



PERFECT SPANISH CURRICULUM BLUEPRINT

An Exclusive Resource Presented BaseLang.com -
Unlimited One-on-one Spanish Tutoring for \$149 a Month

You, my friend, have stumbled upon a Spanish-learning goldmine.

This blueprint is, without a doubt, the most optimized curriculum for Spanish in existence. **That's not an overstatement.** We've poured everything in our courses and book, decades of combined experience, my own experience learning Spanish in a month, research study after study, and the lessons we've learned from running [BaseLang](http://BaseLang.com) into the blueprint.

We broke the language down and built it back up, finding the most important parts, ordering things in an ideal way for learning speed and understanding, all while following the [Stages of Learning](#).

In all, we spent over a thousand hours building this.

I literally can not think of a single thing about it that could be better, and I'm a perfectionist. When everyone else wanted to release the blueprint back when it was 95% of the way there, I held it back until I couldn't find a single thing we could improve.

If you're looking to learn at a screaming pace, following this curriculum plus the principles I talk about, along with a good teacher, are all you need.

I would have paid hundreds of dollars for this when I started learning Spanish, but we're going to give it to you for free.

After the Spanish in a Month documentary, many people asked me what curriculum I followed and how they can use the same one. Many BaseLang students were curious how close to my curriculum the BaseLang curriculum is. But this blueprint is not the curriculum I followed, although heavily influenced by it.

It's better.

It's more optimized. Unimportant fat has been cut away and some useful things have been added, and the order has been cleaned up.

This blueprint even gives you access to our private Memrise flashcard decks so you can study the exact vocabulary recommended (and each word is specifically selected based on usefulness), all for free. Each flashcard even has a sound recording from a native speaker built in, so you can practice your pronunciation.

If you want to use this curriculum with any teacher or exchange partner, you can.

But, if you'd like to work with teachers that have already been trained in the system presented in this course and use this curriculum, along with a laundry list of other benefits, I'd sign up for [BaseLang](#). This is the exact curriculum we follow.

And, for just \$149/month, you get unlimited one on one classes.

You can sign up for that [here](#).

Without further ado, let's dig into the blueprint.

How This Works

This curriculum has nine different levels.

Level 0 is “survival Spanish”.

Levels 1-3 are “basic”.

Levels 4-6 are “intermediate”.

Levels 7-9 are “advanced”.

At each of these stages - survival, basic, intermediate, and advanced - you focus on different aspects of the language.

If you haven't already read the Stages of Learning - what describes what is focused on at each stage - I would do so now. [You can read it here.](#)

I'll also cover each stage as it's introduced, so you also opt to just read the stages here if you'd like.

OK, back to the ten levels and how this curriculum is structured.

As you progress through each level, you are exposed to the most important vocabulary and grammar first. Some concepts that are traditionally learned early on are left out until later (e.g. the future tense), and some concepts that are traditionally left until later are included earlier. We are giving you the building blocks you need to have real conversations.

Some lessons in the blueprint are vocab. Instead of doing this thematically, like having an entire lesson on words related to family, we just give you the most used vocabulary first. So you'll learn mother and father early on, but cousin comes a little later as it's not as useful. For these, we give you the exact vocab words you want to study, as well as access to our private Memrise flashcard decks where you can learn and practice the words.

At a certain point, there is no longer any vocabulary that “everyone should know”. Sure, everyone should know how to say “tree”, but not everyone needs “eyeliner”. That’s why we recommend, starting at the intermediate stage, that you start taking “elective topics”.

Electives are just extra vocabulary around a specific topic that you are interested in. For instance, if you love rock climbing, learn how to say the different types of holds and verbs like, “climb”, “fall”, and “traverse”. If you like makeup, learn how to say “eyeliner”, “lipstick”, and verbs like “arreglar”. If you like business, learn the words for that.

Unfortunately we can’t give you the vocab for all of these different topics here in the blueprint, only recommend that you dive into those topics on your own.

Some other lessons in this blueprint are grammar or conjugation lessons. For these, we don’t give much of a guide - just a very short headline. For you, these may make no sense (many don’t even for me with just the title). But any teacher worth their salt will be able to look at the title of the lesson and know what to teach.

