words.

- What can you do to better prepare for your next conversation?

To not be as nervous as I was and to have more conversation topics to discuss and have a more in depth of answering my partners' questions. But most of all don't be so nervous because I almost forgot everything.