

Teaching Spanish (or any language) day after day, week after week, you inevitably run into two challenges:

1. **How to keep students speaking spontaneously**, even when class time is tight
2. **How to minimize prep but still offer meaningful communicative practice**

## What Are Chat Slides?

Chat Slides are visual conversation prompts you project (or share digitally) to spark short Spanish conversations among students. Each slide typically includes a question, image, or sentence starter that students can respond to using everyday vocabulary. The goal isn't perfection — it's **real, spontaneous talk**.

Here are the benefits:

- **Consistent speaking practice:** Even a short chat slide lets every student speak, not just the ones eager to volunteer.
- **Supports all levels:** Prompts can be simple or slightly open-ended, so novices and stronger speakers alike can participate.
- **Classroom momentum:** They help launch or warm up class.
- **Low prep, high impact:** Once you have a deck of slides, you can reuse, adapt, and rotate them.
- **Flexible formats:** Use them projected, in breakout pairs, digital discussion boards, or printed for stations.

Here are some strategies:

- **Timebox the chat.** 2–5 minutes is ideal—long enough to get thinking, short enough to stay focused.
- **Pair or small group mode.** Rotate partners so students hear different voices and styles.
- **Encourage follow-ups.** Prompt students to ask each other a quick follow question (e.g. “¿Por qué?” or “¿Y tú?”).
- **Use images and personal topics.** Photos of places, food, daily routines help ground conversation.
- **Recycle your favorites.** After a few uses, tweak them slightly (change verbs, vocabulary) to keep them fresh.

- **Track participation.** Use a simple tally or partner-rotation sheet so everyone speaks over time.

Chat Slides are simple—but that’s their strength. With minimal prep, you can build in **regular speaking routines** that keep students using [Spanish every class](#). They blend structure and spontaneity, scaffolding talk.

I hope you enjoy using them as much as I enjoyed making them.







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### **5 Weeks of No and Low Prep Fun**

Need quick, engaging activities for your class? This free guide includes **25 no-prep and low-prep ideas** to save time while keeping students excited about learning.

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