

## LA HISTORIA DEL SUBJUNTIVO



**CAR + HITCH + TRAILER**

**Car:** The car can go independently. It does not depend on anything to make it run. It is the main/independent clause and can stand alone and express a complete idea without the dependent clause.

**Hitch:** The hitch connects the car and the trailer together. (**que** = connector)

**Trailer:** The trailer cannot go anywhere without the car pulling it. It is totally dependent on the car (independent clause). The trailer is the dependent or subordinate clause: It cannot stand alone and it depends on the main clause to complete the message. The car leads the trailer to where it is going...the CAR GIVES DIRECTION TO THE TRAILER.

**Main clause ..... que ..... dependent clause.**

**(subject + verb)            que            (different subject + subjunctive verb)**

To use the subjunctive in the dependent clause, there are three criteria which must be met. If any of the conditions are not met, the indicative mood is used:

1. There must be a dependent clause (a "que" clause) - **Claúsula dependiente.**
2. There must be a change of subject - **Cambio de sujeto.**
3. There must be a verb that fits a category for using the subjunctive:  
(**U-WEIRDO**) in the independent clause - **Verbo o expression que requiere el subjuntivo.**

### **How do I know when to use the subjunctive?**

The following expressions in the main clause will cause the verb in the dependent clause to be conjugated using the subjunctive as long as there is a change of

subject. They have to do with wishing, wanting, hoping, recommending, telling, requiring, saying that something is important or necessary, and so on!  
HOWEVER...just because someone in the independent clause may wish, hope, fear, recommend, say that something is necessary, and so on DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE ACTION WILL IN FACT TAKE PLACE...HENCE THE SUBJUNTIVO!

## U-WEIRDO

**U**ncertainty: no creer, no pensar, ¿creer?, ¿pensar?

**W**ant, **W**ish, **W**ill: querer, desear, preferir, insistir (en), aconsejar, dejar, esperar

**E**motion: sentir, alegrarse de, sorprenderse de, temer, tener miedo de, lamentar

**I**mpersonal expressions: es necesario, es importante, es bueno, es mejor, es posible

**R**equests: pedir, decir, mandar, prohibir, permitir, exigir, ordenar, rogar (ue), sugerir (ie), suplicar, hacer

**D**oubt/**d**enial/**d**isbelief: dudar, negar (ie), no creer, no pensar

**O**jalá: If only...! I wish (hope) that...!

**The subject in the dependent clause must be different from the subject in the main clause.  
If there is only one subject, then an infinitive must be used.**

## HAY TRES CATEGORÍAS PRINCIPALES QUE SON PARTE DE U-WEIRDO Y QUE REQUIEREN EL SUBJUNTIVO:

### Categoría #1:

#### VOLITION/CAUSATION/INFLUENCE

1. aconsejar - to advise, counsel
2. decir (i) - to tell (to order)
3. dejar - to let, to allow
4. desear - to wish, to want
5. escribir - to write (written order)
6. esperar - to hope
7. exigir (i, i)- to require, demand
8. hacer - to make, to cause
9. impedir (I) - to prevent, impede
10. insistir (en) - to insist (on)
11. mandar - to command, to order
12. obligar a - to force, oblige
13. ordenar - to order
14. pedir (i, i) - to request, ask for
15. permitir - to permit, to allow, let
16. preferir (ie, i) - to prefer
17. prohibir - to forbid, to prohibit

18. querer (ie) - to wish, to want
19. recomendar (ie) - to recommend
20. rogar (ue) - to beg, to request
21. sugerir (ie, i) - to suggest
22. suplicar - to beg, to plead

### **Categoría #2:**

#### **EMOTION, FEELING, JUDGMENT:**

1. ¡Ojalá (que)....! I wish (hope) that ....! If only....! May God grant that...!
2. alegrarse (de) - to be glad
3. lamentar - to lament
4. sentir (ie, i) - to be sorry, to regret
5. sorprenderse - to be surprised
6. Me sorprende que - It surprises me that
7. temer - to fear
8. tener miedo (de) - to fear, to be afraid
9. estar alegre de que - to be happy that
10. estar contento de que - to be happy that
11. estar sorprendido que - to be surprised that
12. estar triste que - to be sad that

#### **IMPERSONAL EXPRESSIONS OF EMOTION/FEELING/JUDGMENT:**

1. Es bueno que - It is good that
2. Es importante que - It is important that
3. Es justo que - It is just/fair that
4. Es lástima que - It is a pity that
5. Es mejor que - It is better that
6. Es necesario que - It is necessary that
7. Es posible que - It is possible that
8. Es imposible que - It is impossible that
9. Es probable que - It is probable that

### **Categoría #3:**

#### **DOUBT, DENIAL, DISBELIEF:**

1. ¿creer? - Does one believe?
2. ¿pensar? - Does one believe or think?
3. dudar - to doubt
4. negar (ie) - to deny
5. no creer - not to believe
6. no pensar (ie) - not to believe or think
7. no estar seguro (a) de que - not to be sure that
8. Parece mentira que - It seems a lie that

## **IMPERSONAL EXPRESSIONS OF DOUBT/DENIAL/DISBELIEF:**

1. No es verdad que - It is not true that
2. No es obvio que - It is not obvious that
3. No es claro que -It is not clear that
4. No es cierto que - It is not sure that
5. No es evidente que - It is not evident that
6. No es seguro que- It is not sure that
7. Hay duda que - There is doubt that
8. Es dudoso que - It is doubtful that

\*However, if you remove the uncertainty...THEN INDICATIVE:

**Es obvio** que ha estudiado.

**No hay duda** que ella está en clase.

**\*PUES...CUIDADO CON ESTAS EXPRESIONES QUE INDICAN LA CERTEZA  
(CERTAINTY):**

1. Es verdad que - It is true that
2. Es obvio que - It is obvious that
3. Es claro que -It is clear that
4. Es cierto que - It is sure that
5. Es evidente que - It is evident that
6. Es seguro que- It is sure that
7. No hay duda que - There is no doubt that
8. No es dudoso que – It is not doubtful that

Verdad  
Obvio  
Claro, Cierto  
Evidente  
Seguro

**There is no doubt.**