

The Most Amazing Spanish Learning Ideas Ever!

A Free Report Based On Ideas by Listeners at NotesinSpanish.com

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*Please feel free to share this report with other
Spanish Lovers - Email it to a friend today!*

A Very Quick Introduction....

We asked thousands of our [Notes in Spanish podcast](#) listeners what they planned to do to have “**the best Spanish learning week ever**”.

The answers were collected in the forum at our sister site [notesfromspain.com](#), and have been summarized here as a record of all the incredible ideas and resources that were suggested.

To see (and keep contributing to!) the original ideas, join the super-friendly forum discussion here:

<http://www.notesfromspain.com/forums/showthread.php?t=7928>

How to use the ideas and resources in this report

There is SO much information below, *so many ideas*, so many books to read, films to see, podcasts to listen to, that it can be a bit overwhelming...

To really progress as fast as possible with your Spanish, we suggest picking one thing at a time, and sticking with it, before moving on to the next - otherwise it's easy to get completely swamped with options!

OK, let's start on the next page with the books you suggested, then move on later to films, websites, and your favourite learning ideas. *Comments **in bold italics** are by me, Ben*

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<http://www.notesinspanish.com/free-spanish-report.html>

1. Spanish Books You Are Enjoying

Como agua para chocolate, Laura Esquivel - ***The most mentioned book by far!***

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone, J.K. Rowling (and other Harry Potter books)

Caramelos de menta, Carmen Vázquez-Vigo.

El Imperio del Sol, J.G. Ballard

Taxi a Coyoacan, Dolores Soler Espiauba

Capitán Alatríste, Arturo Pérez-Reverte

Obabakoak, Bernardo Atxaga

"Hacia la ciudad espléndida," Pablo Neruda

El niño con el pijama de rayas, John Boyne

El círculo del lobo, Antonio Calzado.

La Ciudad de las Bestias, Isabel Allende

Alpha Teach Yourself Spanish in 24 Hours, Clark Zlotchew

La Tabla de Flores

Crepusculo, Stephenie Meyer

La Breve y Maravillosa Vida de Oscar Wao, Junot Díaz

El Alquimista, Paulo Coelho

La Quinta Montaña, Paulo Coelho

El Zahir, Paulo Coelho

Brida, Paulo Coelho

Cien años de soledad, Gabriel García Márquez

Crónica de una muerte anunciada, Gabriel García Márquez - ***An easy place to start with this complex author!***

Réquiem por un campesino español, Ramón J. Sender

Cartas desde el infierno, Ramón Sampedro

Lituma en los andes, Mario Vargas Llosa

La historia de España contado para escépticos, Juan Eslava Galán

Mio Cid - Recuerdos de mi Padre, Isabel Molina

El oro de los sueños, José María Merino

Angeles y demonios, Dan Brown

Lo Que Esta En Mi Corazon, Marcela Serrano

El juguete rabioso, Roberto Arlt

Don Juan Tenorio, José Zorrilla

El laberinto de la soledad y otras obras, Octavio Paz

La telaraña de Carlota, E.B. White

La casa del Bosque, Laura Ingalls Wilder

El Oro del Rey, Yxta Maya Murray

Un libro de Terry Pratchett

Articulos en "Think Spanish"

La novela en mi revista "Vanidades"

On the Next Page: Audio...

2. What You Are Going To Listen To

- [Notes in Spanish](#) audio, from Inspired Beginners to Intermediate and Advanced, and the new Crisis Collection. - ***A great place to start! [More info here](#)***

- The Spanish radio while working (<http://www.rtve.es/radio/>)

- Music in Spanish, including: La Oreja de Van Gogh, Bebo y Cigala ([more here!](#))

- CDs de cuentos en español (e.g. "[Relatos españoles contemporáneos](#)" by hablaconene.com)

- [Punto y Coma](#) (audio magazine for improving your Spanish)

- "[Canada en las Americas](#)" - A production by Radio Canada Internacional

- [Puerta del sol](#) (audio magazine)

- "Espectacularidad" - radio program

- Other Podcasts
 - [SSL4YOU](#)
 - [SpanishPodcast](#)
 - [Rojas Spanish Language](#)
 - [Voices en español](#)
 - [Cody's Cuentos](#)
 - [Un idioma sin fronteras](#)
 - [Showtime Spanish](#) - ***I know Mark who runs this great podcast, and really recommend his professional approach.***

- [Notes in Spanish](#) - *Our Own Work*
- Podcasts de [Frecuencia Cero](#) (favorites: "Vino para principiantes" y "Testigos del Crimen")
- [Nuevos Horizontes](#)

3. What You Are Going To Write

- An email to a friend in Spanish
- Something without looking in the dictionary
- Spanish [in the forum!](#) - ***Remember, we have a Spanish friend, Isabel, on hand to help out with corrections and improving your written Spanish.***
- Translations of song lyrics
- An article about Spanish winners of the Nobel prize
- My blog in Spanish
- Messages to an intercambio
- Messages on people's Facebook walls in Spanish
- Notes in a diary
- Translations of articles
- A short story for podcasts
- My CV in Spanish
- A list of questions to ask patients in a medical clinic
- Unknown vocabulary found while reading

