

Spanish

Describing where you stayed [1 / 3] Worksheet

- **Contrasting reflexive VS. non-reflexive verbs ('quedar(se)' & 'alojar(se)').**
- **The imperfect tense of 'estar' and 'haber'**

Señorita Vázquez



La fonética

[ca]

casa

[co]

comer

[cu]

cuerpo



La fonética

1 Cáceres ●

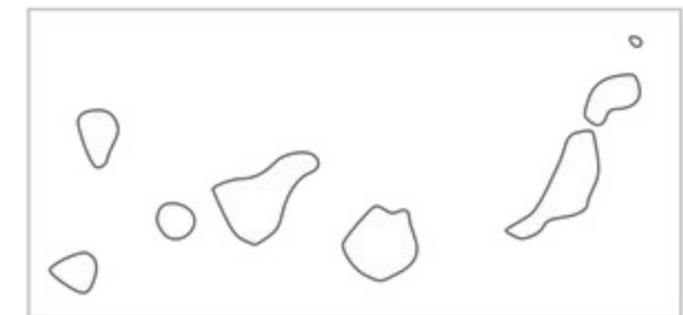
2 Córdoba ●

5 Cádiz ●

● Castellón 3

● Cullera 4

● Alicante 6



alojarse	to stay, staying
quedarse	to stay, remain
la ciudad	city, town
el espacio	space, area
el lugar	place
la tienda	shop, tent
cerca	near
lejos	far
la gente	people



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Doing something to yourself : Reflexive 'me'

When you use a verb reflexively, the infinitive ends in "se".

A verb is reflexive when the **subject** and the **object** are **the same**.

Ejemplo: Me lavo / I wash myself.

We use **verbs reflexively** for actions you do to yourself so you need a reflexive pronoun before the verb.

Words like 'myself' or 'himself' are called **reflexive pronouns**.

(**me** → to myself; **se** → to himself / herself).

➔ Most verbs can be reflexive and non reflexive.

Ejemplo: Me lavo el pelo

Lavo los platos.

➔ When used reflexively, the meaning may change.



alojarse VS. alojar

alojarse means 'to stay in' and it's a **reflexive verb**.

I am the one staying in the apartment.

Me alojé en un apartamento.

I stayed in an apartment.

alojar means 'to accommodate' and it's not **reflexive**. It does not need a pronoun before the verb.

I am the one providing the accommodation

Alojé a 5 personas en el apartamento.

I housed 5 people in the apartment.



quedarse VS. quedar

Quedarse means 'to stay in / to remain' and it's a **reflexive verb**.

Me quedé en casa de mi amigo.
I stayed at my friend's house.

quedar has several meanings; some of them are 'to arrange to meet up and 'to be located'.

Quedé con mis amigos en el parque.
I met up with my friends in the park.



quedarse VS. alojarse

alojarse **se** means 'to stay in'.

We use alojarse only with **paid** accommodation.

Me alojé en una casa rural.
I stayed in a farmhouse.

quedarse **se** means to 'stay in'.

We use quedarse with both **paid** and **unpaid** accommodation.

Me quedé en casa de mis abuelos.
I stayed at my grandparents' house.

Me quedé en una casa rural.
I stayed in a farmhouse.



The imperfect tense

We use the **imperfect** tense **to describe things in the past.**

There are 2 different endings you will need to remember:

-ar verbs

-aba

El hotel est**aba** cerca del centro.

The hotel was (located) near the centre.

-er/-ir verbs

-ía

En el hotel hab**ía** piscina.

In the hotel there was a swimming pool.



estar VS. haber & imperfect tense

‘**Estar**’ means ‘to be located in’.

El hotel **estaba** cerca de la playa.

*The hotel **was (located)**
near the beach.*

It also means ‘to be (temporary state):

La habitación **estaba** limpia.

*The room **was** clean.*

Estaba = s/he, it was

(location, temporary condition)

‘**Haber**’ means ‘*there + to be*’.

En **el hotel** **había** un restaurante.

*In the hotel **there was** a
restaurant.*

En **el pueblo** **había** muchas tiendas.

*In the village/town **there**
were many shops.*

Había= there was / were

When we use ‘there was / were’, we need the preposition “en” before the place.



Respuestas

1. Quedarse and quedar have the same meaning.

False

2. If you put “me” in front of “alojé” it means ‘I stayed in’.

True

3. ‘Nos alojamos’ means **‘we stayed in’**.

4. ‘Estaba’ and ‘había’ are verbs in the imperfect tense.

True

5. ‘Había’ means **‘there was/ were’** and **‘estaba’** means ‘it was’ (location / temporary condition).

