

## Overview

In this project, you will **interview a native Spanish speaker**, gather details about a personal story, and then create your own narrated story (*un cuento*) using the **imperfect** and **preterite** tenses. You will revise your work based on feedback, record your story, and participate in a class “truth or lie” activity.

# Día 1: Choosing a Theme & Building Your Story

## Step 1: Select ONE theme

Interview your Spanish speaker AND choose one theme for the story you will tell:

- **Your worst day**
- **Your best day**
- **A holiday**
- **A trip**
- **An interesting day**

Use your interview to gather ideas, vocabulary, and expressions you can use in your own version.

## Step 2: Use the IMPERFECT to set the scene

Answer the following questions in Spanish using the **imperfect tense**. These details give background information and describe the setting of your story.

1. **¿Cuándo era?**  
(When was it? What was the general time or season?)
2. **¿Qué tiempo hacía?**  
(What was the weather like?)
3. **¿Dónde estabas?**  
(Where were you?)
4. **¿Cuántos años tenías?**  
(How old were you?)

5. **¿Cómo te sentías?**  
(How were you feeling?)

## Step 3: Use the PRETERITE to describe what happened

Tell the main events using the **preterite** tense.

- **Tres cosas que hiciste.**  
(Three things you *did*.)
- **Tres cosas que pasaron.**  
(Three things that *happened*.)

Your goal is to create a short but complete story that combines background + actions.

## Step 4: Give Peer Feedback

Respond to at least **two classmates' stories** with helpful feedback.

Your teacher will also send you **private feedback** on your draft.

# Día 2: Revising, Rewriting & Recording

## Step 5: Polish your presentation

Use the feedback you received to improve your story:

- Correct verb tenses
- Add details
- Improve transitions
- Clarify events
- Strengthen vocabulary

## Step 6: Group Work — Truth or Lie

Form a group. Share your revised stories with each other.

Then:

- **One person in your group will change their story** so that it is **NOT true**.
- The other group members will keep their stories true.

## Step 7: Record Your Story

Your story should be:

- Clear
- Well-organized
- In the past tenses
- 1-2 minutes long

## Step 8: Truth-or-Lie Listening Activity

Listen to all the new stories posted by your classmates.

For **each recording**, comment:

1. Whether you think the story is **true** or **a lie**
2. **Why** you think so (give clues, language reasons, details, etc.)

Your teacher will later reveal:

- Which stories were true
- Which were lies

# 1. Student-Friendly Rubric (Novice

# High → Intermediate Low)

**Project: Un cuento - Interview + Story + Truth-or-Lie Recording**

## **Categories (20 points total)**

### **1. Use of Imperfect (5 points)**

- **5** - Consistently uses the imperfect correctly to describe background (weather, feelings, age, location, time).
- **4** - Mostly correct; minor errors.
- **3** - Some correct uses; noticeable errors.
- **2** - Rarely correct or mixed with preterite.
- **1** - Incorrect or missing.

### **2. Use of Preterite (5 points)**

- **5** - Three clear actions *you did* + three clear events *that happened*, with correct preterite forms.
- **4** - Mostly complete; minor tense errors.
- **3** - Some correct actions/events; frequent errors.
- **2** - Missing events or mostly incorrect.
- **1** - Incorrect or missing.

### **3. Story Organization (4 points)**

- **4** - Well organized; uses transitions; easy to follow.
- **3** - Mostly organized; some transitions.
- **2** - Some disorganization; few transitions.
- **1** - Hard to follow.

### **4. Speaking & Pronunciation (3 points)**

- **3** - Clear pronunciation; good pacing; understandable.
- **2** - Some errors but still understandable.
- **1** - Difficult to understand.

### **5. Creativity & Detail (3 points)**

- **3** - Strong details; engaging storytelling.
- **2** - Some details; mostly clear.
- **1** - Minimal detail.

## 2. Interview Question Sheet for Talking With a Native Speaker

### Part A: Background Questions (use for imperfect ideas)

Ask your interview partner these questions in Spanish:

1. **¿Cuándo era?** (What season/year/time was it?)
2. **¿Qué tiempo hacía?** (What was the weather like?)
3. **¿Dónde estabas?** (Where were you?)
4. **¿Cuántos años tenías?** (How old were you?)
5. **¿Cómo te sentías?** (How were you feeling?)
6. **¿Quién estaba contigo?** (Who was with you?)
7. **¿Qué era típico en ese momento?** (What was typical at that time?)

### Part B: Main Events (preterite ideas)

Ask your interview partner:

1. **¿Qué hiciste tú?** (What did you do?)
2. **¿Qué pasó después?** (What happened next?)
3. **¿Cuál fue el momento más importante?** (What was the most important moment?)
4. **¿Hubo un problema o sorpresa?** (Was there a problem or surprise?)
5. **¿Cómo terminó todo?** (How did everything end?)

### Part C: Vocabulary Support

Have the interviewee share useful expressions or cultural phrases you can use in your own story.

# 3. Bilingual Writing Frame (Spanish + English Support)

Choose a theme:

Your worst day ● Your best day ● A holiday ● A trip ● An interesting day

## I. Background (Imperfect)

Use these sentence starters:

- **Primero, era...** (*First, it was...*)
- **Hacía...** (*It was [weather]...*)
- **Estaba en...** (*I was in...*)
- **Tenía \_\_\_ años.** (*I was \_\_\_ years old.*)
- **Me sentía...** (*I felt...*)

## II. Main Events (Preterite)

Describe the actions:

- **Hice...** (*I did...*)
- **Pasó que...** (*It happened that...*)
- **Vi... / fui... / comí... / hablé...**
- **Después...** (*After that...*)

Write at least:

- **3 things YOU did**
- **3 things that HAPPENED**

## III. Transition Words (required)

- **primero** - first
- **luego** - then
- **después** - after that

- **también** - also
- **por fin** - finally

## 4. Recording Checklist

### Before Recording

- ✓ I revised using peer + teacher feedback
- ✓ I included imperfect + preterite correctly
- ✓ I used all 5 transition words
- ✓ My story is organized, clear, and 1-2 minutes

### During Recording

- ✓ I speak clearly and at a steady pace
- ✓ I check that my camera and mic work
- ✓ I keep my notes nearby, but I don't read word-for-word

### After Recording

- ✓ I upload the correct video
- ✓ I listen to at least 3 classmates' stories
- ✓ For each story, I comment:
  - **True or lie?**
  - **Why I think so**

## 5. Copy-and-Paste Template (Google Doc style)

### Un Cuento - Story Project

**Name:**

**Theme:**

**Part 1 - Imperfect (Background)**

**¿Cuándo era?**

→

**¿Qué tiempo hacía?**

→

**¿Dónde estabas?**

→

**¿Cuántos años tenías?**

→

**¿Cómo te sentías?**

→

**Part 2 - Preterite (Main Events)**

**Tres cosas que hice:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Tres cosas que pasaron:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**Part 3 - Final Story (Paragraph Form)**

Use transitions: *primero, luego, después, también, por fin*

→ Write story here:

## Part 4 - Truth-or-Lie Guessing Log

Story	True or Lie?	Why I think so

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