If you’re using BaseLang for your teacher, they’ll use these lessons automatically *and* use the vocab that you’ve learned thus far in the lesson (meaning you get the conversation practice with those words you need to solidify them).

We recommend that you don’t progress to the next level until you’ve got the level you’re currently on down. At BaseLang, we make you take a short oral test to prove you are ready to move up, but if you’re following this on your own, you’ll need to exercise some self-discipline.

You can also use the levels to get a good idea of your “fluency” (which is a bit of a fuzzy word) in Spanish, on a scale of 0-100.

At zero, you know nothing (which is where we all start), and at a hundred, you are “fluent” (which means you can speak Spanish as easily as you can English for the vast majority of topics, making only rare errors, but aren’t quite “native”).

Each level coincides with a score range. If you are on level 5, your fluency level is between 50 and 59, depending on how far through the level you are. Once you have progressed to level 6, your level is between 60 and 69.

This is part of the reason we make people test out at the end of each level in BaseLang, so that this score is always an accurate representation of each student’s level of Spanish. Frequently, even when you are making rapid progress with your Spanish, you can feel like you aren’t getting anywhere. I had this problem BIG TIME during my one-month sprint, and relied on my teacher to point out that I was indeed making a lot of progress. With this 0-100 scale, which is built right into BaseLang, you can see that progress numerically, and know that as you hit certain milestones exactly where your level of Spanish is.

Memrise

We use Memrise for our digital flashcards. To learn the strategy behind flashcards and how to learn vocabulary easily, even if you have no time, [read this](#).

You’ll need Memrise if you want to see and practice the vocabulary in each level. In fact, this blueprint leans heavily on the Memrise platform, and even

if you don't want to use it for flashcards, you'll still need to go there to get the specific content for each lesson.

To get the flashcards:

1. Signup for Memrise if you don't already have a free account.
2. Bookmark Memrise and download their Android or iOS app so you can study on the go (which is how you can study without adding any "study time" to your day)
3. While logged in, **click here** and you'll be able to join the "BaseLang Core" group, where you'll see all nine levels. Remember, this is a *private* Memrise group only for those with this blueprint and BaseLang students (yep, you are using the *exact* flashcards our BaseLang students use!), so please do not share the link.
4. In each level are all of the lessons and vocab included here in the blueprint. Now, just use these as you progress through each level.

OK, with that explanations out of the way, let's dig into the the Perfect Spanish Curriculum Blueprint.

SURVIVAL

At the survival stage, you are just learning some key phrases and vocabulary that will help you get by when traveling in a Spanish-speaking country.

You have no idea what you are saying beyond memorization - you don't understand the grammar or anything. But at this stage that doesn't matter. You just need to memorize some key phrases.

This stage can be done in a focused day, or over a weekend. It shouldn't take more than a week.

There are three lessons in this level only. Each lesson is just new phrases and vocab - there's nothing else to it. Just memorize them using the Memrise flashcards.

Level 1

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Survival 1
2. Survival 2
3. Survival 3

BASIC

At the end of this stage, you will be at a “hacked-conversational” level. Remember, we’re focusing on communication first, perfection later - so your teacher should correct a small percentage of your mistakes. A good teacher knows how to balance this, but for example, using the wrong gender should always be let slide at this point.

At a Basic stage, your main focus is on...

1. **Pronunciation.** Get this down early, please. It’s one thing that is *not* easy to unlearn later. You don’t need a near-native accent yet (we’ll get there later), but you should be able to say every word perfectly (or very close to it). You don’t need words or to even know what anything means to learn this.
2. **Building the foundation of grammar.** Without basic grammar, you have no way to communicate simple ideas. This includes the super basics like “I”, “you”, “the”, “it is a cat”, “dog > dogs”, “it is my dog”, but also certain conjugations/grammar concepts we’ll see in a second (like “voy a” and “tengo que”)
3. **Enough vocab** to give you words to learn the foundation of grammar with. Not a ton of focus on vocab here (meaning nouns, non-essential verbs, adjectives).
4. **Learn the “window words”.** These are the words I put on my window in the documentary - core words like before, after, under, and, but, if, so, that’s why, how do you say, and of course. These are “connectors” and prepositions, among other things.
5. **You aren’t having many “conversations” at this point** beyond speaking Spanish with your teacher (the examples and practice they present for learning). This is because without grammar building blocks, you can’t have real conversations - because you can’t form sentences. Thus, trying to have a full conversation is bad for your confidence at this point.

