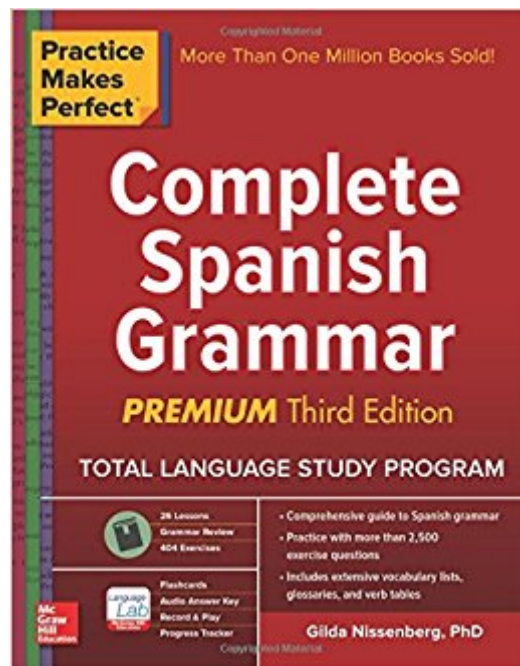


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Practice Makes Perfect: Complete Spanish Grammar, Premium Third Edition



Synopsis

Build your confidence in your Spanish skills with practice, practice, practice!

Book Information

Series: Practice Makes Perfect

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Customer Reviews

Gilda Nissenberg Ph.D., is an experienced educator and faculty trainer. She has authored curriculum for intermediate and beginning Spanish high school courses for Miami-Dade Public Schools, the Southern Region College Board (GA), and the New York College Board.

Complete Spanish Grammar is another book in the Practice Makes Perfect series which happens to be a real bargain for the price.- The book has 26 different chapters- The book also includes over 2,500 exercises to help you learn Spanish- There's even a bonus online section that includes audio and text Like the title of the book suggests, Complete Spanish Grammar is very complete. You will learn topics that are easy to understand such as conjugating verbs in the present tense and the preterit and imperfect tenses (past tenses). And you will also learn some of the most complicated topics of Spanish grammar such as reflexive verbs and the Spanish subjunctive mood. You'll also learn almost every other Spanish grammar topic imaginable. For example:- Irregular verbs- Stem changing verbs- Ser and estar- Determining when to use the preterit tense vs. the imperfect tense- The future and the conditional- The progressive tenses- The present perfect and the past perfect- The future perfect and the conditional perfect- The passive voice and passive constructions- Not just the present subjunctive but also the imperfect and the pluperfect subjunctive-

Commands- Nouns and articles- Adjectives, adverbs, pronouns and prepositions- And a lot more

One feature that I found helpful about this book is that the author includes verb charts that you can quickly use as a reference. But the two things that I like most about this book are:

One, the author gives plenty of advice on how to avoid many of the common mistakes that native English speakers make when speaking Spanish. For example, the author points out that in Spanish the English auxiliary verb "do" is not translated in Spanish and that Spanish does not require an auxiliary verb in order to ask a question. She then gives several examples, including:

Compramos la casa? "Do we buy the house?"

Abro la puerta? "Shall I open the door?"

Two, at the end of every chapter there is a "vocabulary section" This is where the author defines all the new words that were taught in that chapter. I found this to be a huge time saver. Since all of the new Spanish words were defined in the "vocabulary section" at the end of each chapter, I didn't have to look up all the new words in a Spanish dictionary.

In closing, I want to leave you with a list of my favorite three learn-Spanish products available here at :

