

Spanish In Mexico Notes: 7-1 Food

As we continued our tour of Puerto Vallarta, we learned how to conjugate the verb *querer*, which means ‘to want.’ Unlike regular ER verbs, *querer* is stem-changing. In the case of *querer*, this means that the ‘e’ in the stem (*quer-*) changes to ‘ie’ in all the present tense conjugations, except the *nosotros* form. The five present tense conjugations of *querer* are:

| | | | |
|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| yo | qu <u>ie</u> ro | nosotros | queremos |
| tú | qu <u>ie</u> res | | |
| él/ella/Ud | qu <u>ie</u> re | ellos/ellas/Uds. | qu <u>ie</u> ren |

Notice again that the stem does not change in the *nosotros* form.

Here are some examples:

Yo quiero la sopa. – I want the soup.

Tú quieres la sopa. – You want the soup.

Él quiere la sopa. – He wants the soup.

Nosotros queremos la sopa. – We want the soup.

Ellos quieren la sopa. – They want the soup.

To say that you want to do something, use the correct conjugation of the verb *querer*, followed by a verb in the infinitive. For example:

Yo quiero comer. – I want to eat.

Tú quieres trabajar. – You want to work.

Additional Information:

To ask someone what they want, use the phrase:

¿Qué quieres?

This can also be used to ask more specific questions:

¿Qué quieres comer? – What do you want to eat?

¿Qué quieres hacer? – What do you want to do?

¿Qué quieres beber? – What do you want to drink?

Vocabulary:

comer – to eat

el pan – bread
la sopa – soup
la ensalada – salad
el pescado – fish
la carne – meat
el pollo – chicken
el postre – dessert

Extended Vocabulary:

el dueño – owner
escapar – to escape
el lado – side
la huerta – garden
abrir – to open
la naturaleza – nature
conservar – to preserve
destruir – to destroy
la vanidad – vanity