

Subjunctive mood

In English The **subjunctive mood** is used infrequently. One use of the subjunctive is in *that* clauses, following verbs that give advice or make a request.

The teacher asks *that* we **sit** down.

The **main clause** is the part of the sentence that can stand alone as a complete thought. The **subordinate (dependent) clause** describes or modifies the main clause and is introduced by *that*.

main clause
subordinate clause

└──────────┘
└──────────┘

Angela recommends
that I **be** careful.

- A** For the following sentences, decide whether the subjunctive mood is used and write **yes** or **no** on the line. If yes, underline the **subordinate** clause.
1. I suggest that we sleep late. _____ **yes** _____
 2. My parents insisted that Stephen leave early. _____
 3. Stephen always arrives last. _____
 4. My sister called to ask that we set his alarm. _____
 5. Dad prefers that we all take separate cars. _____
 6. Mom does not like to drive. _____
 7. John recommends that Lisa take an umbrella. _____
 8. Janet is ready to go! _____

In Spanish The **subjunctive mood** is used frequently in various contexts, such as expressing hopes and wishes and giving advice or opinions.

El profesor pide que nos **sentemos**.

As in English, the **main clause** is the part of the sentence that can stand alone as a complete thought. The **subordinate clause** describes or modifies the main clause and is introduced by *que*.

main clause
subordinate clause

└──────────┘
└──────────┘

Ángela recomienda
que yo **tenga** cuidado.

The subjunctive is used when there is a change in subject between the main clause, containing advice or a request, and the subordinate clause.

subject change

Yo quiero que mi *abuela* **visite** pronto.

SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD

B For the following sentences, decide whether the subjunctive mood is used and write **yes** or **no** on the line. If yes, underline the **subordinate** clause.

1. David espera que la casa sea grande. yes _____
2. Cristina y María hablan por teléfono. _____
3. Mi hermana recomienda que vayamos todos. _____
4. Yo prefiero quedarme en casa. _____
5. Los niños se divierten en la playa. _____
6. Mercedes insiste en que Antonio ayude con la comida. _____
7. Me recomendaron el restaurante italiano de su barrio. _____
8. Susana y Pedro esperan viajar a México el año que viene. _____

To form the present subjunctive, add these endings to the **yo**-form stem of regular verbs:

-AR VERBS: esper**e**, esper**es**, esper**e**, esper**emos**, esper**éis**, esper**en**

-ER/-IR VERBS: coma**a**, coma**s**, coma**a**, coma**amos**, coma**áis**, coma**n**

C Complete each sentence with the subjunctive form of the verb in parentheses.

1. Julia le sugiere a su hermana que _____ (trabajar) en la misma oficina con ella.
2. Es buena idea que todos _____ (usar) el transporte público.
3. María y Briana esperan que sus amigos _____ (poder) ir a la fiesta.
4. Nosotros insistimos en que ustedes _____ (practicar) en la cancha ahora.
5. Diana espera que su familia _____ (volver) a casa para cenar juntos.
6. Esteban insiste en que todos sus empleados _____ (vestirse) de traje.
7. Tomás prefiere que su mamá _____ (lavar) la ropa.
8. Espero que Nicolás y Ana _____ (poder) viajar a Puerto Rico mañana.

D Think about the verb endings in the present subjunctive. What other verb form has endings like the subjunctive?