6. **Learn the most common 30 or so verbs** and how to conjugate them in the five most used forms.

What are the five most used forms?

At this stage, I recommend only learning a few conjugations. In order of importance:

1. **Infinitive.** This is what the verb looks like unconjugated. E.g. comer (to eat).
2. **Simple Present.** This is not what you are doing now, but rather something you (or I, he, she, etc) does in general. E.g. comes (you eat).
3. **Progressive.** This is the “-ing” conjugation. E.g. estoy comiendo (I’m eating). This is super easy.
4. **Simple Past.** There are multiple past tenses with slightly different meanings, but you don’t need to worry about those yet as you’ll get your point across with any of them. This is the easiest and most used. E.g. comiste (you ate).
5. **Conditional.** This is the “I would (verb)” conjugation. E.g. comería (she would eat).

Then, there are two very important grammar “hacks” that you will use a lot:

1. **Voy a.** This lets you **skip learning the future tense completely** until the advanced stages, as it means “I’m going to...”. All you do is conjugate the verb “ir” (to go), add an “a”, then the infinitive of any verb. For instance, “I’m going to eat” is “voy a comer”. “You’re going to eat”? “Vas a comer”.

“I’m going to eat” is so close to “I will eat” that you can avoid all the extra work of learning another conjugation until much later.

Just like that, you can skip hours of work memorizing another conjugation, while still being able to talk about the future.”

2. **Tengo que.** This is the same structure as “voy a” in that you have the conjugation for “tener” (to have), then “que”, then the infinitive of any verb. It means “I have to...”. So, “I have to eat” is “tengo que comer”.

Like I said, I’m not going to teach you the actual grammar here (that would take awhile), as that’s the job of your teacher. But as far as what to focus on - studying these conjugations and focusing on these aspects is going to give you the most bang for your buck.

Add the relevant vocabulary for the topic, and you should be able to have a (not-so-pretty) conversation about almost anything with just what you learn in this stage.

Let’s see the exact curriculum for each level now.

Level 2

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Vocabulary 1
2. Greetings and goodbyes
3. Alphabet
4. Personal pronouns
5. Pronunciation 1
6. Pronunciation 2
7. Articles
8. Singular and plurals
9. Gender and number
10. Verbs Ser and Estar
11. Most commonly used verbs 1
12. Present progressive
13. Days, months and seasons
14. Have/ have to
15. Interrogative pronouns
16. Future (Go to)

Level 3

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Vocabulary 2
2. Possessive adjectives
3. Most commonly used verbs 2
4. Simple present
5. Most commonly used reflexives
6. I like/ want/ love/ need/ prefer
7. Adjectives
8. Expressing possession
9. Demonstrative adjectives
10. Most commonly used verbs 3
11. Connectors 1
12. Numbers
13. The Time
14. Verb Ser and Estar in the past tense

Level 4

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Vocabulary 3
2. Past progressive
3. Prepositions of place
4. There is, there is not
5. Most used irregular verbs 1
6. Every, all, both, either, and none
7. Connectors 2
8. Conditional compound 1
9. Most used irregular verbs 2
10. I can / I can not
11. Objective pronouns
12. Most commonly used verbs 4
13. Which vs what
14. Indefinite pronouns

INTERMEDIATE

Congratulations!

At this point, you have crossed the golden threshold from being rather hopeless, to actually being able to hack together conversations. You can now *communicate!*

At this point, you're no longer worried that, "maybe I can't actually learn Spanish". You start to feel like you're "getting it".

And you are.

