

## LESSON NOTES

# Intermediate S1 #1

## Spanish Simple Conditional: Complaining in Spanish

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#1

## DIALOGUE - FORMAL SPANISH

### MAIN

1. SANDRA : Buenos días, me gustaría hacer un reclamo.
2. OPERADORA : Claro, ¿me puede explicar cual es el problema?
3. SANDRA : Fui al doctor a practicar una cirugía y me dijo que aparentemente mi seguro no lo cubriría.
4. OPERADORA : Déjeme ver... ¿cuál es su nombre y número de identidad?
5. SANDRA : Mi nombre es Sandra Guillen... y el número es el uno, catorce, veintiséis, cero, siete, cincuenta.
6. OPERADORA : Repito. Uno, catorce, veintiséis, cero, siete, cincuenta.
7. SANDRA : Así es. Me gustaría practicar la cirugía lo antes posible.
8. OPERADORA : Entiendo, pero lamento decirle que si se tratara de una cirugía plástica su seguro no la cubriría.

### ENGLISH

1. SANDRA : Good morning, I would like to make a complaint.
2. OPERATOR : Sure, could you explain what your problem is?
3. SANDRA : I went to the doctor to have a surgery, but he told me that apparently my insurance would not cover it.
4. OPERATOR : Let me see... what is your name and ID number?
5. SANDRA : My name is Sandra Guillen, and the number is one, fourteen, twenty-six, zero, seven, fifty.
6. OPERATOR : Let me repeat it...one, fourteen, twenty-six, zero, seven, fifty.
7. SANDRA : That is correct. I would like to have the surgery as soon as possible.
8. OPERATOR : I understand, but I'm sorry to tell you that if this is about plastic surgery, your insurance won't cover it.

## DIALOGUE - INFORMAL SPANISH

### MAIN

1. SANDRA : Buenos días, Me gustaría hacer un reclamo.
2. OPERADORA : Claro, ¿me puedes explicar cual es el problema?

3. SANDRA : Fui al doctor a practicarme una cirugía y me dijo que aparentemente mi seguro no lo cubriría.
4. OPERADORA : Déjame ver... ¿cuál es tu nombre y número de identidad?
5. SANDRA : Mi nombre es Sandra Guillen... y el número es el uno, catorce, veintiséis, cero, siete, cincuenta.
6. OPERADORA : Repito. Uno, catorce, veintiséis, cero, siete, cincuenta.
7. SANDRA : Así es. Me gustaría practicarme la cirugía lo antes posible.
8. OPERADORA : Entiendo, pero lamento decirte que si se tratara de una cirugía plástica tu seguro no la cubriría.

## ENGLISH

1. SANDRA : Good Morning, I would like to make a complaint.
2. OPERATOR : Sure, ¿Could you explain what your problem is?
3. SANDRA : I went to the doctor, to have a surgery, but he told me that apparently my insurance would not cover it.
4. OPERATOR : Let me see... what is your name and ID number?
5. SANDRA : my name is Sandra guillen and the number is: one, fourteen, twenty six, zero, seven, fifty.
6. OPERATOR : Let me repeat it: one, fourteen, twenty six, zero, seven, fifty.
7. SANDRA : That is correct. I would like to have the surgery as soon as possible.
8. OPERATOR : I understand, but I'm sorry to tell you that if this is about plastic surgery, your insurance won't cover it.

## VOCABULARY

Spanish	English	Class	Gender
cirugía	surgery	noun	feminine
aparentemente	apparently	adverb	
cubrir	to cover	verb	
tratar	to try, to treat	verb	
reclamo	complaint	noun	masculine
seguro	sure, safe	adjective, expression	

## SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>Mi cirugía es el próximo lunes.</p> <p>"My surgery is next Monday."</p>	<p>Aparentemente, Ana vino anoche de Estados Unidos.</p> <p>"Apparently, Ana arrived last night from the United States."</p>
<p>El seguro de mi casa no cubre en caso de incendio.</p> <p>"My homeowner's insurance does not cover fires."</p>	<p>Él trató de besarme pero me escapé</p> <p>"He tried to kiss me, but I ran away."</p>
<p>Intentaré recordar.</p> <p>"I will try to remember. "</p>	<p>Trataré de que no vuelva a suceder.</p> <p>"I'll try to make sure it doesn't happen again."</p>
<p>Ese muchacho hizo un reclamo ayer.</p> <p>"That young man filed a claim yesterday."</p>	<p>Seguro. Voy a cuidar de eso.</p> <p>"Sure. I will look after it."</p>
<p>Mi casa es un lugar muy seguro.</p> <p>"My house is a very safe place."</p>	<p>No estoy cien por ciento seguro.</p> <p>"I'm not a hundred percent sure."</p>

## GRAMMAR

**The Focus of This Lesson is the Simple Conditional**

***Buenos días, Me gustaría hacer un reclamo.***

**"Good Morning, I would like to make a complaint."**

We use the conditional 1) to express a future time in the past, 2) to indicate a conjecture or possibility, 3) to show the softening of a statement, and 4) to show something hypothetical. We generally translate the conditional tense with the infinitive verb following either of the modal verbs, "would" or "could." Thus, *yo pensaría* means, "I would think" or "I could think."

### Formation

We form the conditional tense with the endings -ía, -ías, and -ía in the singular, and with -íamos, -íais, and -ían in the plural for all regular verbs ending in -ar, -er, and -ir. Let's use the verbs *disfrutar* ("to enjoy"), *dormir* ("to sleep"), and *parecer* ("to seem") as examples.

