M.Ed. In TESL Program
Language Group Specific Informational Reports

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Language Group: Spanish
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Language Group Project

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Spanish - A Romance Language

- Latin origin
- Enriched by other languages
- Indo-European
- Spanish in U.S.
  - Two major dialects
    - Caribbean
    - Southwestern
Regional Varieties

- Vocabulary
- Pronunciation
  - Seseo
  - Yeismo
  - Debuccalization
- Writing System
  - Ñ letter n with a tilde
  - Phonetic language
  - Alphabet has 29 letters
  - Diagraphs: ch, ll, and rr
  - Dieresis ü: pingüino, cigüeña, and bilingüe.
Communication Styles

- It’s physical
- “psssst”
- Children
- Don and Doña
Pragmatics-system of how language is used in society

- Greetings
  - Hand-shake vs. hugs and kisses
  - Males showing affection
  - Children kissing adults
- Baby-talk
- Directness vs. diplomacy
Difficulties with English Language

Phonology - sound system

- 5 vowels vs. 14 vowel sounds
- Vowel substitutions
  - ee/I – peeg/pig
  - e/ae - pet/pat
  - ah/ae – Stahn/Stan
- Devoicing final consonants
  - dose/doze
- Other Substitutions
  - b/v berry/very
  - “th” tin/think
  - Ch/sh chew/shoe
- Schwa
  - E skate/skate – espend/spend
Morphology - system in which words are built

Spanish

- Plural endings - gender and article agreement
  - Las amigas — Los amigos

- Nouns - gender marked
  - Table - mesa (feminine form)
  - Book - libro (masculine form)

- Article precedes and adjective follows noun
  - El libro rojo esta en la mesa pequeña.
  - The book red is on the table small.
Syntax-system in which words are arranged in sentences

- **Negation** - *no* placed before first verb
  - *Juan. no tiene un televisor.*
  - *Juan no has a television*

- **Capitalization**
  - *days*
  - *months*
  - *National adjectives (boliviano)*
Semantics-system of word meanings

- Idiomatic expressions
  - *It is raining cats and dogs.*

- Formal/familiar
  - *Usted* (you-formal/respect)
  - *Tu* (you-familiar)
Bibliography

Books


Internet Sites


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