

Gustar

Paso a paso

"Gustar" is a verb in Spanish that is often translated into English as "to like." However, the way it is used in Spanish is quite different from the way "to like" is used in English.

In Spanish, "gustar" is what's called a "reflexive" or "indirect object" verb. This means that the thing or person being liked is actually the subject of the sentence, while the person who likes that thing or person is the indirect object.

Let me give you an example:

Me gusta el chocolate. (I like chocolate.)



In this sentence, "el chocolate" (chocolate) is actually the subject of the sentence, even though it comes after the verb. "Me" (which means "to me") is the indirect object, indicating who the liking is directed towards. The verb "gustar" is conjugated to agree with the subject of the sentence, which in this case is "el chocolate" (singular), so we use the singular form of "gusta" instead of the plural "gustan."

Here are a few more examples:

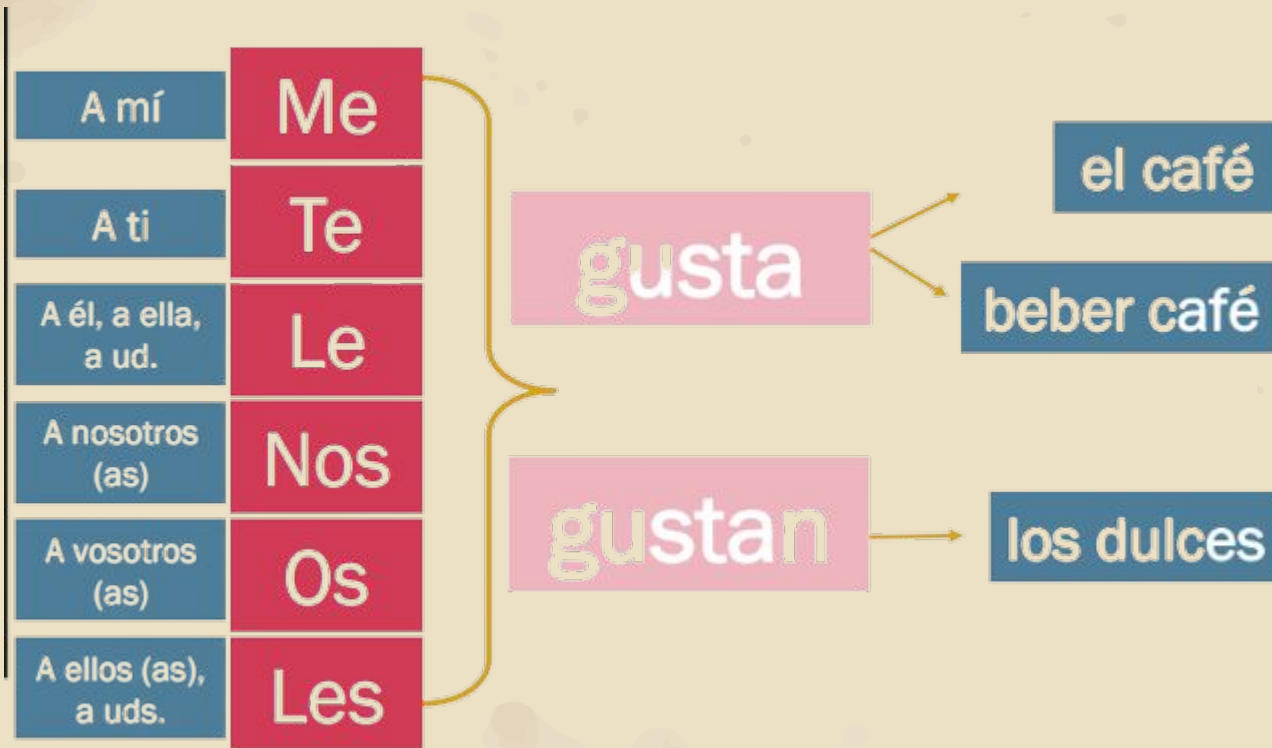
A Juan le gustan las películas de terror. (Juan likes horror movies.)

Nos gusta ir al parque los domingos. (We like to go to the park on Sundays.)

Les gusta la comida mexicana. (They like Mexican food.)

As you can see, the subject of the sentence can be singular or plural, and the verb "gustar" is always conjugated to agree with the subject.





In addition to "gustar," there are several other Spanish verbs that function in a similar way, where the subject of the sentence is actually the thing or person being affected, and the person doing the affecting is the indirect object. Here are a few of the most common ones:

Encantar - This verb is similar to "gustar," but it emphasizes a stronger liking or love for something. For example:

Me encanta el helado. (I love ice cream.)

Interesar - This verb is used to express interest in something. For example:

Me interesan los idiomas extranjeros. (I'm interested in foreign languages.)

Importar - This verb is used to express the importance or significance of something. For example:

Me importa mucho la educación. (Education is very important to me.)



Parecer - This verb is used to express opinions or judgments about something. It's often translated as "to seem" or "to appear." For example:

Me parece bien que vengas. (It seems good to me that you come.)

Molestar - This verb is used to express annoyance or irritation with something. For example:

Me molesta el ruido de los coches. (The noise of the cars bothers me.)

Aburrir - This verb is used to express boredom with something. For example:

Me aburren las películas de terror. (I get bored by horror movies.)

Interesar - This verb is used to express interest in something. For example:

Me interesan las artes plásticas. (I'm interested in the visual arts.)

Preocupar - This verb is used to express worry or concern about something. For example:

Me preocupa la situación económica. (I'm worried about the economic situation.)



Fascinar - This verb is used to express fascination or captivation with something. For example:

Me fascina la música clásica. (I'm fascinated by classical music.)

To use these verbs correctly, remember that the thing or person being affected is always the subject of the sentence, and the person doing the affecting is the indirect object. Here are a few more examples:

1. A María le encanta la playa. (María loves the beach.)
2. Nos interesan las culturas antiguas. (We're interested in ancient cultures.)
3. A ti te importa mucho el medio ambiente. (The environment is very important to you.)
4. A los niños les fascinan los animales salvajes. (Children are fascinated by wild animals.)



Complete the following sentences using "gustar" and the appropriate form of the verb:

1. A mí _____ la música clásica. (gustar)
2. A ellos _____ los deportes extremos. (gustar)
3. A ti _____ el helado de vainilla. (gustar)
4. A ella _____ las películas románticas. (gustar)
5. A nosotros _____ ir al cine los fines de semana. (gustar)



Translate the following sentences into Spanish, using "gustar" and the appropriate form of the verb:

1. I like to read books.
2. They don't like spicy food.
3. Do you like to dance?
4. He likes to play video games.
5. We like to travel to new places.



Write a sentence about each of the following items, using "gustar" and the appropriate form of the verb:

1. Pizza- la pizza
2. Dogs -perros
3. Soccer -fútbol
4. Classical music -música clásica
5. The beach - la playa



Translate the following sentences into Spanish, using "gustar" and the appropriate indirect object pronoun:

1. She likes to swim in the ocean.
2. We don't like to watch horror movies.
3. Do you like to play soccer?
4. They like to listen to jazz music.
5. He likes to read books about history.

