Your English Toolbox

VOCABULARY · EPISODE 255

I Suggest Going | Fix It in Five

English learning resource · ES

Key words & expressions · English + Spanish

8 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

suggest

sugerir · proponer · aconsejar

DEF

to offer an idea or plan for someone to consider

to put forward a possible choice, such as a place, a thing or an action

Suggest has three common patterns: suggest + -ing (I suggest leaving), suggest + a that clause (I suggest that we leave, or I suggest we leave) and suggest + a noun (I suggest the soup). We do not use suggest + to + verb for this meaning, so 'I suggest to leave' is a mistake. The that clause can also contain should (I suggest that we should leave), but should is optional. A suggestion is softer than an order.

ES

Ofrecer una idea o un plan para que alguien lo considere; proponer una posible opción, como un lugar, una cosa o una acción.

Suggest tiene tres patrones comunes: suggest + -ing (I suggest leaving), suggest + oración con that (I suggest that we leave, o I suggest we leave) y suggest + sustantivo (I suggest the soup). Con este significado no se usa suggest + to + verbo, así que «I suggest to leave» es un error. La oración con that también puede llevar should (I suggest that we should leave), pero should es opcional. Una sugerencia es más suave que una orden.

I suggest taking a taxi, because the bus is late.

Sugiero tomar un taxi, porque el autobús llega tarde.

She suggested that we meet at seven.

Sugirió que nos viéramos a las siete.

2

suggestion

sugerencia · propuesta · consejo

DEF

an idea or plan that you offer for someone to consider

Suggestion is the noun from suggest. It is countable: a suggestion, two suggestions. We say make a suggestion or have a suggestion, and we ask 'Any suggestions?'. A phrase like 'My suggestion is to wait' is fine, because there the noun is followed by is, not by the verb suggest.

ES

Una idea o un plan que ofreces para que alguien lo considere.

Suggestion es el sustantivo de suggest. Es contable: a suggestion, two suggestions. Se dice make a suggestion o have a suggestion, y se pregunta «Any suggestions?». Una frase como «My suggestion is to wait» es correcta, porque ahí el sustantivo va seguido de is, no del verbo suggest.

Do you have any suggestions for dinner?

¿Tienes alguna sugerencia para la cena?

Thank you for the suggestion; I will think about it.

Gracias por la sugerencia; lo pensaré.

3

pattern

patrón · estructura · esquema

DEF

a regular, repeated way in which something is done or arranged
in grammar, a set of words that regularly appear together in the same structure

In language learning, a pattern is a structure you can reuse by changing some words, such as 'suggest + -ing'. Learning patterns is more useful than learning single words. In general English, pattern can also mean a design of repeated shapes or colours.

ES

Una forma regular y repetida de hacer o de organizar algo; en gramática, un conjunto de palabras que aparecen juntas con regularidad en la misma estructura.

En el aprendizaje de idiomas, un pattern es una estructura que puedes reutilizar cambiando algunas palabras, como «suggest + -ing». Aprender patrones es más útil que aprender palabras sueltas. En inglés general, pattern también puede significar un diseño de formas o colores repetidos.

This sentence pattern is easy to use in many situations.
Este patrón de frase es fácil de usar en muchas situaciones.
Learn the pattern, and then change the words.
Aprende el patrón y luego cambia las palabras.

4

polite

educado · cortés · amable

DEF

having good manners and showing respect for other people

Polite describes words and behaviour that respect others. The opposite is impolite or rude. The adverb is politely, and the noun is politeness. We say 'It is polite to ...' or 'a polite request'.

ES

Que tiene buenos modales y muestra respeto por los demás.

Polite describe palabras y comportamientos que respetan a los demás. Lo contrario es impolite o rude. El adverbio es politely y el sustantivo es politeness. Se dice «It is polite to ...» o «a polite request».

It is polite to say thank you.
Es de buena educación dar las gracias.
He gave a polite answer, even though he was tired.
Dio una respuesta educada, aunque estaba cansado.

5

optional

opcional · facultativo · voluntario

DEF

available to choose, but not required or compulsory

Optional means you may choose to do it or not. The opposite is compulsory, required or mandatory. We often say 'an optional extra' or 'optional, not required'. The noun is option.

ES

Que se puede elegir, pero que no es obligatorio.

Optional significa que puedes elegir hacerlo o no. Lo contrario es compulsory, required o mandatory. A menudo se dice «an optional extra». El sustantivo es option.

Breakfast is optional, so you can skip it.
El desayuno es opcional, así que puedes saltártelo.
Bringing a gift is optional, but people like it.
Llevar un regalo es opcional, pero a la gente le gusta.

6

divide

dividir · repartir · separar

DEF

to separate something into parts

to share something between people or groups

Divide is often followed by into (divide the cake into eight pieces) or between/among (divide the work between us). In maths, divide 10 by 2 gives 5. The noun is division.

ES

Separar algo en partes; compartir algo entre personas o grupos.

Divide suele ir seguido de into (divide the cake into eight pieces) o between/among (divide the work between us). En matemáticas, divide 10 by 2 da 5. El sustantivo es division.

Let's divide the cake into eight pieces.

Dividamos la tarta en ocho trozos.

We divided the housework between us.

Nos repartimos las tareas de la casa.

7

mistake

error · equivocación · fallo

DEF

something that is wrong, such as an action, an answer or an opinion

Use make a mistake, not 'do a mistake'. We also say by mistake (without meaning to) and a common mistake. A mistake is a normal part of learning. It is close to error, but mistake is more common in everyday speech.

ES

Algo que está mal, como una acción, una respuesta o una opinión.

Se dice make a mistake, no «do a mistake». También se dice by mistake (sin querer) y a common mistake. Un error es una parte normal del aprendizaje. Es parecido a error, pero mistake es más habitual en el habla cotidiana.

Making a mistake is a normal part of learning.

Cometer un error es una parte normal del aprendizaje.

There is a mistake in the second line.

Hay un error en la segunda línea.

8

plan

plan · proyecto · propósito

DEF

a set of ideas or steps for doing something in the future

Plan is countable: a plan, some plans. We say make a plan, have a plan and have plans for the weekend. It is also a verb: plan a trip, plan to leave. A good plan is clear and realistic.

ES

Un conjunto de ideas o pasos para hacer algo en el futuro.

Plan es contable: a plan, some plans. Se dice make a plan, have a plan y have plans for the weekend. También es verbo: plan a trip, plan to leave. Un buen plan es claro y realista.

We have a plan for the weekend.

Tenemos un plan para el fin de semana.

Do you have any plans for tonight?

¿Tienes planes para esta noche?