

# TalkAbroad - Student Workbook

## SPAN 202 Intermediate Spanish II

Old Dominion University

---

### Overview

2 15-minute conversations

Topics: En la ciudad y en el campo, Careers

- 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](http://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)
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 2 – Los influenciadores y las costumbres (U20-U21)

---

### Prepare (30 min)

- Schedule your conversation
  - Remember to schedule at least 36 hours in advance.
- Review
  - Review vocabulary relevant to conversations on the assigned topics.
  - Learn at least 10 new words related to these topics.

tostar	El creador
La hospitalidad	Tener capacidad de influir
evolucionar	Hacer publicaciones
El valor social	influenciador/a
Transmitir por tradición oral	Ser un referente

- Plan
    - Write a list of 10-12 questions you can ask your conversation partner about influencers and their roles on the culture today. Ask what your partner thinks about the effects influencers have on marketing and business and social media, what responsibility should they have, and if they follow any influencers.
    - Write a list of 4-5 questions you can ask your conversation partner about customs that have remained over a long period of time in their country. Find out the purpose of it, how it is celebrated, what values are associated with it, can it be ignored or rejected.
      - 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.
- ¿Quién es tu influecidor favorito y por qué? ¿Hay muchos influenciadores en tu país? En Los Estados Unidos muchos de los influenciadores viven el la misma ciudad que es Los Angeles ¿Hay un lugar o lugares como esto y qué son? ¿Qué piensas de los influenciadores? ¿Has conocido un influenciador? ¿Cuál es tu tipo de contenido favorito? ¿Te gustan muchos tipos de contenidos? ¿Piensas que influenciadores pueden ser famosos o solo popular? ¿Piensas que el trabajo de un influecidor es más fácil que un trabajo típico? ¿Has pensado sobre ser un influecidor?

¿Cuál tradiciones tiene su familia? ¿En general te gustan las tradiciones y por qué? ¿Quieres continuar las tradiciones de su familia con sus parientes de futuro? ¿Piensas que los costumbres son importantes a la cultura y cómo?

- 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 am having trouble with the new vocabulary. I am not as confident with the pronunciation. I can also work on making my sentences smoother and not hesitating as much.
  - What are some techniques to help navigate a conversation? What sort of phrases would be helpful?  
I can speak slower so I have time to think about what I am saying, and so I don't speed through everything I am trying to say.

## Interact (15 min)

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

- (1-2 minutos) Preséntese con su compañero de conversación y compartan información básica de si mismo.
- (7-8 minutos) Discuss the rol the influencers have in our culture today. Talk about the effect they have on marketing and business. Also the effect on/in social media. What responsibility do you think influences should have? Who is an influencer you follow and why?
- (7-8 minutos) Talk about customs that have remained over a long period of time. Think of a custom or two that have remained over time. How did that custom come about? What is the purpose of the custom? How do you celebrate it? How does it make you feel? What values are connected to it? When is it appropriate to ignore or reject a custom? How can good customs be preserved and others be changed?

### 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.  
I think my conversation went well overall. I learned about influencers in other places and about what Maury thinks of the influencers.
  - About what percentage of your partners' speech did you understand?  
I understood about 90-95% of my partner's speech.
  - What are three things that you would phrase or say differently after having listened to your conversation?
    1. I would have Nueva York instead of New York.
    2. I would have phrased when I was saying that influencers don't have to work as many hours as other jobs differently. I would have said they don't have to work specific hours instead.
    3. Instead of saying that influencers have to impress others I would say that influencers want to please or impress others.
  - List List three interesting things you learned about your conversation partner based on their answers to your questions.
    1. I learned that many influencers live in the capital of Venezuela and Costa Rica.
    2. I learned that my partner and I shared a lot of the same opinions about influencers even though we like different kinds of content.
    3. I learned that Maury thinks the most difficult part of being an influencer.
  - Choose the most interesting part of your conversation during the discussion and transcribe (write in **Spanish**) **1.5 minutes** of the recording. This will involve listening to the audio a few times. Focus on an area in which your partner was speaking the majority of the time. Write down both what you and your partner said. Be sure to indicate where this portion of the conversation is by indicating the time elapsed at the beginning of your transcription (ie. [2:35] if the section begins 2 minutes and thirty-five seconds into the conversation).  
¿Piensas que podrías ser una influenciadora? No, no me gustaría porque es mucho stregía para subir contenido. Pienso que oldivaría subir contenido. ¿Cómo te sentirías si tuvieras exponer tu vida? No me gust tampoco porque soy un introvert y a veces no me gusta hablar a otras personas mucho. ¿Y tú? En mi caso siento que sería difícil para mi. Manejar que otras personas opinaron sobre mi vida y no tener una vida privada. Creo que es algo que me afectaría. Pero pienso que puede ser interesante poder ser un influenciador si puedes aportar algo bueno para la vida de otras personas.
  - What sort of 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 didn't get to talking about customs, but from what she thought about content and influencers, she had similar ideas. For example big cities are usually where influencers live, so they probably are important in the same social and economic ways. Also our families most likely both believe in thinking of other people because neither of us assume being an influencer is easy.

- List three new words you learned from this conversation.  
Privada, aportar, y exponer
- Is there anything else about there anything else about the language that you noticed?  
I noticed that she used opinar a lot which I knew about but didn't realize it would be used in that context.