## Disfrutar

<b>Singular Spanish</b>	<b>"Singular English"</b>	<b>Plural Spanish</b>	<b>"Plural English"</b>
<i>yo disfrutaría</i>	"I would enjoy"	<i>nosotros disfrutaríamos</i>	"we would enjoy"
<i>tú disfrutarías</i>	"you would enjoy"	<i>vosotros disfrutaríais</i>	"you all would enjoy" (informal)
<i>él disfrutaría</i>	"he would enjoy"	<i>ellos disfrutarían</i>	"they would enjoy" (masculine)
<i>ella disfrutaría</i>	"she would enjoy"	<i>ellas disfrutarían</i>	"they would enjoy" (feminine)
<i>usted disfrutaría</i>	"you would enjoy" (formal)	<i>ustedes disfrutarían</i>	"you all would enjoy" (formal)
<i>disfrutaría</i>	"it would enjoy" (neuter)	<i>disfrutarían</i>	"they would enjoy" (neuter)

## Parecer

<b>Singular Spanish</b>	<b>"Singular English"</b>	<b>Plural Spanish</b>	<b>"Plural English"</b>
<i>yo parecería</i>	"I would seem"	<i>nosotros pareceríamos</i>	"we would seem"
<i>tú parecerías</i>	"you would seem"	<i>vosotros pareceríais</i>	"you all would seem" (informal)
<i>él parecería</i>	"he would seem"	<i>ellos parecerían</i>	"they would seem" (masculine)
<i>ella parecería</i>	"she would seem"	<i>ellas parecerían</i>	"they would seem" (feminine)
<i>usted parecería</i>	"you would seem" (formal)	<i>ustedes parecerían</i>	"you all would seem" (formal)
<i>parecería</i>	"it would seem" (neuter)	<i>parecerían</i>	"they would seem" (neuter)

<b><i>Singular Spanish</i></b>	<b>"Singular English"</b>	<b><i>Plural Spanish</i></b>	<b>"Plural English"</b>
<i>yo dormiría</i>	"I would sleep"	<i>nosotros dormiríamos</i>	"we would sleep"
<i>tú dormirías</i>	"you would sleep"	<i>vosotros dormiríais</i>	"you all would sleep" (informal)
<i>él dormiría</i>	"he would sleep"	<i>ellos dormirían</i>	"they would sleep" (masculine)
<i>ella dormiría</i>	"she would sleep"	<i>ellas dormirían</i>	"they would sleep" (feminine)
<i>usted dormiría</i>	"you would sleep" (formal)	<i>ustedes dormirían</i>	"you all would sleep" (formal)
<i>dormiría</i>	"it would sleep" (neuter)	<i>dormirían</i>	"they would sleep" (neuter)

We see that for all regular -ar, -er, and -ir verbs, the conditional endings are the same. This makes them a lot easier to memorize. What's more, if we think back to the future tense, we remember that we used the complete form of the infinitive, and then added on the future endings to form the future tense. Therefore, it makes sense that the conditional tense would require the complete infinitive and then the conditional endings as well (following the same pattern as the future) because the conditional tense is a future tense, but it's clearly not the absolute future. This will become clearer as time goes on and you learn more tenses. For now, try your best to remember the formation of the conditional and the context in which we use it will make itself more apparent.

### Examples from this Dialogue

1. *Buenos días, me gustaría hacer un reclamo.*  
"Good morning, I would like to make a complaint."
2. *Claro, ¿me puede explicar cual es el problema?*  
"Sure, can you explain what the problem is?"
3. *Entiendo, pero lamento decirle que si se tratara de una cirugía plástica su seguro no la cubriría.*  
"I understand, but I'm sorry to tell you that if this is about plastic surgery, your insurance won't cover it."

1. *Los niños dormirían toda la tarde.*  
"The children would sleep all afternoon."
2. *Yo invertiría dinero en eso.*  
"I would invest money in that."
3. *Así parecería.*  
"So it would seem."

## Language Tip

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We see that for all regular -ar, -er, and -ir verbs, the conditional endings are the same. This makes them a lot easier to memorize. What's more, if we think back to the future tense, we remember that we used the complete form of the infinitive, and then added on the future endings to form the future tense. Therefore, it makes sense that the conditional tense would require the complete infinitive and then the conditional endings as well (following the same pattern as the future) because the conditional tense is a future tense, but it's clearly not the absolute future. This will become clearer as time goes on and you learn more tenses. For now, try your best to remember the formation of the conditional and the context in which we use it will make itself more apparent.

## CULTURAL INSIGHT

Los seguros casi nunca cubren las cirugías plástica, sólo si es una cirugía por accidente, no por estética. Pero las compañías aseguradoras, tienen muchos requisitos para comprobar que es una cirugía por accidente. Es muy difícil comprobar este tipo de accidentes y se deben de llenar muchos papeles. Generalmente piden cartas de los doctores, estas cartas deben explicar la razón de la cirugía plástica, también se deben entregar todos los documentos del accidente. Todo esto debe estar sellado y con firmas de las personas responsables. Eso es parte de la burocracia que hay en América Latina. Otra de las razones por las que investigan cada caso, es por que hacen muchas estafas a las compañías de seguros, en algunos casos hasta los policías están involucrados con la estafa. Por eso cada documento debe de tener sellos y códigos, para poder comprobar que son reales. Muchas personas tratan de que el seguro les pague las cirugías por estética, es por eso que las compañías de seguros también piden entregar una carta del doctor que diga porque se debe hacer la cirugía y si es realmente necesaria.