

“Do Now” Activity and Explanation

Having an activity for students to complete upon entering the classroom is an excellent way to get students engaged in Spanish class immediately. There are several ways in which to conduct this activity with your students.

If you have your own classroom: Use board space/Smart Board/projector to have review questions from the previous class period already created and waiting for students when they enter the classroom. Students could use a piece of scrap paper you have out for them or write answers in a notebook. Review the answers together as a class once all students have entered the classroom and are complete. This is a great time to catch up with absent students, hand back papers, check homework, etc.

If you move from classroom to classroom: Provide questions orally upon entering the classroom. Students can use scrap paper or notebooks to record their answers like above. Review answers together before moving on to new concepts. Or, have questions already prepared and copied for students to complete individually while you check homework, etc.

After Completion: There are a variety of ways to proceed after students are done with their “Do Now” Activity. Some days students could review answers with a partner and help them make corrections if needed. Other days, students could write answers on the board so the class can check for accuracy. Or, volunteers could answer the questions orally. Mix up the follow up activities to keep students engaged. Once in a while, collect the “Do Now” Activities from all students and use them as a participation grade. By making this a random occurrence, students are more likely to stay on task and do their best with this activity.

Sample “Do Now” Activities: (using “Family” as a model)

- **Short Answer Questions: (5-10 questions)**
 1. La mamá de mi mamá es mi _____.
 2. El hermano de mi padre es mi _____.
 3. La hija de mi tía es mi _____.
 4. El nieto de mi abuelo es mi _____.
 5. El esposo de mi tía es mi _____.
- **Open-ended questions:**

*Describe your family relationships using five or more sentences.
- **Questions/Answers: (3-5 questions)**
 1. ¿Cómo se llama tu tía?
 2. ¿Cómo es tu madre?
 3. ¿Cuántos años tiene tu hermano/a?
- **Translations: (5-8 sentences)**

Mi familia es muy grande. Yo tengo cinco hermanos y seis primas. (Spanish to English if material is new)

My dad is forty-three years old and my mom is tall. (English to Spanish if material is review)

