

Presentación de GRAMÁTICA

¡AVANZA!

Goal: Learn how to form the preterite of regular **-ar** verbs. Then use them to talk about activities you and others did in the past. *Actividades 5–8*

English Grammar Connection: Tense refers to when an action takes place. Many verbs are spelled differently in the past tense than they are in the present tense. For regular verbs, the endings change.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|
| He talks . | Él habla . | He talked . | Él habló . |
| ↑ | ↑ | ↑ | ↑ |
| present-tense verb endings | | past-tense verb endings | |

Preterite of **-ar** Verbs

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The **preterite** tense in Spanish tells what happened at a particular moment in the past. How do you form the preterite of **-ar** verbs?

Here's how: Like present-tense verbs, you form the **preterite** tense of regular verbs by adding tense endings to the verb stem.

| visitar to visit | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| yo | visité | nosotros(as) | visitamos |
| tú | visitaste | vosotros(as) | visitasteis |
| usted, él, ella | visitó | ustedes, ellos(as) | visitaron |

Durante las vacaciones, yo **monté a caballo**, mi mamá **visitó** un museo y mis hermanos **nadaron**.

*During vacation, I **went horseback riding**, my mom **visited** a museum, and my brothers **went swimming**.*

The **nosotros** ending in the preterite tense is the same as in the present tense. Look for clues in the sentence to help you determine whether the verb is in the present or past tense.

Acampamos **anoche** en el parque.
*We **camped** last night in the park.*

The word **anoche** tells you that the verb **acampamos** is in the preterite tense, not the present.

Más práctica

Cuaderno pp. 27–29

Cuaderno para hispanohablantes pp. 28–30

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