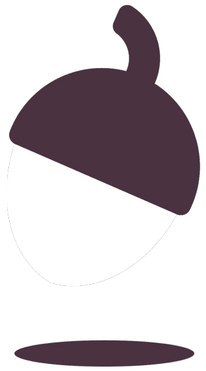
Spanish

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

- *Personal ‘a’*



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La fonética

[cua]	[cue]	[cui]
cuando	**cue**rpo	**cui**dado

Trabalengua

Cuando cuentes cuentos, cuidado. Cuenta cuantos cuentos cuentas, cuando cuentes cuentos.

Use of 1st and 3rd person: present tense

To talk about **'I'** with an action **you do now**, remove the infinitive ending (AR/ER/IR) and add **–o**.

ayud**ar** → ayud → ayud**o** *I help*

Conozco
(I get to know)
doesn't follow this rule

To talk about **'s/he'** with an action **s/he does now**, remove AR/ER/IR and add:
-**a** for AR verbs
-**e** for ER/IR verbs

ayud**ar** → ayud → ayud**a** *S/he helps*

le**er** → le → le**e** *S/he reads*

The personal ‘a’

A personal ‘a’ is needed when the object of a verb is a known or identified person or animal.

We don’t need to translate the ‘a’.

Lavo el coche. *I wash the car.*

Lavo **a** mi perro. *I wash my dog.*

Sometimes, for the English to make sense, we need to translate ‘*a*’ as ‘*to*’. This is to make it clear who the action is happening to.

Leo **a** mi hermano menor. I read **to** my younger brother.

conocer	to get to know, getting to know
lavar	to wash, washing
ayudar	to help, helping
leer	to read, reading
el padrastro	stepfather
la madrastra	stepmother
el hermanastro/la hermanastra	stepbrother / stepsister
a veces	sometimes
de vez en cuando	from time to time
todos los días	every day

Summary

1. The personal ‘a’ is used for a known or identified object. True or False? True
2. It can also be used for pets. True or False? True
3. Does this need a personal ‘a’? “Lavo el coche”. no
4. Translate: “ayudo a mi padrastro” “I help my stepfather”.
5. “I get to know my stepmother” is: “Conozco a mi madrastra”.