

HABER

- The verb **haber** (to have) is used as an auxiliary verb (or helping verb) in order to form the seven compound tenses, which are as follows:

Compound Tenses

- Present Perfect (or Perfect) Indicative
- Pluperfect (or Past Perfect) Indicative
- Preterit Perfect (or Past Anterior)
- Future Perfect (or Future Anterior)
- Conditional Perfect
- Present Perfect (or Past) Subjunctive
- Pluperfect (or Past Perfect) Subjunctive

Example (in the 1st per. sing.)

he hablado (I have spoken)
había hablado (I had spoken)
hube hablado (I had spoken)
habré hablado (I will have spoken)
habría hablado (I would have spoken)
haya hablado (I may have spoken)
hubiera hablado or hubiese hablado
(I might have spoken)

- The verb **haber** is also used to form the perfect (or past) infinitive: **haber hablado** (to have spoken). This is formed by using the infinitive form of **haber** + the past participle of the main verb.
- The verb **haber** is also used to form the perfect participle: **habiendo hablado** (having spoken). This is formed by using the present participle of **haber** + the past participle of the main verb.
- The verb **haber + de + infinitive** is equivalent to the English use of “to be supposed to...” or “to be to...” Example: **Yo he de traer el libro y tú has de traer el cuaderno.** (I am supposed to bring the book and you are supposed to bring the notebook).
- The verb **haber** is also the infinitive of the verb **hay** (*there is / there are*).

hay (there is / there are)

habrá (there will be)

había (there was / there were)

hubo (there was / there were)

When the verb **haber** is used with these meanings in Spanish, other verb forms are placed before the infinitive **haber**:

No puede haber nadie. (There can't be anybody).

Va a haber una pelea. (There is going to be a fight).

Perfect tenses of the verb **haber** (**ha habido, había habido, etc.**) are formed by placing the different tenses of the auxiliary verb **haber** before the past participle **habido**:

Ha habido un accidente. (There has been an accident.)

Había habido problemas. (There had been some problems.)

In these examples, auxiliaries can never be plural; **Han habido** is incorrect.