


1.1

Greetings

Saludos

 **ACTIVITY 1** is on the recording.

ACTIVITY 2

Match the person with the correct time of day.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------|
| 1 Señor González | a night |
| 2 Juan | b morning |
| 3 Señora Martín | c afternoon |

DIALOGUE 1

- Buenos días, señor Pérez.
- Buenos días, señora Martín. ¿Cómo está usted?
- Bien, gracias. ¿Y usted?
- Muy bien, gracias. Adiós.
- Buenas tardes, señorita García.
- Buenas tardes, señor González. ¿Cómo está?
- Bien, gracias.
- Buenas noches, Juan. ¿Cómo estás?
- Bien, gracias. ¿Y tú?
- ¡Muy bien!

VOCABULARY

buenos días	good morning
el señor (Sr.)	Mr
la señora (Sra.)	Mrs, Ms
¿cómo está usted?	how are you? [<i>formal</i>]
bien	fine
gracias	thank you
y	and
usted	you [<i>formal</i>]
muy bien	very well
adiós	goodbye
buenas tardes	good afternoon
la señorita (Srta.)	Miss
buenas noches	goodnight, good evening
¿Cómo estás?	how are you?
tú	you [<i>informal</i>]

LANGUAGE BUILDING

If you are uncertain about any of the grammatical terms used in the **Language Building** sections, see the *Glossary of Grammatical Terms* on page 245.

✓ **Señor, señora**

In Spanish, all nouns have a gender: they are either masculine (**señor, amigo**) or feminine (**señora, amiga**). The gender of the noun determines the form of other words used with it, such as the definite article ('the') and the indefinite article ('a'):

un/el amigo	a/the (male) friend
una/la amiga	a/the (female) friend

As a general rule, most nouns ending in **-o** are masculine and most nouns ending in **-a** are feminine. There are some exceptions: for these and words that don't end in **-o** or **-a**, it's best to learn the gender as you go along.

✓ **Formal and informal ways of saying 'you'**

There are two ways of addressing people in Spanish, depending on the level of formality.

usted is used in formal situations – to people such as waiters or salespeople, in business contexts, or when talking to older people; **tú** is used more informally, with younger people and people you know well.

If in doubt, use **usted** unless you are invited to use **tú** by the person you're speaking to. It's always better to err on the side of caution than to risk giving offense.


✓ **Exclamations and questions**

Spanish exclamations and questions begin and end with an exclamation or question mark; these are inverted at the beginning (**¡Muy bien! ¿Cómo está usted?**). In questions, the word order is usually the same as in English.

ACTIVITY 3

¿**tú** or **usted**? Choose the correct form for these people.

- 1 a bank employee
- 2 your Mexican friend
- 3 a salesperson
- 4 the teenage son of your Mexican friend
- 5 the father of your Mexican friend

 Now do activities 4 and 5 on the recording.