

2.2 *Gustar* and similar verbs



Pues ven, si a ti te encanta.



Luego mi papá se va a andar quejando de que le duele todo.

- Though **gustar** is translated as *to like* in English, its literal meaning is *to please*. **Gustar** is preceded by an indirect object pronoun indicating *the person who is pleased*. It is followed by a noun indicating *the thing or person that pleases*.

INDIRECT OBJECT
PRONOUN

SUBJECT

Me ▶ gusta ▶ la película.

I like the movie. (literally: The movie pleases me.)

¿Te ▶ gustan ▶ los conciertos de rock?

Do you like rock concerts? (literally: Do rock concerts please you?)

- Because *the thing or person that pleases* is the subject, **gustar** agrees in person and number with it. Most commonly the subject is third person singular or plural.

SINGULAR SUBJECT

Nos gusta la música pop.
We like pop music.

Les gusta su casa nueva.
They like their new house.

PLURAL SUBJECT

Me gustan las quesadillas.
I like quesadillas.

¿Te gustan las películas románticas?
Do you like romantic movies?

- When **gustar** is followed by one or more verbs in the infinitive, the singular form of **gustar** is always used.

No nos gusta llegar tarde.
We don't like to arrive late.

Les gusta cantar y bailar.
They like to sing and dance.

- Gustar** is often used in the conditional (**me gustaría**, etc.) to soften a request.

Me gustaría un refresco con hielo,
por favor.
*I would like a soda with
ice, please.*

¿Te gustaría salir a cenar esta
noche conmigo?
*Would you like to go out to dinner
with me tonight?*

Verbs like *gustar*

- Many verbs follow the same pattern as **gustar**.

aburrir to bore

caer bien/mal to get along well/badly with

disgustar to upset

doler to hurt; to ache

encantar to like very much

faltar to lack; to need

fascinar to fascinate; to like very much

hacer falta to miss

importar to be important to; to matter

interesar to be interesting to; to interest

molestar to bother; to annoy

preocupar to worry

quedar to be left over; to fit (clothing)

sorprender to surprise

¡**Me fascina** el álbum!

I love the album!

A Sandra **le disgusta** esa situación.

That situation upsets Sandra.

¿**Te molesta** si voy contigo?

Will it bother you if I come along?

Le duelen las rodillas.

Her knees hurt.

- The indirect object can be repeated using the construction **a** + [prepositional pronoun] or **a** + [noun]. This construction allows the speaker to emphasize or clarify who is pleased, bothered, etc.

A **ella** no le gusta bailar, pero **a él** sí.

She doesn't like to dance, but he does.

A **Felipe** le molesta ir de compras.

Shopping bothers Felipe.

- **Faltar** expresses what someone or something lacks and **quedar** what someone or something has left. **Quedar** is also used to talk about how clothing fits or looks on someone.

Le falta dinero.

He's short of money.

Me faltan dos pesos.

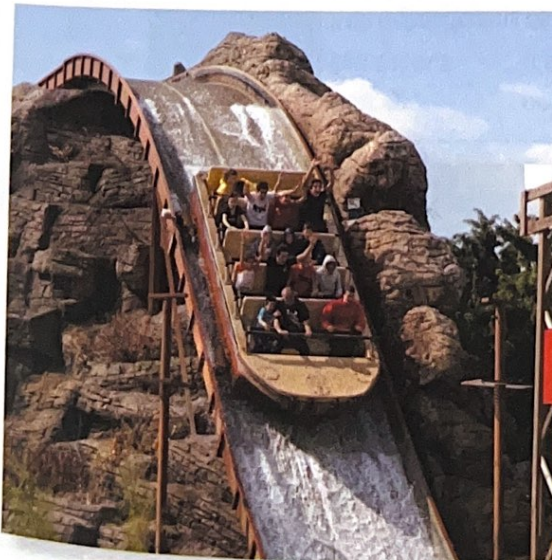
I need two pesos.

A la impresora no **le queda** papel.

The printer is out of paper.

Esa falda **te queda** bien.

That skirt fits you well.



¿Qué te hace
falta en la vida?

PARQUE DE
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