Top of Form

# Spanish Preterite vs. Imperfect Rap

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHxnqP9Dh9o>

LYRICS:  
Back on the tracks, with the raps and the verses,  
Back in the past, Preterite and Imperfect,  
Working the beat 'til you're certain the urge is  
Gonna give up, so let's get to workin'.  
Que pasa con el pretérito?  
It's the past that you use when the end is known,  
Don't get out of your chair, it's easy, stay seated,  
No need to worry, Preterite's completed!  
  
If you're action was done many times is the past,  
Repetitively, or habitually,  
You think you'll be using the Imperfect in this case?  
Certainly.  
Now don't you sweat it,  
Cause you will get it,  
Have we ever steered you wrong, FabuLoso, Papa John?  
NO. Now time for a chorus.  
  
CHORUS:  
Preterite! Imperfect!  
Remember where you heard it,  
It's what you're doing in the past!  
Preterite! Imperfect!  
Everybody's got to learn it,  
You know we saved the best for last!  
  
So you know there's Imperfect and Preterite,  
Which is which? Kinda rough, you're forgetting it,  
But as I spit, you're fears are gonna be assuaged,  
You'll be amazed there's ways to remember this!  
If you know when an action ends, you'll be  
In the Preterite, that's the tendancy!  
So, "si tienes una hora," the tense is clear,  
There's no need to "llora," Preterite is here!  
  
The way you make Imperfect verbs to master conjugation,  
Luckily for you, it doesn't take much concentration,  
For AR verbs, the ending is an ABA,  
For ER/IR verbs you're gonna end it with an ÍA.  
"Por ejemplo, estudiantes, si yo trabajaba,"  
Used to work at Starbucks, serving lots of java,  
If, for instance I ate a grape every day,  
"Comía una uva.... EVERDAY."  
  
CHORUS x 2  
  
And unlike the other past,  
Preterite's a one-time deal, it doesn't last,  
So those specific durations, so no need for contemplation,  
Cause when you're using the Preterite, you gonna have a set  
Time for the things that you're trying to say,  
Last year, last month, yesterday,  
If you see "cada" or "siempre," stay away,  
Cause that's not using Preterite the right way!

(al revés)

C:\Users\Guest\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\DGSGDGBT\MC900138227[1].wmfGotta key in on those various key words,  
You're Imperfect knowledge grows in this very verse,  
Look for and use sentence starters and such,  
Now, listen up close and get in touch!  
"Muchas veces en el pasado,  
Cada, todo de los días, meses, años."  
Just throw a good verb after something like those,  
And your ABAs and your ÍAs will perfect your prose!  
  
Unas palabras utiles son las que quieres saber,  
Try "la semana pasada," or even "anteayer,"  
They're all specifc times, and if you've listened,  
I've taught you everything you need to know with my rhymes.  
Before I leave, there's some crazy verbs  
That don't follow the pattern, irregulars.  
There are more than what I've got listed here,  
But these are the common ones that you'll see and hear!  
  
There's one final thing that you need to know,  
And you'll be on your way to an Imperfect knowledge pro!  
You're gonna use Imperfect when you set a scene,  
"Había una vez," in a book or on the screen,  
Imperfect knowledge growing: It last for a while,  
With an ABA and an ÍA, it'll make you smile,  
FabuLoso, Papa John, once again,  
The trilogy concluded, adios, THE END.  
  
CHORUS (With Na Na's)  
CHORUS x 2

## A. Pretérito o Imperfecto Escoge la respuesta más apropiada.

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_ las dos cuando \_\_\_\_ la tormenta de nieve.

a. fueron/ empezaba b. eran/ empezaba c. fueron/ empezó d. eran/ empezó

1. \_\_\_\_ los fuegos artificiales anoche en el parque.

a. veíamos b. Vimos

1. El cielo \_\_\_\_ brillante y azul cuando \_\_\_\_ el arco iris - rainbow.

a. era/salió b. fue/salía c. fue/salió d. era/salía

1. De pequeño, a menudo \_\_\_\_ al cine.

a. íbamos b. Fuimos

1. Yo \_\_\_\_\_ muy emocionado cuando \_\_\_\_ a México hace tres años.

a. estuve/viajaba b. estuve/viajé c. estaba/viajaba d. estaba/viajé

1. \_\_\_\_\_ cuando \_\_\_\_\_ para el aeropuerto.

a. llovía/salíamos b. llovió/salimos c. llovía/salimos d. d. llovió/salíamos

1. Nosotros no \_\_\_\_ que la estrella de Hollywood \_\_\_ a la fiesta.
   1. creíamos/vino b. creímos/vino

c. creíamos/venía d. creímos/venía