Spanish

Talking to people you know and don't know [2/2]

- Using 'tú' and 'usted'.



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señora













planta



tener [to have, having



[to leave]



	Word	English meaning
1	el trabajo	work, job
2	llorar	to cry, crying
3	el papel	paper
4	acompañar	to accompany, accompanying
5	el cumpleaños	birthday
6	dejar	to leave, leaving / to allow, allowing
7	subir	to upload, uploading
8	comprender	to understand, understanding



Polite & friendly Spanish: using 'tú' and 'usted' with -ar verbs

In Spanish the verb ending changes depending on whether we talk to *tú* (friendly 'you') or *usted* (polite 'you').

tú

¿Necesit**as** una toalla?

Do you need a towel? (friendly)

usted

Polite & more respectful. Use it to talk to an older person or in formal situations.

¿Necesita una toalla?

Do you need a towel? (polite)

So, for regular Spanish verbs ending in -ar (e.g. montar):

Remove -ar and add -as to talk to 'you' informally (e.g. your friend).

Remove -ar and add -a to talk to 'you' politely (e.g. in a job interview).



Polite & friendly Spanish: using 'tú' and 'usted' with -er & -ir verbs

Adults always address children as "tú"

¿Tienes un minuto?

Do you have a minute? (friendly)

usted

¿Tiene un minuto?

Do you have a minute? (polite)

So, for regular Spanish verbs ending in -er & -ir (e.g. aprender & descubrir):

Remove -er / -ir and add -es to talk to 'you' informally (e.g. your friend).

Remove -er / -ir and add -e to talk to 'you' politely (e.g. in a job interview).



Respuestas

- 1. In Spanish the verb ending changes depending on whether we talk to a friendly 'you' or polite 'you'. True / False
- 2. We use 'usted to talk to someone in a more polite and respectful way and 'tú' is a friendly way of addressing someone.
- 3. Select the verb in the 'usted' form. a) necesita b) necesitas
- 4. Select the verb in the 'tú' form. a) aprende b) aprendes
- 5. '¿Tienes un minuto?' means 'Do you have a minute?' and it's a a) polite or b) friendly way of addressing someone.

