-AR Verbs Present Indicative

verb - an action word

subject - the person or thing doing an action

infinitive - the base form of any verb--the one that you'd find in a dictionary. In English, it would be "to" do something (to walk, to run, to dance). In Spanish, it ends in -ar, -er, or -Ir.

conjugate - making changes to a verb to say when it's being done and who is doing it



In both English and Spanish, we need to **CONJUGATE** verbs in order to match the **SUBJECT** so that we know who is doing them: we can't just leave them in their infinitive form.

In English, the **ENDINGS** are mostly the same, no matter what subject you are referring to. Think, for example, about the **VERB** 'to talk'. How would you change it in order to say that each of the people in the chart talks?

I	TALK	we	TALK
you	TALK	y'all	TALK
she/he	TALKS	they	TALK

In Spanish, however, each **SUBJECT** category requires a different ending. This is because, in Spanish, we don't need to use subject pronouns. The verbs must have different endings so that we can understand who is doing the action.

To conjugate a verb in Spanish, you begin with the infinitive. For example, HABLAR:

- →The 'HABL' is called the **STEM** of the verb, and it tells us what the action is.
- →The 'AR' is called the **ENDING** of the verb, and an -ar on the end of the verb means "to". Hablar, therefore, means "**TO TALK**".
- →If we want to change it to say who is talking, we have to conjugate the infinitive.



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To conjugate a verb, we simply take off the old ending and add a new ending.

For **HABLAR**, you'd first remove the -**AR**, then add a new ending that gives us information about WHO is talking.

Here are the present indicative endings for -AR verbs. Use them to say that someone **DOES** or **IS DOING** something.

yo (I)	- O	nosotros (we)	-AMOS
tú (you)	-AS	vosotros (y'all)	-ÁIS
él (he)/ella (she)/ Usted (you formal)	-A	ellos/ellas (they)/ Ustedes (you p.f.)	-AN

First step: DROP YOUR ENDING	(talk)
Yo form/ Put an 'o' on it:	(I talk/I am talking)
Tú form/ Put '-as' on it:	(You talk/You are talking)
Él/ella form/ Put an 'a' on it:	(He talks/He is talking)
Nosotros form/ Put an 'amos' on it:	(We talk/We are talking)
Vosotros form/ Put an 'áis' on it:	(Y'all talk/Y'all are talking)
Ustedes form/ Put '-an' on it:	(You all talk/are talking)
	(They talk/They are talking)
You dance like Michael Jackson (bailar): My mom works at McDonalds (trabajar): We walk to school (caminar):	
	,

Let's conjugate the verb "HABLAR":