

## Subjunctive with hopes and wishes

**In English** Verbs have a **tense** (*past, present, future*) and a **mood**, which indicates the speaker's attitude towards an event. The most common mood is the **indicative mood**, which is used to report events seen as facts by the speaker. The **subjunctive mood** has only a few uses. One is to express a wish that is contrary to fact. A more formal usage is in a subordinate clause following a verb of influence (*suggest, recommend*). Often, however, an **infinitive** is used instead.

INDICATIVE:      John **is** far from home.      Virginia **is eating** cookies.  
 SUBJUNCTIVE:    I wish John **were** here.      I recommend that she **eat** less.  
 INFINITIVE:      I want him **to be** here.      I want her **to eat** less.

**A** Indicate if the underlined verbs are in the indicative, subjunctive, or infinitive.

- Mom told us many stories about the past.
- We all wish Mom were here with us.
- These stories were about real people.
- I suggest you read all those stories.
- I always believed them all.
- One of the stories was about a pot of gold.
- My sister wishes that were a true story.
- I'd like her to stop thinking like that.

	Ind.	Subj.	Inf.
1.	✓		
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			

**In Spanish** Verbs also have a **tense** and a **mood**. The **subjunctive mood** is used a great deal, and is required in sentences where the main clause expresses a **wish, suggestion, recommendation, or hope** for another person. In other words, where there is a *change of subject* between the main and subordinate clauses.

Many expressions are followed by the subjunctive: **querer que, aconsejar que, esperar que, es mejor que, ojalá, pedir que, decir que**, and so on.

¿Quieres que te <b>ayude</b> ?	<i>Do you want me to help you?</i>
Ojalá que <b>llueva</b> mañana.	<i>I hope it rains tomorrow.</i>
Te aconsejo que <b>esperes</b> aquí.	<i>I advise you to wait here.</i>
Hace falta que <b>practiquen</b> más.	<i>You have to practice more.</i>
Es mejor que <b>te calles</b> .	<i>It's better that you be quiet.</i>

When there is no change of subject between the main and subordinate clauses in a sentence with these expressions, Spanish uses an **infinitive**, without **que**.

¿Quieres <b>ver</b> una película?	<i>Do you want to see a movie?</i>
Hace falta <b>estudiar</b> más.	<i>It's necessary (for all) to study more.</i>

**SUBJUNCTIVE WITH HOPES AND WISHES**

**B** Indicate if the underlined verbs are in the indicative, subjunctive, or infinitive.

1. Espero que salgamos pronto de vacaciones.
2. Ojalá que mi tía pueda ir con nosotros.
3. Quiero que venga mi primo también.
4. Pero sé que no puede venir.
5. Te sugiero que pasees en bote.
6. Es importante que sepas nadar.

Ind.	Subj.	Inf.
	✓	

**C** Complete the conversation with the correct form of each verb in parentheses.

**Beto** Quiero que (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (nosotros: organizar) un viaje a Guadalajara.

**Julia** Hace falta que (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (nosotros: buscar) boletos baratos.

**Beto** Pienso (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (hablar) con un agente de viajes hoy.

**Julia** Bien, pero es mejor que (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (tú: llegar) allí antes de las cinco.

**Beto** ¿Qué quieres (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (hacer) durante el viaje?

**Julia** Sugiero que (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (nosotros: ir) al Instituto Cultural Cabañas.

**Beto** Tenemos que (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (escuchar) música también.

**Julia** Para eso, te pido que (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (tú: contratar) a un grupo de música mariachi.

**Beto** El profesor dice que (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (nosotros: ver) el ballet folclórico.

**Julia** Muy bien, espero que (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (nosotros: poder) verlo todo.

**D** Translate each sentence into Spanish. Then, for each sentence, explain what determines your choice of subjunctive or infinitive.

1. I want Rafael to go to the concert with me.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. I want to go to the concert with Mercedes.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_