

**Spanish**

## **Describing a Special Day (Part 3/3)**

- Understanding when to use the preterite and imperfect tenses with reflexive verbs**

## **Downloadable Resource**

Señor Malhi



[o]

océano



ola

[o]

ojo

oficina

ocio  
[free time]

cocodrilo



|              |                     |
|--------------|---------------------|
| d_s_e_t_r_s_ | to wake oneself up  |
| d__ha__e     | to shower oneself   |
| pe__a_se     | to brush one's hair |
| a_ei_a_se    | to shave oneself    |
| v__ti_s_     | to dress oneself    |
| l_v_r_e      | to wash oneself     |
| r_z_r        | to pray             |



|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| la N__he_u_na        | Christmas Eve |
| la No__vi_j_         | New Years Eve |
| el Do__ng_ de _a_cu_ | Easter Sunday |
| el _a_o              | turkey        |
| el v_ll_ _c_c_       | carol         |
| e_se_u_d_            | immediately   |



**despertarse**

**ducharse**

**peinarse**

**afeitarse**

**vestirse**

**lavarse**

**rezar**

**la Nochevieja**

**la Nochebuena**

**el Domingo de  
Pascua**

**el pavo**

**el villancico**

**enseguida**



# Preterite or Imperfect?

If the action happened **just once**, then use the **preterite**. If the action happened **habitually**, then use the **imperfect**.

Use the time phrase to help you pick the right tense!

I always used to wake up early.

**Me despertaba** temprano siempre.

I woke up early yesterday.

**Me desperté** temprano ayer.



# Respuestas

1. If the action happened once, use the preterite.
2. If the action happened continuously, use the imperfect.
3. “Rezaba” means to pray.
4. “I had a shower yesterday” is:  
me duché ayer
5. ‘*I used to brush my hair*’ is:  
me peinaba