1. **Easy Spanish Phrase Book NEW EDITION: Over 700 Phrases for Everyday Use (Dover Language Guides Spanish)** Easy Spanish Phrase book. This is an economically priced, handy resource that easily fits into my back pocket. You can conveniently take it anywhere with you when vacationing in a Spanish speaking country in order to have more than 700 phrases in your Spanish-vocabulary arsenal. And unlike so many learning-Spanish books, there is also a section called "Computers and Technology" where you'll find Spanish vocabulary related to modern technology.
2. **Learning Spanish Like Crazy Level 1 CDR - w/ Super Bonus Package - Learn Spanish & Speak Spanish - New & Improved for PC/Mac - Free Updates for 1 Yr** LSLC is my favorite audio Spanish program because the program focuses on everyday, Latin American Spanish. This is a new and improved version with new content and new native Spanish speakers, and I find it to be much better than the previous version. The program is geared toward the foreign-language learner who wants to eventually achieve fluency in Spanish instead of someone who just wants to learn a few travel phrases. Compared to the other programs that I have used, this one does the best job at teaching you how to develop an authentic sounding Latin American Spanish accent. The program also comes with a very impressive bonus package.
3. **501 Spanish Verbs with CD-ROM and Audio CD (501 Verb Series)** 501 Spanish Verbs. If you think you can accomplish fluency in Spanish as an adult without mastering conjugating Spanish verbs, you are only fooling yourself. This book is an absolute essential resource for learning how to conjugate Spanish verbs.

If you have any questions about Practice Makes Perfect's Complete Spanish Grammar, please post your questions below and I will do my best to answer your questions.

This is a steal! The book is very thorough, the explanations are very clear. I like different exercises, some involve creativity, some are more straightforward. The end of each unit has a passage for translation practice that involves what was covered. For less than \$10 you can't go wrong. Just keep in mind this is not for beginners, a good foundation of Spanish is needed, it is a practice book more so than a lesson book. It is more for clarifying and perfecting your grammar than learning it from scratch.

I am learning Spanish on my own and this book has helped me practice my grammar every week. It also improves my Spanish vocabulary.

I am rating this book 4 out of 5 stars because the book itself is superb, yet it is useless in its current Kindle format. This is a great grammar book. I moved to Argentina knowing only "si" and "no" in Spanish but I took this grammar with me and was able to learn Spanish using just it and a tutor who used it as a guide. Covering the range of conjugations -- verbs being as important to the language as vocabulary -- it is laid out in such a way that the raw beginner can use it as a basic workbook and can progress to more sophisticated usage along the way, while the book itself remains useful forever for reference and review. I am therefore dismayed that the Kindle version has a serious glitch: the examples, crucial to this book, remain in a tiny font and cannot be enlarged. This puts my stand-by, favorite Spanish grammar book out of reach to me and any Kindle user whose vision requires the slightest magnification of the letters. I am unable to read the examples even with a magnifying glass, which should not be necessary anyway with the marvelous Kindle technology. In other words, the publisher of this and other Practice Makes Perfect books (I have two others in my Kindle with the same problem) must redesign the Kindle version to make the examples subject to the same rules of magnification, or at least make their font size as large as the main text. Or else it remains useless. I use my Kindle a lot, largely because of its ability to magnify the text as well as its other amazing conveniences, and was looking forward to carrying in the one place all my beloved Practice Makes Perfect Spanish language aides, but alas must go to the bookstore and purchase these excellent works in paperback. Let us hope that all such McGraw Hill publications are soon modified for effective use on the Kindle -- they deserve it.

I like this book a lot, but I think it has weird expectations for vocabulary in the exercises. I spend a lot of time looking up words that maybe aren't the most useful to know just yet (and aren't included

as vocab in the book) so I'm able to do the exercises. I also don't really like the true/false or diary bits, so I skip those. Pronunciation help would be useful, but it's not provided in this book (that I've found, anyway). I think you can get pretty far with this book alone, but I think there has to be a better book out there.

This book should say "Review" somewhere on the cover, because it is far too advanced and badly structured for a beginner. I took Spanish several decades ago and am trying to relearn it, but even though I remember quite a bit this book confuses the heck out of me. For one thing, she uses vocabulary in the exercises that are nowhere in the book - not in the glossary, not in any of the other exercises, nor in any of the vocabulary boxes that appear on some pages. Not only that, even in the early chapters she sometimes uses a verb tense that isn't covered until far later in the book. Every time I sit down with this book I get discouraged. Not so with Spanish Verb Tenses by Dorothy Richman (in the same "Practice Makes Perfect" line of books.) It has MUCH better pacing, more complete vocabulary instruction and logical exercises. It's still probably better in conjunction with a class or tutoring if you've never taken Spanish, but it's much less frustrating than this book.

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