## Some advice to learn Spanish

Spanish is one of the three most important languages in the world. Many Internet sites are published in Spanish, which also is a universal language in the business arena. Spanish is the language used by more than 300 million people and it is emerging as a America's second language. Learning Spanish pronunciation is less complicated than other languages for English speakers because English have twice more sounds than Spanish. Some tips to learn Spanish involve study friends and integrating this language into your daily activities.

Connect with others who are learning Spanish, such as students in an Spanish as a second language program. Converse with a partner in Spanish, and take turns reading aloud from beginner textbooks or children's books. While travelling in an Spanish-speaking country, visit with a native family and pay attention to their speech habits. Observe their mouths as they talk, and imitate their cadences and rhythms. Ask someone who is proficient in Spanish to coach you on words that you find difficult to pronounce.

Have a look to a variety of Spanish materials every day. Visit a Spanish-speaking guest forum on the Internet each day to follow the readers' comments and replies. Read a complete news article either from an Spanish newspaper or on a website. Study the advertisements. Flip through the dictionary on a regular basis so you learn phonetic symbols that offer clues to the sounds of words.

Use your ears as you <u>learn Spanish</u>. Listen to Spanish language television, radio and films. Follow a soap opera. Concentrate on books on tape that are spoken in Spanish. Record yourself as your read some of the same passages that you hear on the taped versions of books. Take notice of your taped voice as you pronounce or mispronounce words. Many students dislike listening to themselves but this exercise forces you to understand the areas where you struggle.

Keep a journal in Spanish to strengthen your language skills. Write down brief sentences that describe how you feel, what you did that day or a quick description of the weather. Start with simple statements and work your way to more complex sentences as you master the language. Maintain your own vocabulary notebook, writing down new words every day and using them in sentences.