

9. What do you have to do before leaving? \_\_\_\_\_
10. I'm going to a lecture (*la conferencia*) about using computers. \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
11. In addition to boiling (*hervir*) water, this stove (*la estufa*) can boil milk! \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
12. John has to take three more (*otras tres*) classes in order to graduate (*graduarse*). \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

### Verbs that Require a Preposition

Many Spanish verbs require the use of a preposition before the subsequent word, whether it is a noun or another verb (in its infinitive form). There is some method to this, and this is discussed in each of the following six sections. However, for the most part, these verbs, along with their respective prepositions, must be learned just as one learns other vocabulary terms.

Listed below are several verbs that require prepositions when preceding another word. These verbs are arranged alphabetically and are grouped according to the preposition each one takes. Following each verb is the most common part or parts of speech the verb will precede, then its English equivalent, and finally the result of the clause created, such as **cuidar a** (*n.*), to take care of (someone). Using this information, you could write: **Yo cuido a Juan** (I take care of Juan). Or the entry, **acabar de** (*v.*), to have just (done something), gives you enough information to write: **María acaba de escribir una carta** (María has just written a letter).

**Important:** In the entries below, when a verb takes **a**, note that this **a** is an actual preposition. Be careful not to confuse the preposition **a** with the personal **a**, which is placed after all verbs when the stated direct object is a person.

The abbreviations in the lists in this unit are as follows:

- (*v.*) verb  
(*n.*) noun

#### **a**

Verbs that are followed by **a** often are referred to as "springboard verbs" because they mark the beginning of an action. As you look through the following list of verbs, you will find that many of them move toward an action or lead a person ahead, either literally or figuratively.

Remember that the preposition **a** means "to," and that when you go to something, you are moving ahead, going forward.

<b>acertar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to manage to, succeed in (doing something)
<b>acostumbrarse a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to become used to (someone, something, doing something)
<b>adaptarse a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to adapt oneself to (something, a situation, doing something)
<b>adelantarse a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to step forward to (someone, something, doing something)
<b>animar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to encourage to (do something)

<b>animarse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to decide, make up one's mind to (do something)
<b>aprender a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to learn to (do something)
<b>apresurarse a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to hasten to, hurry to (somewhere, do something)
<b>arriesgarse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to risk (doing something)
<b>asistir a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to attend (something, a function)
<b>asomarse a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to appear at, look out from (something)
<b>aspirar a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to aspire to (be something, someone, do something)
<b>atreverse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to dare to (do something)
<b>aventurarse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to venture to (do something)
<b>ayudar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to help to (do something), to aid in (doing something)
<b>burlar a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to deceive, play a trick on (someone)
<b>comenzar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to begin to (do something)
<b>comprometerse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to make a commitment to (do something)
<b>condenar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to condemn to (do something)
<b>consagrarse a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to devote oneself to (someone, something)
<b>contribuir a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to contribute to (something, doing something)
<b>convidar a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to invite to (a function, do something)
<b>correr a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to run to (somewhere, do something)
<b>cuidar a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to care for, take care of (a person)
<b>dar a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to face (something)
<b>dar cuerda a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to wind (a watch)
<b>decidirse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to decide to (do something)
<b>dirigirse a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to go to (a place); to address (someone); to direct oneself to (doing something)
<b>disponerse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to prepare to, be disposed to (do something)
<b>empezar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to begin to (do something)
<b>enseñar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to teach to (do something)
<b>forzar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to force to (do something)
<b>impulsar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to impel to (do something)
<b>incitar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to incite to (do something)
<b>inducir a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to induce to (do something)
<b>inspirar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to inspire to (do something)
<b>instar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to urge to (do something)
<b>invitar a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to invite to (a function, something, do something)
<b>ir a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to go to (a place); to be going to (do something)
<b>limitarse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to limit oneself to (do something)
<b>llegar a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to arrive at (a place); to be going to (do something)
<b>meterse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to take up (doing something)
<b>montar a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to ride (something—a horse)
<b>negarse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to refuse to (do something)
<b>obligar a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to oblige to (do something)
<b>ofrecerse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to offer to, promise to, volunteer to (do something)
<b>oler a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to smell like (something)
<b>oponerse a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to oppose, be in opposition to (something, doing something)
<b>pararse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to stop (to do something)
<b>parecerse a</b> ( <i>n.</i> )	to resemble (someone, something) physically
<b>pasar a</b> ( <i>n., v.</i> )	to pass to, proceed to (something, doing something)
<b>persuadir a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to persuade to (do something)
<b>ponerse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to begin to, set out to (do something)
<b>prestarse a</b> ( <i>v.</i> )	to lend oneself to (doing something)

<b>probar a</b> (v.)	to try to, attempt to (do something)
<b>quedarse a</b> (v.)	to stay to, remain to (do something)
<b>rebajarse a</b> (n., v.)	to stoop to (someone, a situation, doing something)
<b>reducirse a</b> (n., v.)	to reduce (a situation or oneself) to (something, do something)
<b>rehusar a</b> (v.)	to refuse to (do something)
<b>renunciar a</b> (n.)	to renounce, give up, quit (something, a job)
<b>resignarse a</b> (n., v.)	to resign oneself to (something, doing something)
<b>resistirse a</b> (n., v.)	to resist (something, doing something)
<b>resolverse a</b> (v.)	to make up one's mind to, resolve to (do something)
<b>retirarse a</b> (n., v.)	to retire to (a place, do something)
<b>romper a</b> (v.)	to start suddenly to (do something)
<b>saber a</b> (n.)	to taste like (something)
<b>sentarse a</b> (n., v.)	to sit down to (something, do something)
<b>someterse a</b> (n., v.)	to submit oneself to (something, doing something)
<b>sonar a</b> (n.)	to sound like (something)
<b>subir a</b> (n.)	to go up to, climb, get on (something)
<b>venir a</b> (n., v.)	to come to (a place, do something)
<b>volver a</b> (n., v.)	to return to (a place); to (do something) again

### ¿Verdadero o falso?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Doy cuerda a mi reloj cada día.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Me niego a volar cuando está lloviendo.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Yo creo que el pavo sabe a pollo.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Nadie puede forzarme a hacer nada.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Siempre rompo a llorar en una boda.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Quiero renunciar a mi trabajo.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Después de sentarme a comer, rehúso a contestar el teléfono.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Nunca me rebajo a robar dulces de un niño.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Nadie puede persuadirme a comer una carpa dorada (*goldfish*), ni por un millón de dólares.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Me parezco a uno de mis primos.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Peter Jennings se parece a James Bond.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. A veces el ronroneo (*purring*) de un gato suena a un barco de motor.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. La memoria de la madre Teresa me inspira a ser una mejor persona.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. Mi casa da al este.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Cuando subo a mi coche, me pongo el cinturón de seguridad inmediatamente.