

Spanish Vowels

by Sophia Tutorial



WHAT'S COVERED

In this lesson, you will take a closer look at the vowels in the Spanish alphabet, and how they are pronounced in different Spanish words. Specifically, this lesson will cover:

1. Las Vocales (Vowels)

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The key to sounding as authentic as possible is to keep the vowels short. Spanish vowels are very choppy; they are never drawn out as in English. This is one reason that Spanish sounds faster than English. In English, vowels are sometimes "silent;" in Spanish, vowels are always pronounced.

There is only *one* way to pronounce each vowel in Spanish. Each is always pronounced as follows:

Letter	Sound	Type	Word to Try
a	ah	strong	mañana (tomorrow)
e	ay	strong	mes (month)
i	ee	weak	libro (book)
o	oh	strong	dolor (pain)
u	oo	weak	computadora (computer)
y	ee	weak	muy (very)

Note that two strong vowels next to each other create two separate syllables: mu-e-o

Otherwise, two vowels combine to form one syllable: du-dad, vie-jo



SUMMARY

In this lesson, you learned about the **vowels** you will need to know in order to form words using the Spanish alphabet. There is only one pronunciation of each Spanish vowel, though it's important to remember which vowels have "strong" sounds and which have "weak" sounds, as this can affect pronunciation of different words.

Support

If you are struggling with a concept or terminology in the course, you may contact **SpanishforNursesSupport@capella.edu** for assistance.

If you are having technical issues, please contact **learningcoach@sophia.org**.

Source: This content has been adapted from "Spanish for Nurses" by Stephanie Langston.