

7.4

Verbs like **gustar** Tutorial

ANTE TODO

In **Lección 2**, you learned how to express preferences with **gustar**. You will now learn more about the verb **gustar** and other similar verbs. Observe these examples.

Me gusta ese champú.

ENGLISH EQUIVALENT

I like that shampoo.

LITERAL MEANING

That shampoo is pleasing to me.

¿**Te gustaron** las clases?

ENGLISH EQUIVALENT

Did you like the classes?

LITERAL MEANING

Were the classes pleasing to you?

- As the examples show, constructions with **gustar** do not have a direct equivalent in English. The literal meaning of this construction is *to be pleasing to (someone)*, and it requires the use of an indirect object pronoun.

INDIRECT OBJECT PRONOUN	VERB	SUBJECT	SUBJECT	VERB	DIRECT OBJECT
Me	gusta	ese champú.	<i>I</i>	<i>like</i>	<i>that shampoo.</i>

- In the diagram above, observe how in the Spanish sentence the object being liked (**ese champú**) is really the subject of the sentence. The person who likes the object, in turn, is an indirect object because it answers the question: *To whom is the shampoo pleasing?*

¿Te gusta Juan Carlos?



Me gustan los cafés que tienen música en vivo.



- Other verbs in Spanish are used in the same way as **gustar**. Here is a list of the most common ones.

Verbs like **gustar**

aburrir	<i>to bore</i>	importar	<i>to be important to; to matter</i>
encantar	<i>to like very much; to love (inanimate objects)</i>	interesar	<i>to be interesting to; to interest</i>
faltar	<i>to lack; to need</i>	molestar	<i>to bother; to annoy</i>
fascinar	<i>to fascinate; to like very much</i>	quedar	<i>to be left over; to fit (clothing)</i>

¡ATENCIÓN!

Faltar expresses what is lacking or missing.

Me falta una página.
I'm missing one page.

Quedar expresses how much of something is left.

Nos quedan tres pesos.
We have three pesos left.

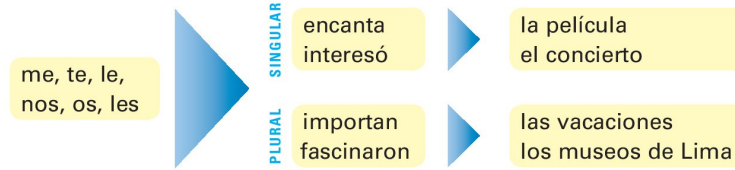
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Quedar also means *to fit*. It can be used to tell how something looks (on someone).

Estos zapatos me quedan bien. *These shoes fit me well.*

Esa camisa te queda muy bien. *That shirt looks good on you.*

- ▶ The most commonly used verb forms of **gustar** and similar verbs are the third person (singular and plural). When the object or person being liked is singular, the singular form (**gusta**) is used. When two or more objects or persons are being liked, the plural form (**gustan**) is used. Observe the following diagram:



- ▶ To express what someone likes or does not like to do, use an appropriate verb followed by an infinitive. The singular form is used even if there is more than one infinitive.

Nos molesta comer a las nueve. **Les encanta bailar y cantar** en las fiestas.
It bothers us to eat at nine o'clock. *They love to dance and sing at parties.*

- ▶ As you learned in **Lección 2**, the construction **a + [pronoun]** (**a mí, a ti, a usted, a él**, etc.) is used to clarify or to emphasize who is pleased, bored, etc. The construction **a + [noun]** can also be used before the indirect object pronoun to clarify or to emphasize who is pleased.

A los turistas les gustó mucho Machu Picchu. **A ti** te gusta cenar en casa, pero **a mí** me aburre.
The tourists liked Machu Picchu a lot. *You like eating dinner at home, but I get bored.*

- ▶ **¡Atención!** **Mí** (*me*) has an accent mark to distinguish it from the possessive adjective **mi** (*my*).

AYUDA

Note that the **a** must be repeated if there is more than one person.
A Armando y a Carmen les molesta levantarse temprano.

¡INTÉNTALO! Indica el pronombre de objeto indirecto y la forma del tiempo presente adecuados en cada oración.

fascinar

1. A él le fascina viajar.
2. A mí _____ bailar.
3. A nosotras _____ cantar.
4. A ustedes _____ leer.
5. A ti _____ correr y patinar.
6. A ellos _____ los aviones.
7. A mis padres _____ caminar.
8. A usted _____ jugar al tenis.
9. A mi esposo y a mí _____ dormir.
10. A Alberto _____ dibujar y pintar.
11. A todos _____ opinar.
12. A Pili _____ los sombreros.

aburrir

1. A ellos les aburren los deportes.
2. A ti _____ las películas.
3. A usted _____ los viajes.
4. A mí _____ las revistas.
5. A Jorge y a Luis _____ los perros.
6. A nosotros _____ las vacaciones.
7. A ustedes _____ el béisbol.
8. A Marcela _____ los libros.
9. A mis amigos _____ los museos.
10. A ella _____ el ciclismo.
11. A Omar _____ ir de compras.
12. A ti y a mí _____ el baile.

recursos

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