

Speak Spanish Pronto

Beginner Lessons

Lesson 3: Introductions

Below is a basic flow of introductions between two people

Dialog 1

Laura	¿Hola, cómo te llamas?	<i>Hi, what's your name?</i>
David	Hola, me llamo David.	<i>Hi, my name is David.</i>
Laura	Mucho gusto, David.	<i>Nice to meet you, David.</i>
David	Y ¿cómo te llamas?	<i>And what is your name?</i>
Laura	Me llamo Laura.	<i>My name is Laura.</i>
David	Mucho gusto, Laura.	<i>Nice to meet you, Laura.</i>

This is a straightforward 'template' for asking and responding when first introducing yourself to someone.

You can respond differently so that it's not so monotonous. This might be preferred if there's multiple people you're meeting.

Dialog 2

Laura	¿Hola, cómo te llamas?	<i>Hi, what's your name?</i>
David	Hola, me llamo David.	<i>Hi, my name is David.</i>
Laura	Mucho gusto, David. Soy Laura.	<i>Pleased to meet you, David. I'm Laura.</i>
David	Es un placer conocerte.	<i>It's a pleasure to meet you.</i>

 To respond more casually like Laura did, substitute:

“Soy Laura.” for “Me llamo Laura.”

David uses the verb **conocer**.

 **Conocer** means *“to know, to meet or to be familiar with someone or something specific”*

Examples using **conocer**:

Es un placer conocerte.	<i>It's a pleasure to meet you.</i>
	<i>The te in conocerte means you</i>
¿Conoces a mi hermano?*	<i>Do you know my brother?*</i>
	<i>Have you met my brother?</i>

Llegué ayer, y por eso, no conozco bien la ciudad.

I arrived yesterday, so I don't know the city well.

I arrived yesterday, so I am not familiar with the city.



*When asking if you know or have met someone, you must use an “**a**” before the person. This rule does **not** apply for places.

¿Conoces a Laura?
¿Conoces a mi amigo?

Do you know Laura?
Have you met my friend?

Conocí a alguien ayer en el parque.

I met someone yesterday in the park.

¿Conoces Madrid?

Have you been to Madrid?
Are you acquainted with Madrid?



Conocer is a reminder that direct translations aren't normally a good idea—this is why a lot of Spanish speakers say, “I know New York.” when they actually mean they've *been to* New York.

And finally...

The following is a summary of how to respond when someone tells you her name.

Mucho gusto is the most flexible of the bunch.

Mucho gusto	<i>Nice to meet you</i>
	<i>Pleased to meet you</i>
	<i>A pleasure to meet you</i>
Un gusto conoerte	<i>Nice to meet you</i>
Un placer conoerte	<i>A pleasure to meet you</i>

Check out [Lesson Four](#), where you'll learn how to say where you're from, as well as ask someone where he or she's from.