


# Presentación de GRAMÁTICA

AVANZA!

**Goal:** Learn how to form the imperfect tense. Then use the imperfect to describe continuing activities in the past. *Actividades 5–8*

 **¿Recuerdas?** Expressions of frequency p. R8

**English Grammar Connection:** There are ways other than the simple past tense (*I studied*) to say that something happened. You can also say *I used to study* or *I was studying*. In Spanish, these ideas are expressed by the **imperfect tense**.

## The Imperfect Tense

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The **imperfect** is another past tense in Spanish. How do you use it?

**Here's how:** The **imperfect** is used to describe something that was not perfected or not completed in the past. You use it to . . .

- talk about something that was happening
- say how old someone was
- talk about something you used to do
- tell what time it was

Regular verbs in the **imperfect** take these endings:

Note that the *yo* form and the *usted/él/ella* forms are the same.

	<b>estar</b>	<b>hacer</b>	<b>salir</b>
yo	<b>estaba</b>	<b>hacía</b>	<b>salía</b>
tú	<b>estabas</b>	<b>hacías</b>	<b>salías</b>
usted, él, ella	<b>estaba</b>	<b>hacía</b>	<b>salía</b>
nosotros(as)	<b>estábamos</b>	<b>hacíamos</b>	<b>salíamos</b>
vosotros(as)	<b>estabais</b>	<b>hacíais</b>	<b>salíais</b>
ustedes, ellos(as)	<b>estaban</b>	<b>hacían</b>	<b>salían</b>

Él **estaba** aquí cuando yo **hacía** el pastel. *He was here when I was making the cake.*

Only three verbs are irregular in the **imperfect**.

Cuando yo **era** niña, **íbamos** a la playa.  
*When I was little, we used to go to the beach.*

ser	ir	ver
<b>era</b>	<b>iba</b>	<b>veía</b>
<b>eras</b>	<b>ibas</b>	<b>veías</b>
<b>era</b>	<b>iba</b>	<b>veía</b>
<b>éramos</b>	<b>íbamos</b>	<b>veíamos</b>
<b>erais</b>	<b>ibais</b>	<b>veíais</b>
<b>eran</b>	<b>iban</b>	<b>veían</b>

### Más práctica

Cuaderno pp. 151–153

Cuaderno para hispanohablantes pp. 152–154

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