* There is no way to tell if a verb is a stem change verb – you just have to memorize them.

**Avancemos 4.1 – Stem Change Verbs**

* There are 3 types of stem change verbs – E>IE, E>I and O>UE (U>UE).
* You change all forms except for nosotros and vosotros.
* Sometimes we call stem change verbs boot verbs because when you draw a shape around the forms that change, it makes a boot.

**Steps to conjugating a stem change verb:**

1. Find the stem (drop the –AR, -IR or –ER)
2. Change the stem in all forms except for nosotros and vosotros
3. Figure out who is doing the action
4. Figure out which set of endings you should be using (Is it an –AR, -IR or –ER verb?)
5. Replace with the correct ending

**Stem Change Verbs:**

Poder - to can, be able to  
Jugar – to play  
Querer – to want  
Preferir –to prefer  
Cerrar – to close  
Empezar – to begin  
Entender – to understand  
Pensar – to think, to plan

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Poder – to can, be able to | | | |
| Yo | puedo | Nosotros | podemos |
| Nosotras | podemos |
| Tú | puedes | Vosotros /as | Podéis |
| Él | puede | Ellos | pueden |
| Ella | puede | Ellas | pueden |
| Ud. (Usted) | puede | Uds. (Ustedes) | pueden |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Jugar – to play | | | |
| Yo | juego | Nosotros | jugamos |
| Nosotras | jugamos |
| Tú | juegas | Vovsotros / as | Jugáis |
| Él | juega | Ellos | juegan |
| Ella | juega | Ellas | juegan |
| Ud. (Usted) | juega | Uds. (Ustedes) | juegan |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Querer – to want | | | |
| Yo | quiero | Nosotros | queremos |
| Nosotras | queremos |
| Tú | quieres | Vosotros / as | queréis |
| Él | quiere | Ellos | quieren |
| Ella | quiere | Ellas | quieren |
| Ud. (Usted) | quiere | Uds. (Ustedes) | quieren |

Practice:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Preferir – to prefer | | | |
| Yo | prefiero | Nosotros | preferimos |
| Nosotras | preferimos |
| Tú | prefieres | Vosotros / as | preferís |
| Él | prefiere | Ellos | prefieren |
| Ella | prefiere | Ellas | prefieren |
| Ud. (Usted) | prefiere | Uds. (Ustedes) | prefieren |

1. I want - \_\_\_\_Yo quiero\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. We can \_\_\_\_Nosotros podemos\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. They play - \_\_\_Ellos juegan\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. He wants \_\_\_Él quiere\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. We play \_\_\_\_Nosotros jugamos\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. She thinks \_\_\_\_\_ Ella piensa\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. I understand \_\_\_\_\_\_Yo entiendo\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. The store closes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_La tienda cierra \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. He begins \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Él empieza \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

IR

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ir – to go | | | |
| Yo | voy | Nosotros | vamos |
| Nosotras | vamos |
| Tú | vas | XXXXXXXX | XXXXXXX |
| Él | va | Ellos | van |
| Ella | va | Ellas | van |
| Ud. (Usted) | va | Uds. (Ustedes) | van |

Use IR when talking about places that you go. 95% of the time, IR will be followed by the word “a – to”.

The Near Future Tense – El future cercano

We use the near future tense when we are talking about something in the future.

It translates to ‘going to do something’.

The formula is: A conjugated form of IR + A + Infinitive

He is going to study after school.  
Él va a estudiar después de las clases.