

**STEM-CHANGING VERBS
IN THE PRESENT TENSE**

e-ie

o-ue

e-i

BOOT/SHOE VERBS



Stem-Changing Verbs

Stem-changing verbs are different from regular verbs because when you conjugate these verbs, not only do you change the endings but you also change the stem (except for the nosotros form).

Quick Review:

A verb has two parts - the stem and the ending.

For example: perder (to lose)

Perd + er
Stem Ending

EL PRESENTE DE LOS VERBOS CON EL CAMBIO E → IE

('e → ie' Stem-Changing verbs in the present tense)

In verbs that have an **e** to **ie** change, when you conjugate the verb, you change the '**e**' in the stem to '**ie**' in all forms except the nosotros form.

PENSAR – to think

Yo	pi<u>en</u>so	Nosotros	pens<u>am</u>os
Tú	pi<u>en</u>sas		
Él		Ellos	
Ella	pi<u>en</u>sa	Ellas	pi<u>en</u>san
Usted		Ustedes	

PREFERIR – to prefer

Yo	prefiero	Nosotros	preferimos
Tú	prefieres		
Él		Ellos	
Ella	prefiere	Ellas	prefieren
Usted		Ustedes	

Examples of e → ie Stem-Changing verbs in the present tense:

cerrar – to close

co**m**enzar – to begin

empe**z**ar – to begin

pe**n**sar – to think

ent**e**nder – to understand

per**d**er – to lose

quer**e**r – to want

prefer**i**r – to prefer

refer**i**r – to refer

sent**i**r – to feel, to regret

EL PRESENTE DE LOS VERBOS CON EL CAMBIO O → UE

(‘O → ue’ Stem-Changing verbs in the present tense)

In verbs that have an **o** to **ue** change, when you conjugate the verb, you change the ‘**o**’ in the stem to ‘**ue**’ in all forms except the nosotros form.

PODER – to be able to

Yo	<u>pu</u>edo	Nosotros	pod<u>e</u>mos
Tú	<u>pu</u>edes		
Él		Ellos	
Ella	<u>pu</u>ede	Ellas	<u>pu</u>eden
Usted		Ustedes	

ENCONTRAR – to meet, to find

Yo **encuentro** Nosotros **encontramos**

Tú **encuentras**

Él Ellos

Ella **encuentra** Ellas **encuestran**

Usted Ustedes

Examples of o → ue Stem-Changing verbs in the present tense:

co**nt**ar – to count

enco**nt**rar – to meet to find

co**l**gar – to hang

co**s**tar – to cost

po**d**er – to be able to

vo**l**ver – to return

llo**v**er – to rain

do**r**mir – to sleep

THE VERB JUGAR

In the verb, **Jugar** (to play) the stem-change is **u - ue**.

Jugar – to play			
Yo	juego	Nosotros	jugamos
Tú	juegas		
Él		Ellos	
Ella	juega	Ellas	juegan
Usted		Ustedes	

