

Speak Spanish Pronto

Beginner Lessons

Lesson 1: Greetings

The following is a short introduction to basic greetings with responses. Using this structure, follow-up questions can be asked in order to keep the conversation going.

Dialog 1 Part 1

Valentina	¿Hola, cómo estás?	<i>Hi, how're you?</i>
Andrés	Hola, muy bien.	<i>Hi, I'm very well!</i>
Valentina	¡Qué bien!	<i>That's great! / How nice!</i>

Dialog 1 Part 2

Andrés	¿Y tú? ¿Cómo va todo?	<i>And you? How is everything?</i>
Valentina	Pues...más o menos.	<i>Well...it's ok.</i>
Andrés	¿Por qué? ¿Qué pasó?	<i>Why? What happened?</i>



Since Valentina hesitated (*pues...*) and then responded more neutrally, Andrés asked Valentina, “*Why?*” and “*What happened?*”.

Following the same starting point, the conversation can be adjusted in order to slightly change the responses.

Dialog 2 Part 1

Valentina	¿Hola, cómo estás?	<i>Hi, how're you?</i>
Andrés	Hola, bien. Todo bien.*	<i>Hi, I'm well. Everything's good.</i>
Valentina	¡Ah, me alegra!	<i>Ah, I'm glad!</i>



*There is a difference between **well** (*bien*) and **good** (*bueno*). Here, the more natural translation uses both well and good, despite Andrés only using *bien*.

Keywords/phrases:

¿Cómo estás?	<i>How're you?</i>
¿Cómo va todo?	<i>How is everything?</i>
Bien	<i>Well</i>

Más o menos	<i>Ok (literally, more or less)</i>
¿Y tú?	<i>And you?</i>
¡Qué bien!	<i>That's great!</i>
Me alegra	<i>I'm glad</i>

Final Thoughts...

There's a few ways to ask Valentia how she is using standard questions, like in this lesson. There are a lot more ways using more colloquial, natural-sounding questions.

[Lesson 2](#) of the Beginner Series gives a look at the multiple ways to ask, “*What's up?*”, using these questions.

A lot of the time these questions are used alongside of asking how someone is by following the standard, “*¿Cómo estás?*”, so remember that one.