

# TalkAbroad - Student Workbook

## SPAN 102 – Beginner Spanish II

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### Conversation 1 – La familia (U6)

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Prepare (20 min)

- **Schedule your conversation**

- Remember to schedule at least 36 hours in advance.

- **Review**

- Review relevant vocabulary
- Learn at least 10 new words related to the topics.

Cerrar: to close

Querer: to want/love

Comenzar/empezar: to begin

Encontrar: to find

Entender: to understand

Mostrar: to show

Pensar: to think

Poder: to be able; can

Perder: to lose/miss

Recordar: to remember

- **Plan**

- Write a list of a variety of 10-12 questions you can ask your conversation partner about their family
    - 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. ¿ Cuántos hermanos/hermanas tienes?
  2. ¿Cuántos años tienen tus hermanos?
  3. ¿De dónde es tu familia?
  4. ¿Tienes un novio/novia?
  5. ¿Qué me puedes decir de tus padres?
  6. ¿Qué me puedes decir de tus abuelos?
  7. ¿Tu familia celebra actividades familiares?
  8. ¿Tienes una mascota?

9. ¿Puedes comparar tu familia con una familia estadounidense?
10. ¿Cuál es el nombre de los miembros de su familia?
11. Describe tu relación con tu familia.

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- 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 was having trouble remembering specific characteristics to describe my family members.
    - What are some techniques to help navigate a conversation? What sort of phrases would be helpful?
      - If I need clarification, I will say , "Repíteme por favor" or "No sé" if I don't know.

### Interact (15 min)

Remember, you do not have to talk for the entire 15 minutes. It is a conversation. Aim to participate in **at least 60%** of the conversation.

- (3-5 minutes) Introduce yourself to your conversation partner and get to know some basic information about each other.
- (10 minutes) Share about your family. Ask your conversation partner about their family.

### 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

- Review
  - Download and listen to the audio recording of your conversation.
- Write in English

- Overall, how did your conversation go? Explain.
- Overall, I feel like my conversation went well, but could've been better. I thought I'd be able to remember most vocabulary from this module since we already completed it. I reviewed the vocabulary prior, but I noticed that it's important to continue to review vocabulary from all modules since I had a difficult time remembering specific words to describe my family members.
  
- About what percentage of your partners' speech did you understand?
- **I want to say I understood between 60-70% of what she was saying. Some words I forgot the definition to, like "cosas".**
- What are three things that you would phrase or say differently after having listened to your conversation?  
**I would have went more in depth about characteristics of my family, how similar and different my cultures are compared to the culture we learn in class. I also would have asked more questions to my partner since I feel like she led most of the conversation.**
  
- 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?
- **My partner is from El Salvador. She is enrolled in college, but lives with her family since her college doesn't have dorms. I live on campus at ODU, and my partner has more family members than I do.**
  
- List three new words you learned from this conversation.
- **n/a**
  
- Is there anything else about the language that you noticed?  
**n/a**
  
- What can you do to better prepare for your next conversation?  
**I would continue to review vocabulary from all modules in order to keep it fresh in my memory, and find someone to help me with conversation building in Spanish.**