



Spanish In Mexico Notes: 5-1 Expressing Possession

As we visited Hotel Parador San Javier, we learned about the verb *tener*, which means “to have.” *Tener* is an irregular verb. The five present tense conjugations of *tener* are:

yo	tengo	nosotros	tenemos
tú	tienes		
él/ella/Ud.	tiene	ellos/ellas/Uds.	tienen

Here are some examples:

- Yo tengo un libro. - I have a book.
- Tú tienes una bicicleta. - You have a bicycle.
- Ella tiene libros. - She has books.
- Nosotros tenemos rosas. - We have roses.
- Ellos tienen bicicletas. - They have bicycles.

Additional Information:

In some cases, the verb *tener* is used to express feelings. Here are some common phrases:

- tener frío – to be cold
- tener calor – to be hot
- tener hambre – to be hungry
- tener sed – to be thirsty
- tener sueño – to be sleepy
- tener miedo – to be scared

All of these phrases are very common throughout the Spanish speaking world, and are by far the most common way to express these sentiments.

For example:

- Yo tengo frío. – I am cold. (literally “I have coldness”)
- Ella tiene hambre. – She is hungry. (literally “she has hunger”)
- Nosotros tenemos sueño. – We are sleepy. (literally “we have sleepiness”)

Vocabulary:

- la ciudad – city
- el mercado – market
- la tienda – store
- la universidad – university

el monumento – monument
el parque – park
el edificio – building

Extended Vocabulary:

la fama – fame
hermoso/a – beautiful
el estilo – style
tradicional – traditional
el huésped – guest
el apoyo – support
el río – river
la orilla – bank/shore
crecer – to grow
la inundación – flood
construir – to build