



Season 2 - Episode 1

Para ti, ¿es importante viajar?

Introduction

Marina: Hola. Bienvenidos a una nueva temporada de Coffee Break Spanish To Go.

Hoy vamos a hablar de los viajes, y la pregunta es **para ti, ¿es importante viajar?** O más formal, **para usted ¿es importante viajar?** Ahora, vamos a escuchar las respuestas de la gente.

Key vocabulary

Para ti, ¿es importante viajar? Is travel important to you? (informal)

Para usted, ¿es importante viajar? Is travel important to you? (formal)

Las Respuestas

1. Bueno, sí, es muy importante viajar porque así conoces más culturas y puedes ver cosas muy interesantes.

2. Sí, es una experiencia muy enriquecedora. Conocer nuevas culturas, practicar idiomas y todo eso.

así

so, in this way

conoces > conocer

you know, you get to know

The verb **conocer** is one of the verbs “to know” in Spanish and is used when talking about knowing a person or a place. The other verb “to know”, **saber** is used mostly for knowing facts.

culturas (f, pl)

cultures

puedes > poder

you can > to be able to, can

This is the second part of the verb **poder**, an irregular verb which means “to be able to” or “can”. **Puedes** is the informal you part and the next verb **ver** must be in the infinitive, the verb in its unchanged form. Literally you are saying “you are able to see”.

ver

to see

cosas (f, pl)

things

enriquecedora

enriching

conocer nuevas culturas

to know new cultures

Here the speaker uses the infinitive **conocer** which would normally translate as “to know”, but in this context we would translate into English using the **-ing** ending, so “knowing new cultures, practising languages”.

practicar

to practice

idiomas (m, pl)

languages

Most nouns which end in -a are feminine nouns. However **el idioma**, meaning “language” is one of the exceptions, a masculine word ending in **a**. There is also an alternative word for “language”, **la lengua**.

todo eso

all that

3. Para mí, sí, es importante viajar porque siempre me ha gustado desde pequeño y porque considero que visitar nuevos países y conocer nuevas culturas es importante.

porque

because

A good reminder that **porque** as one word means “because” but when it is separated into two words **por qué** it becomes the question word “why” and needs an accent on the **-é**.

siempre

always

me ha gustado

I have liked

The verb **gustar** means “to like”. However it literally means “to be pleasing to”. To say “I like to travel” would be **me gusta viajar**, in other words “travelling is pleasing to me”. Here, the interviewee is using the verb in the perfect tense **me ha gustado** to say “I have liked”.

desde pequeño

since I was small

siempre

always

considero > considerar

I consider> to consider

nuevos países (m, pl)

new countries

Here we have an example of an adjective which comes before the noun. **Nuevo** is one of a number of adjectives which can be placed in front of the noun.

4. Para mí, sí, porque conoces nuevas culturas, nuevos lugares y aprendes cosas del idioma, de ese país, y haces amigos también.

5. Para mí también porque abres la mente, sobre todo y también porque ves otras culturas, y, bueno, aprendes un montón de cosas, yo creo.

lugares (m, pl)

places

aprendes > aprender

you learn > to learn

cosas del idioma

things about the language

de ese país

from that country

haces > hacer

you make > to make, to do

abres > abrir

you open > to open

mente (f)

mind

sobre todo

above all, especially

un montón de

loads of, tons of

This phrase is used a lot in spoken Spanish to convey “a lot of” or “many” and is used with a noun. **Un montón de cosas** means “loads of things,” and sounds more natural in the spoken language than **muchas cosas** which would mean “many things.”

6. Para mí, es muy importante viajar porque aprendes muchas cosas de la vida, y te ayuda a ... ¿cómo decirlo? ... a moldear tu personalidad, yo creo.

vida (f)

life

ayuda > ayudar

it helps > to help

¿cómo decirlo?

how could I say it?

moldear

to mould, shape

personalidad (f)

personality

It's helpful to look for patterns when learning a language. Many nouns end in **-dad** and their English equivalent end in **-ty** like this word **personalidad** - “personality.” So **humanidad** would be humanity and **diversidad** would be diversity. These **-dad** words are all feminine.

7. Sí, porque puedes conocer una nueva cultura, nueva gente y ves muchas partes del mundo.

gente (f)

people

Although the word “people” in English is a plural word, in Spanish **la gente** is a singular noun so would follow the third person singular of the verb and adjectives would be used in the singular as in this example **nueva gente**.

8. Para mí es importante viajar para descubrir otras culturas, para desconectarte de la vida diaria y para disfrutar.

descubrir

to discover

desconectarte de

to disconnect yourself from

diaria

daily

disfrutar

to enjoy

9. Es importante porque sales de tu rutina, descubres sitios nuevos y también cambias de cultura y aprendes.

sales > salir

you leave, you escape from > to leave, to escape from

sitios (m, pl)

places

cambias > cambiar

you change > to change

Marina: **Y ahora vamos a ver las respuestas en más detalle.**

Final section

Marina: Ahora, es tu turno. Tengo una pregunta para ti. ¿Es importante viajar?
¡Fantástico! ¡Buen trabajo! Nos vemos en el próximo capítulo de Coffee Break Spanish To Go. ¡Hasta pronto!

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