

Pronunciación

Spanish vowels



a



e



i



o



u

Spanish vowels are never silent; they are always pronounced in a short, crisp way without the glide sounds used in English.

Álex **clase** **nada** **encantada**

The letter **a** is pronounced like the *a* in *father*, but shorter.

el **ene** **mesa** **elefante**

The letter **e** is pronounced like the *e* in *they*, but shorter.

Inés **chica** **tiza** **señorita**

The letter **i** sounds like the *ee* in *beet*, but shorter.

hola **con** **libro** **don Francisco**

The letter **o** is pronounced like the *o* in *tone*, but shorter.

uno **regular** **saludos** **gusto**

The letter **u** sounds like the *oo* in *room*, but shorter.

Práctica Practice the vowels by saying the names of these places in Spain.

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Madrid | 3. Tenerife | 5. Barcelona | 7. Burgos |
| 2. Alicante | 4. Toledo | 6. Granada | 8. La Coruña |

Oraciones Read the sentences aloud, focusing on the vowels.

- Hola. Me llamo Ramiro Morgado.
- Estudio arte en la Universidad de Salamanca.
- Tomo también literatura y contabilidad.
- Ay, tengo clase en cinco minutos. ¡Nos vemos!

Refranes Practice the vowels by reading these sayings aloud.

**Del dicho al hecho
hay un gran trecho.¹**



¹ Easter said than done.
² To each his own.

Cada loco con su tema.²



recursos

vText

CA

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CH

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vhcentral

AYUDA

Although **hay** and **ay** are pronounced identically, they do not have the same meaning. As you learned in **Lección 1**, **hay** is a verb form that means *there is/are*. **Hay veinte libros.** (There are twenty books.) **¡Ay!** is an exclamation expressing pain, shock, or affliction: *Ouch! Oh, my!*