

A Read what Enrique thinks about his school rules and answer the questions.

Creo que las normas son bastante severas pero necesarias. Se debe ser puntual y no se permite salir durante el día escolar. Está prohibido llevar piercings y no se debe ser agresivo.

- How many words can you find that are similar to English words and help you understand the text? Underline them.
- What do you think Enrique's opinion of his school rules is? (Answer in English.)

B Match the Spanish expressions used for talking about what is allowed and not allowed with the correct English translation.

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|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 <u>se debe</u> | you are/one is not allowed |
| 2 <u>está prohibido</u> | you/one must not |
| 3 <u>no se permite</u> | you/one must |
| 4 <u>no se debe</u> | (it) is forbidden |

It's possible to use 'one must' etc. when translating these but it sounds more natural and less formal to use 'you'.

C Complete the translation of the text in activity A.

Creo que las normas son bastante severas pero necesarias. Se debe ser puntual y no se permite salir durante el día escolar. Está prohibido llevar piercings y no se debe ser agresivo.

The verb used to talk about piercings in Spanish (*llevar*) is not the one we would usually use in English.

★ Think about the context of a text to help you to find the correct English words. For example, the Spanish word *severas* is similar to the English word 'severe' but this is not the word we use in English when talking about school rules.

_____ the rules are quite _____ but necessary. _____ be on _____ and _____ to _____ during the _____ day. _____ piercings _____ and _____ be aggressive.

D Read the text in which Maite talks about problems at school. She uses present tense verbs in the plural (they). Write down the endings of these verbs.

★ Remember, Spanish has -ar and -er/-ir verbs.

Aunque por lo general me gusta ir al colegio, a veces me intimidan algunos alumnos mayores. Soy muy tímida y me dan miedo. Mis amigos piensan que no es justo. Me dicen que tengo que hablar con los profes, pero en mi opinión no pueden ayudarme.

E Find five verbs in the text for activity D that have present tense endings.

★ It's important to be able to identify the different verb endings in Spanish because this is how you know which personal pronoun (I, you, they, etc.) to use in English.

F Now translate the text in activity D into English.

To translate this you only need to use one English word.

The word order is different in English. Look out for this in other parts of the text too.
lish word

★ When you think you don't know a word, try to think when you have seen it in another context or different construction.

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