

### 3.3 Present tense of -er and -ir verbs Tutorial

**ANTE TODO**

In **Lección 2**, you learned how to form the present tense of regular **-ar** verbs. You also learned about the importance of verb forms, which change to show who is performing the action. The chart below shows the forms from two other important groups, **-er** verbs and **-ir** verbs.

Present tense of -er and -ir verbs			
		<b>comer</b> (to eat)	<b>escribir</b> (to write)
SINGULAR FORMS	yo	como	escribo
	tú	comes	escribes
	Ud./él/ella	come	escribe
PLURAL FORMS	nosotros/as	comemos	escribimos
	vosotros/as	coméis	escribís
	Uds./ellos/ellas	comen	escriben

► **-Er** and **-ir** verbs have very similar endings. Study the preceding chart to detect the patterns that make it easier for you to use them to communicate in Spanish.

Felipe y su tío comen.



Jimena lee.

► Like **-ar** verbs, the **yo** forms of **-er** and **-ir** verbs end in **-o**.

Yo como.      Yo escribo.

► Except for the **yo** form, all of the verb endings for **-er** verbs begin with **-e**.

**-es**      **-emos**      **-en**  
**-e**      **-éis**

► **-Er** and **-ir** verbs have the exact same endings, except in the **nosotros/as** and **vosotros/as** forms.

nosotros    ◀ **comemos**  
                   ◀ **escribimos**

vosotros    ◀ **coméis**  
                   ◀ **escribís**

**CONSULTA**

To review the conjugation of **-ar** verbs, see **Estructura 2.1**, p. 50.

**AYUDA**

Here are some tips on learning Spanish verbs:

- 1) Learn to identify the verb's stem, to which all endings attach.
- 2) Memorize the endings that go with each verb and verb tense.
- 3) As often as possible, practice using different forms of each verb in speech and writing.
- 4) Devote extra time to learning irregular verbs, such as **ser** and **estar**.

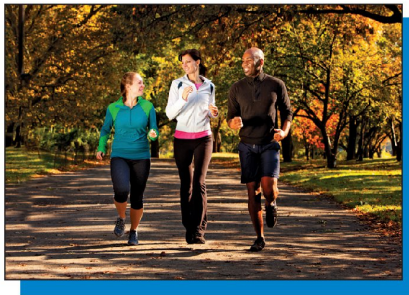
Common -er and -ir verbs

-er verbs

<b>aprender (a + inf.)</b>	<i>to learn</i>
<b>beber</b>	<i>to drink</i>
<b>comer</b>	<i>to eat</i>
<b>comprender</b>	<i>to understand</i>
<b>correr</b>	<i>to run</i>
<b>creer (en)</b>	<i>to believe (in)</i>
<b>deber (+ inf.)</b>	<i>should</i>
<b>leer</b>	<i>to read</i>

-ir verbs

<b>abrir</b>	<i>to open</i>
<b>asistir (a)</b>	<i>to attend</i>
<b>compartir</b>	<i>to share</i>
<b>decidir (+ inf.)</b>	<i>to decide</i>
<b>describir</b>	<i>to describe</i>
<b>escribir</b>	<i>to write</i>
<b>recibir</b>	<i>to receive</i>
<b>vivir</b>	<i>to live</i>



Ellos **corren** en el parque.



Él **escribe** una carta.

¡INTÉNTALO!

Provide the appropriate present tense forms of these verbs.

correr

1. Graciela corre.
2. Tú \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Yo \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Sara y Ana \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Usted \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Ustedes \_\_\_\_\_.
7. La gente \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Marcos y yo \_\_\_\_\_.

abrir

1. Ellos abren la puerta.
2. Carolina \_\_\_\_\_ la maleta.
3. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ las ventanas.
4. Nosotras \_\_\_\_\_ los libros.
5. Usted \_\_\_\_\_ el cuaderno.
6. Tú \_\_\_\_\_ la ventana.
7. Ustedes \_\_\_\_\_ las maletas.
8. Los muchachos \_\_\_\_\_ los cuadernos.

aprender

1. Él aprende español.
2. Maribel y yo \_\_\_\_\_ inglés.
3. Tú \_\_\_\_\_ japonés.
4. Tú y tu hermanastra \_\_\_\_\_ francés.
5. Mi hijo \_\_\_\_\_ chino.
6. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ alemán.
7. Usted \_\_\_\_\_ inglés.
8. Nosotros \_\_\_\_\_ italiano.

recursos

