

## Por

The preposition **por** has the following English equivalents.

- *by, by means of*

Vamos **por** avión (tren, barco, ... ).  
*We're going by plane (train, ship, ... ).*

Nos hablamos **por** teléfono mañana.  
*We'll talk by (on the) phone tomorrow.*

- *through, along*

Me gusta pasear **por** el parque y **por** la playa.  
*I like to stroll through the park and along the beach.*

- *during, in (time of day)*

Trabajo **por** la mañana.  
*I work in the morning.*

- *because of, due to*

Estoy nervioso **por** la entrevista.  
*I'm nervous because of the interview.*

- *for = in exchange for*

Piden 1.000 dólares **por** el coche.  
*They're asking \$1,000 for the car.*

Gracias **por** todo.  
*Thanks for everything.*

- *for = for the sake of, on behalf of*

Lo hago **por** ti.  
*I'm doing it for you (for your sake).*

- *for = duration (often omitted)*

Vivieron allí (**por**) un año.  
*They lived there for a year.*

**Por** is also used in a number of fixed expressions.

<b>por Dios</b>	for heaven's sake
<b>por ejemplo</b>	for example
<b>por eso</b>	that's why
<b>por favor</b>	please
<b>por fin</b>	finally

## Para

Although **para** has many English equivalents, including *for*, it always has the underlying purpose of referring to a goal or destination.

- *in order to + infinitive*

Regresaron pronto **para** estudiar.  
*They returned soon (in order) to study.*

Estudian **para** conseguir un buen trabajo.  
*They're studying (in order) to get a good job.*

- *for = destined for, to be given to*

Todo esto es **para** ti.  
*All this is for you.*

Le di un libro **para** su hijo.  
*I gave her a book for her son.*

- *for = by (deadline, specified future time)*

**Para** mañana, estudien **por y para**.  
*For tomorrow, study por and para.*

La composición es **para** el lunes.  
*The composition is for Monday.*

- *for = toward, in the direction of*

Salió **para** el Ecuador ayer.  
*She left for Ecuador yesterday.*

- *for = to be used for*



Compare the example at the right to **un vaso de agua** = a glass (full) of water.

El dinero es **para** la matrícula.  
*The money is for tuition.*

Es un vaso **para** agua.  
*It's a water glass.*

- *for = as compared with others, in relation to others*

**Para** mí, el español es fácil.  
*For me, Spanish is easy.*

**Para** (ser) extranjera, habla muy bien el inglés.  
*For (being) a foreigner, she speaks English very well.*

- *for = in the employ of*

Trabajan **para** el gobierno.  
*They work for the government.*