The intermediate stage is much longer than the basic stage. Through this stage, you'll progress to being conversational (where I was at the end of the documentary) roughly halfway through. And when you cross over into the Advanced stage at the end, you'll be conversationally-fluent (of course, per the 80/20 rule, this second half of the intermediate stage takes longer than the first half).

At this stage, your teacher will start correcting your basic mistakes, and generally "cleaning up" your Spanish. The better you get, the more they will correct your mistakes.

From the beginning of this stage to the end, you'll progress from sounding like Tarzan (remember, reaching that point is a **golden moment**) to a fully functioning adult that stumbles over difficult sentences.

What are you focusing on here?

1. **A lot more vocab.** Now that you have the grammatical structure to use it with, it's time to start adding a lot more vocab. This will expand your

ability to use Spanish in many different situations faster than anything else now that you have the grammatical foundation.

2. **Honing your accent.** At the start of this stage, you should be able to pronounce every word perfectly. Now, it's time to start trying to sound more local. This comes mostly through a process of mimicry that I'll discuss later, but also from starting to speak *faster* and fluidly.
3. **The remaining "core" grammar.** You'll want to cover things like the present perfect "I have eaten" (he comido) and the most common imperatives "take it please" (tómalo por favor). You'll begin to use the subjunctive in specific situations (based on mimicking when your teacher uses it), but you won't actually understand the full rules behind it yet. For the specifics of what you'll want to cover at this stage, see the perfect curriculum bonus.
4. **Lots of conversations.** Now that you can actually communicate, one-on-one conversations with people will become one of the most important parts of the entire process. In fact, more than 60-70% of your time will be spent just having conversations. This is primarily here to move all the grammar and vocab you are learning from "intellectual" to "second nature". Remember, **speaking is everything**.

In addition to the things you *need* to learn, you'll also start to care about slang and saying things like the locals do. This goes a long way in having people feel comfortable with you and forming deeper bonds. Your teacher should already be doing this on a somewhat region-neutral basis, as "textbook" Spanish is rarely how people actually speak to each other.

If you're already living in a Spanish-speaking country, or know where you will be traveling/doing business in/etc, starting the process of learning the slang of that area will be one of the most fun parts of learning Spanish.

For instance, in Medellín, it's very common to add "pues" (which technically means "well", but is usually closer to "uhm" in Medellín) to sentences, even though it's not "correct".

Slang and street-Spanish changes from country to country, and often city to city, which is awesome. This isn't *necessary*, but I definitely recommend giving it some time.

Level 5

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Vocabulary 4
2. Simple past
3. Adverbs
4. Frequency adverbs
5. By / for
6. Vocabulary 5
7. To / of
8. Too + adjective
9. Most commonly used verbs 6
10. First conditional
11. Possessive pronouns

Level 6

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Vocabulary 6
2. Present perfect simple
3. Ever / never
4. Imperfect subjunctive
5. Conditional compound 2
6. Most used verbs 7
7. Comparative 1
8. Vocabulary 7
9. Equality comparatives
10. Too many / Too much - not enough
11. Most used verbs 8
12. Connectors 3
13. Whose?
14. Superlatives

Level 7

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Vocabulary 8
2. Ordinal numbers
3. Already / yet
4. Most commonly used verbs 9
5. Perfect past
6. Vocabulary 9
7. Relative clauses
8. Most commonly used verbs 10
9. Diminutives
10. Present perfect progressive
11. Most commonly used verbs 11
12. Be used to
13. Most used imperatives (you)

ADVANCED

This stage is very simple.

You are already conversationally-fluent. You handle two hour conversations about the differences between German and Mexican culture, what you wish was different about your education, and laugh about something stupid that happened to a friend a few days ago, all without too much difficulty.

You may still make some mistakes and run into difficult sentences that you butcher, but the conversation flows naturally. For the most part, you feel like you *really speak Spanish* now.

For most people, progression from this stage is erratic and slow, as they have already reached their goal.

Indeed, for most people, there is little reason to put in the amount of work that is necessary to progress from being conversationally-fluent, to actually speaking “perfect” Spanish, often about technical subjects.

But, if you are one of the ambitious individuals who wants to push forward, here's what's next.

