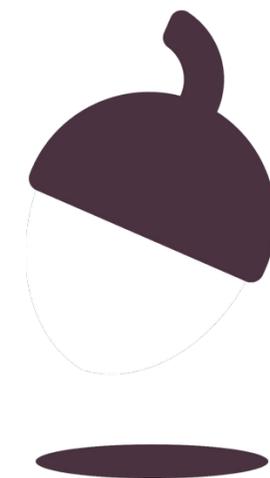


Spanish

Things you do to and for yourself [2/2]

- *Using verbs reflexively: second person singular*
- *Possessive adjectives [mi/mis] [tu/tus]*

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Doing something to yourself : Reflexive 'te'

Sometimes, the 'doer' (subject) and 'receiver' (object) of an action are the same person.

For example, 'you prepare **yourself**' or 'I prepare **myself**'

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

Spanish also has reflexive pronouns.

When you talk about "you" doing an action to "yourself", use '**te**' before a verb.

Look at the difference between:

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Lavas el coche | <input type="checkbox"/> | You wash the car |
| Te lavas | <input type="checkbox"/> | You wash yourself |

Remember 'me' comes before a verb when I do the action to myself e.g. me lavo

Something to know for later! Reflexive pronouns can go **after** the infinitive form of a verb. For now, we will just practise reflexives when they come before verbs.



Almost *any* verb can be 'reflexive'!

hablar - to talk

hablas con tu amigo

You talk with your friend

te hablas

You talk to yourself

sacar fotos – to take photos

sacas fotos de mi amigo

You take photos of my friend

te sacas fotos

You take photos of yourself

escribir – to write

escribes a tu hermano

You write to your brother

te escribes

You write to yourself



lavar – to wash

lavas el perro

You wash the dog

te lavas

You wash [yourself]

levantar – to lift / get up / raise

levantas la mano

You lift up/raise your hand

te levantas

You get [yourself] up

despertar – to wake up

despiertas a tu madre

You wake your mum up

te despiertas

You wake [yourself] up

In English, we don't always say the reflexive pronoun!

The 'reflexive meaning' is just assumed.



Talking about possessions

Possessive adjectives (mi/mis and tu/tus)

To say **'my'** in Spanish before a singular or uncountable noun, use **mi**.

To say **'your'** in Spanish before a singular or uncountable noun, use **tu**.

To say **'my'** in Spanish before a plural, use **mis**.

To say **'your'** in Spanish before a plural, use **tus**.

It does not matter whether the noun is masculine or feminine.

Compare:

Despierto a **mi** madre y **mis** hermanos.

I wake **my** mum and **my** brothers up.

Despiertes a **tu** madre y **tus** hermanos.

You wake **your** mum and **your** brothers up.



Summary

1. Words like 'myself' and 'himself' are called: **Reflexive pronouns**
2. For 'yourself' use: **'te'**
3. 'Te' needs to go before/after the verb. **before**
4. Translate: "te levantas a las seis" "You get (yourself) up at six o'clock".
5. "You wake up your parents" is: **"Despiertas a tus padres".**

