

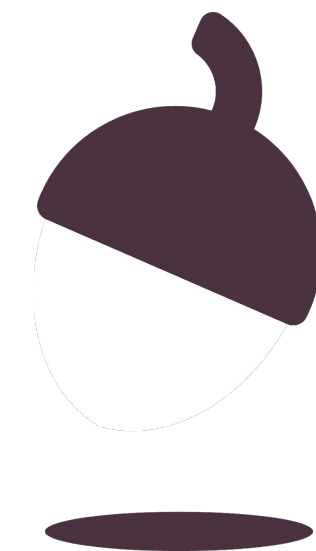
Spanish

Discussing Healthy Lifestyles (Part 1/3)

- Reflexive and non-reflexive use of verbs in the present tense

Downloadable Resource

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OAK
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[Z]



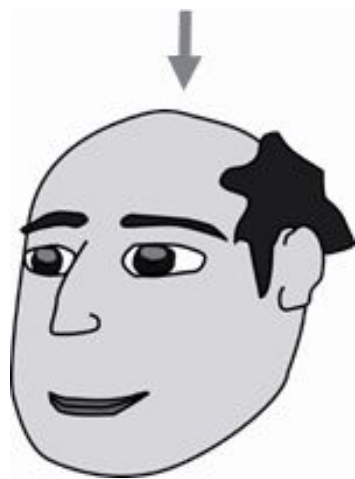
zona



La fonética



cabeza



[Z]



zona

diez



zapato



emborracharse	to get drunk
los pulmones	lungs
el corazón	heart
el vicio	vice
tomar	to take
perjudicial	damaging
peligroso	dangerous
el fracaso escolar	failure at school
engancharse	to get hooked
darse cuenta de	to realise
tener ganas de	to want to



Using verbs reflexively

When you use a verb reflexively, the infinitive ends in “se” e.g. *llevarse*.

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

Ejemplo: Me lavo. I wash myself.

Words like ‘myself’ or ‘himself’ are called **reflexive pronouns**.

When you use the infinitive of a reflexive verb, the **pronoun** has to agree with the subject:

Quiero lavarme. I want to wash **myself**.



Reflexive pronouns

myself	me
yourself	te
him/herself	se
ourselves	nos
themselves	se

me
enganch**o**

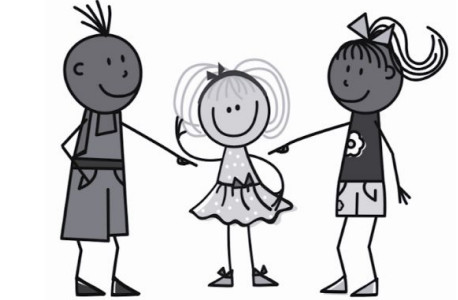


you



te enganch**as**

I



s/he, it

se enganch**a**



we

nos
enganch**amos**

Engancharse -
to get hooked



They

se enganch**an**



Almost any verb can be 'reflexive'.

comprar - to buy

Compro una bicicleta. ➡ I buy a bicycle.

Me compro una bicicleta. ➡ I buy **myself** a bicycle.

Some verbs change in meaning when they are reflexive.

dar - to give

Doy un regalo a mi amigo.

I give / I'm giving a present to my friend

darse cuenta de (que) - to realise (that)

Me doy cuenta de que el alcohol es perjudicial.

I realise / I am realising that alcohol is harmful.



Reflexive verb or not?

		English
1	Mi amiga María nunca  emborracha.	
2	Tú  das cuenta de que los cigarrillos son peligrosos.	
3	Ellos no  enganchan a las drogas.	.
4	Mi amigo y yo no  emborrachamos.	
5	Yo le  doy una hamburguesa a Juan.	
6	Pienso que mis amigos  toman drogas.	



'Me' does not always mean that the verb is reflexive



Remember that if a verb is reflexive the subject and object are the same.

Me relaja
Me ayuda

it relaxes **me**
it helps **me**

The word order is
different in Spanish

The subject (it)
and object (me)
are not the
same, so the
verb is not
being used
reflexively.



Is the verb being used reflexively or not?



		Reflexive	Not reflexive	Translation
1.	El alcohol no me ayuda a descansar.			
2.	Me emborracho a veces.			
3.	No quiero engancharme a las drogas.			
4.	Beber café me relaja.			
5.	Me compro una hamburguesa.			



Lee y pon las palabras en el orden correcto.



Yo tengo muchos **A** y creo que es **B**
para el corazón y los **C** Por ejemplo, fumar
es perjudicial pero yo estoy enganchado. Me **D**
cuenta de que **E** alcohol es malo, sin embargo
me **F** a menudo. Tengo **G** de dejar
porque el **H** escolar me da miedo.

peligroso

tomar

emborracho

pulmones

vicios

ganas

doy

fracaso



1. If a verb is ' _____' , the subject and object are the same.
2. The reflexive pronoun 'me' means _____.
3. 'Me relaja' is not reflexive because the _____ and object of the verb are different.
4. When a reflexive verb is written in the infinitive, the reflexive pronoun has to agree with the _____ of the verb.
5. Emborracharse means _____.

