

# IMMIGRATION SPANISH

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## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Pronunciation: Spanish-American usage.

Pronounce a like a in father; example, mamá.

" e " a in way; example, le, or as e in bell; example, el.

" i " e in we; example, vivir.

" o " O in Oh!; example, bota, roto.

" u " oo in boot; example, un.

" c " k before a, e, or u; like s before e or i; examples,  
cosa, cuchillo, centavo, cinco.

" ch " ch in church; example, chico.

" g " g in gate before a, o, or u; like h before e or i;  
examples: gatc, gota, Gutierrez; gente, giro.  
Spanish h is always silent; example, hermano.

" j " h in hat, but somewhat stronger; example, joven.

" ll " ll in million or like y in you; examples, Guillermo,  
llamar, Saltillo.

" ñ " ny in canyon; examples, caña, cañon.

" q " k, used only in the combinations que and qui;  
examples, que, quién.

" rr " rr in burr, but with a very strong trill; examples,  
carro, burro.

" x " h in such words as Mexico and Oaxaca.

" x " x as in axe in all other words; example, existencia.

" y " e in we, when used alone, example, y (meaning and);  
also when it is the first syllable of a word;  
examples, Ybarra, Ygnacio; however such words  
more properly begin with I; also at the end of  
words.

" y " y in you in other words; examples, Yucatán, ya.

" z " s, never like z; examples, zapato, Zepeda.

" cu in the combinations cua and cue like English qu, that  
is, kw.

" gu in the combinations gua and güe like gu in language.

### 2. ACCENT:

If the accent is placed over a vowel, accent the syllable containing that vowel. If no accent is marked, accent the next to the last syllable of words ending in a, e, i, o, u, y, n, or s; accent the last syllable of words ending in any other letter.

### 3. ABBREVIATIONS:

Vd. means Usted; Vds. means Ustedes; E. U. means Estados Unidos.