1. **The rest of the grammar.** At this point, you have all of the most useful grammar, and are simply left with a *lot* of less used conjugations (some of which are almost never used), complex sentence structures, the subjunctive mood (which, at this point, you only know to a limited extent), and more. Basically, you need to learn whatever is left now that you already know the most used stuff. A good teacher and curriculum (which you're reading right now...!) will help you select the most-used of the least-used, but even then you're making incremental gains.

2. **A shitload of vocab.** Basically, you need the most used words for almost every subject, from car engines to kitchen utensils to types of fish. And of course, this is when you start to go *really* deep into the vocab for the subjects that you care about (you should already have a strong vocabulary in these subjects - this is when you fill it out).
3. **The vast majority of your time will be spent in conversations.** Luckily, this will point out to you the things you struggle with most and where you are lacking vocabulary. Also, since you already have a strong level, conversations will suddenly be just as fun as they would be in your native language.
4. **At this point, your teacher should point out every last little stupid mistake you make.** You'll also want to request this of the people you speak with often. You're after perfection at this point, after all.

Progress at this point is rather personal. Some people will start reading lots of books in Spanish and picking up vocab that way. Some will prefer TV shows or movies. Some people will listen to music or radio. Some will just have a lot of conversations and note down the words and grammar they don't know as they go to cover later.

Once you are at this point, your teacher takes more of a support role than a central pillar role. You still will need them to explain the complicated grammar concepts you have coming up, some of which will be so ambiguous and confusing that even *they*, as a professional, have a hard time explaining. They will also push your limits much harder than your friends and other people you have conversations with, which is essential for faster growth.

Level 9

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Imperative mode
2. Simple future
3. I used to
4. Interested / interesting
5. Simple past imperfect
6. Direct and indirect

Level 10

[Click here](#) to go to this level's page in Memrise (you need to be logged in and have joined the group already).

1. Progressive future
2. Active and passive
3. Conditional compound 3

That's it!

This is pretty quick to read, but you'll want to go back to where you are level-wise and start following the curriculum from there - actually studying the vocab, learning the new grammar, taking classes and having conversations.

Completing the entire process will take awhile. Remember, if you finish all the way to the end of Advanced (and most of you don't really need to - finishing intermediate gets you to socially fluent, a high level of conversational), then you are completely fluent in Spanish. That will take some time.

If you want to follow this alone, you definitely can. You have everything you need.

But if you want a plug-and-play solution that just handles it all for you, where...

- the teachers are already trained in the curriculum
- all the vocab is built in to the lessons
- the strategies and principles behind everything else I teach outside of this guide are followed
- getting a lot of classes is ridiculously affordable (assuming you take more than six hours a month, which you'll need to if you want to learn to a conversational level in under a year)

...than you'll want to just sign up for [BaseLang](#).

At BaseLang, you get unlimited one-on-one classes with professional teachers, for just \$149 a month.

That's truly unlimited - if you wanted to take 8+ hours a day, you could.

It's a complete system, including...

- **this exact curriculum**, which is optimized for communication first, perfection later (which makes progress WAY faster and prevents quitting)
- detailed pronunciation training to address the main problem with listening comprehension
- tons of conversation time to move concepts and words from intellectual to second nature
- cool, fun to talk to teachers that make learning FUN, like talking to a friend
- flashcards for vocabulary that go along with the lessons (the exact Memrise flashcards used here in this blueprint)
- high personalization, meaning we are constantly adapting to YOU

It's EXACTLY what I wish existed when I was learning Spanish.

Your first week is just \$1 so that you can try it out, and if at any time in the first 35 days you don't absolutely LOVE it, just let us know and *not only* will we give you a full refund, but we'll send you an extra \$20 for wasting your time.

If that sounds great to you, just [click here](#) and follow the instructions to start your one week trial for \$1.

And if not, no worries. You still have everything you need to learn Spanish ridiculously quickly right here in this blueprint. There will just be a little extra work involved to implement it.

Thank you for reading all the way to here, and if you have any questions, email me at connor@baselang.com. **I personally read and respond to everything.**