- The dialogue in a YouTube video, the "[automated confessional](#)"

4. What people are going to watch

Films:

Salvador

The Motorcycle Diaries - *Beautiful, inspiring, highly recommended*

Y Tu Mamá También - *Great fun, and really interesting slang Mexican Spanish*

Mar Adentro

El Laberinto del Fauno

Viridiana

El Angel Exterminador

Amores Perros

Volver

TV:

Televisión Española (TVE) or TVE Internacional (subtitles on page 888 in Teletext for UK viewers)

Aquí no hay quien viva

Pocoyo

Los Serrano

Camera Cafe (via YouTube)

La telenovela "Victoria"

Univisión

El rostro de analia (telenovela)

Amar en Tiempos Revueltos (Televisión Española)

Código lyoko, y Las chicas del club de winx (cartoons)

[Learning Zone](#) on the BBC

TV in Spanish while at the gym

5. Websites people are going to visit

Blogs:

- [El candidato melancólico](#)
- [English Tricks](#)

Forums:

- [Notes from Spain](#) - *The friendliest Spanish forum on the net*
- [About Spanish](#)

Language and Grammar:

- <http://www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC>
- <http://www.lingolex.com/internet.htm>
- <http://www.es-xchange.com/2008/09/24/flashcards/>
- <http://quizlet.com/117515/501-spanish-verbs-flash-cards/>

Finding Intercambios:

- busuu.com - *I've met the guys in charge, this is a great community*
- www.sharedtalk.com
- www.italki.com

News Sites in Spanish:

- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/spanish/news/>
- www.elmundo.es
- www.elpais.com
- www.20minutos.com
- <http://www.elperiodico.com>

• Other resources mentioned:

- <http://www.learner.org/resources/series75.html> ("Destinos")
- <http://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Especial:Aleatoria> (Random entries displayed)
- LSLC - [Learning Spanish Like Crazy Level Two](#)
- [1000 most common words in Spanish](#)

On the next page: Your plans and ideas...

6. Your Great Spanish Learning Plans

- Read the news in Spanish before reading it in English
- Set a Spanish news site as your browser homepage
- Have a meal or a coffee with a Spanish speaker
- Speak with a Spanish speaker on Skype
- Use [the forum!](#)
- Review vocabulary
- Practice verb conjugation
- Have an intercambio and try to talk more
- Learn the subjunctive
- Talk to a Spanish-speaking boyfriend/girlfriend, family member, or friend
- Visit a place where Spanish is spoken
- Go to Spanish class!
- Do research in Spanish
- Make a plan of studies for Spanish
- Go to a service at a Spanish-speaking church
- Learn new vocabulary about a new topic
- Think more in Spanish - ***Easier than you think and great for fluency!***
- Talk to my dogs in Spanish
- Change your car GPS voice to Spanish so it speaks to you in Spanish - ***I've done this!***

- Get a library card and read books only in Spanish
- Start a notebook with the phrases Ben sends in [the newsletters](#) (or any vocabulary picked up) - **Great, great idea, vocab notebooks are invaluable!**
- Make flashcards with new vocabulary and take them with me
- Do Spanish homework
- Review and organize notes
- Prepare for a job interview/application
- Record myself speaking Spanish to work on pronunciation
- Renew my passport so I can go to Spain
- Practice with the [Inspired Beginners](#) Audio Flashcards - **available in the Inspired Beginners [Super Pack](#)**
- Try to speak more in class
- Buy Lonely Planet Argentina to get ready for a trip
- Not get frustrated about being a perpetual intermediate!
- Go to work in a Spanish-speaking office
- Visit the [Spanish Word Game](#) thread in the forum to work on vocabulary
- Work on “Practice Makes Perfect Spanish Pronouns and Prepositions” by Dorothy Richmond (a workbook)
- Use Nintendo DS, my mobile phone, and internet in Spanish

And finally: read the next page for an impressive final list...

A special mention for the *Huge* number of ideas from forum member

***colelrojo*:**

“Para mejorar mi español esta semana voy a continuar haciendo estas cosas:

- Voy a asistir a dos clases de español.
- Voy a hacer mis deberes para estas clases.
- Voy a continuar escuchando tus podcasts fenomenales ([Notes in Spanish](#)).
- Voy a continuar escribiendo un cuento corto por cada podcast como mis deberes.
- Voy a continuar mandandotelos aún si nadie quiere leerlos o responderlos.
- Voy a continuar escribiendo correos electrónicos a mi amiga argentina.
- Voy a continuar escuchando el CD de español mientras conduzco mi coche.
- Voy a leer una guía de Madrid porque voy a ir allí dentro de poco.
- Voy a terminar de leer mi libro sobre la guerra civil española.”

That's All For Now!

Good Luck with your Spanish learning, and remember, we are always here to help!

- *Ben and Marina, notesinspanish.com*

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