

# MUY BIEN Y MÁS

## Praise and Encouragement in Spanish



Showing approval and giving positive feedback are important skills for teachers. Students cannot get too much praise. It is a way to engage and connect that is often overlooked. Students also need to learn how to praise and encourage one another. There is much more that we can all say to encourage one another in Spanish than “**¡Muy bien!**” Here are some ideas to get you started.

Many of these expressions are cognates with English, which will make them easier for beginning students to understand, remember and use them.

Remember that praising students' work ethic is more important than anything else. Praising intelligence can harm students' motivation and weaken their future performance. Praise effort and choices more than native talent, personality or how smart they are.

### PRAISE

#### A

**¡Asombroso!** *Astounding!*

**¡Ay ay ay!** *Wow!*

#### B

**¡Bien!** *Good!*

**¡Bien hecho!** *Well done!*

**¡Bravo!** *Bravo!*

**¡Brillante!** *Brilliant!*

**¡Buen trabajo!** *Good work / Good job!*

**¡Bueno!** *Good!*

**¡Buenísimo!** *Very good!*

#### C

**¡Creativo!** *Creative!*

**¡Cuánto me alegro!** *I'm so happy!*

#### D

**¡Dinamita!** *Dynamite!*

#### E

**¡Eres un genio!** *You are a genius!*

**¡Eso!** *That's it!*

**¡Eso sí, que es!** *That's exactly right!*  
(That yes, that is it! = SOCKS)

**¡Especial** *Special!*

**¡Espectacular!** *Spectacular!*

**¡Espléndido!** *Splendid!*

**¡Estupendo!** *Stupendous!*

**¡Excelente!** *Excellent!*

**¡Excelente trabajo!** *Excellent work!*

**¡Excepcional!** *Exceptional!*

**¡Extraordinario!** *Extraordinary!*

#### F

**¡Fabuloso!** *Fabulous!*

**¡Fantástico!** *Fantastic!*

**¡Fenomenal!** *Phenomenal!*

**¡Formidable!** *Great job!*

#### G

**¡Genial!** *Nice / pleasant*

#### H

**¡Hiciste muy bien!** *You did very well!*

#### I

**¡Increíble!** *Incredible!*

#### L

**¡Lo tienes!** *You got it!*

#### M

**¡Magnífico!** *Magnificent!*

**¡Maravilloso!** *Marvelous!*

**¡Me alegro por ti!** *I'm happy for you!*

**¡Me encanta!** *I love it!*

**¡Me gusta!** *I like it!*

**¡Me gusta mucho!** *I like it a lot!*

**¡Me gusta tu trabajo!** *I like your work!*

<b>¡Muy agradable!</b>	<i>Very nice</i>
<b>¡Muy bien!</b>	<i>Very well done!</i>
<b>¡Muy buen trabajo!</b>	<i>Very good work!</i>
<b>¡Mira! ¡Qué bien!</b>	<i>Look! How well (done)!</i>
<b>¡Muy creativo!</b>	<i>Very creative!</i>
<b>¡Muy especial!</b>	<i>Very special!</i>
<b>¡Muy listo/a!</b>	<i>Very clever!</i>
<b>¡Muy original!</b>	<i>Very original!</i>
<b>¡Muy único!</b>	<i>Very unique!</i>
N	
<b>¡Notable!</b>	<i>Remarkable!</i>
O	
<b>¡Ole!</b>	<i>Hurray!</i>
P	
<b>¡Perfecto!</b>	<i>Perfect!</i>
<b>¡Primera clase!</b>	<i>First class!</i>
Q	
<b>¡Qué bello!</b>	<i>How beautiful!</i>
<b>¡Qué bien!</b>	<i>How well (done)!</i>
<b>¡Qué bonito!</b>	<i>How pretty!</i>
<b>¡Qué buen trabajo!</b>	<i>What good work!</i>
<b>¡Qué buen trabajador(a)!</b>	<i>What a good worker!</i>
<b>¡Qué bueno!</b>	<i>How good!</i>
<b>¡Qué chévere!</b>	<i>How cool!</i>
<b>¡Qué chistoso!</b>	<i>How funny!</i>
<b>¡Qué divertido!</b>	<i>How fun!</i>
<b>¡Qué emocionante!</b>	<i>How exciting!</i>
<b>¡Qué gracioso!</b>	<i>How funny / amusing!</i>
<b>¡Qué gusto me da!</b>	<i>I like this!</i>
<b>¡Qué inteligente!</b>	<i>How smart!</i>
<b>¡Qué interesante!</b>	<i>How interesting!</i>
<b>¡Qué lindo!</b>	<i>How pretty!</i>
<b>¡Qué lindo trabajo!</b>	<i>What pretty work!</i>
<b>¡Qué listo!</b>	<i>How clever!</i>
<b>¡Qué padre!</b>	<i>How cool!</i>
<b>¡Qué precioso!</b>	<i>How precious!</i>
<b>¡Qué suave!</b>	<i>How cool!</i>
R	
<b>Realmente estás trabajando en esto</b>	
	<i>You are really working on this.</i>
S	
<b>¡Se ve muy bien!</b>	<i>Looks really good!</i>
<b>¡Sensacional!</b>	<i>Sensational!</i>
<b>¡Sí, sí, sí!</b>	<i>Yes, yes, yes!</i>
<b>¡Soberbio!</b>	<i>Superb!</i>
<b>¡Sobresaliente!</b>	<i>Outstanding!</i>

<b>¡Super!</b>	<i>Super!</i>
<b>¡Superior!</b>	<i>Superior!</i>
T	
<b>¡Te pasaste!</b>	<i>You outdid yourself!</i>
<b>¡Terrífico!</b>	<i>Terrific!</i>
<b>¡Tienes razón!</b>	<i>You're right!</i>
<b>¡Tremendo!</b>	<i>Tremendous!</i>
U	
<b>¡Único!</b>	<i>Unique!</i>

V

**Veo que has trabajado mucho en eso.***I see that you've worked hard on this.*

## ENCOURAGEMENT

<b>¡Casi lo tienes!</b>	<i>You've almost got it!</i>
<b>¡Estás aprendiendo!</b>	<i>You're learning!</i>
<b>¡Estás comprendiéndolo!</b>	<i>You're getting it!</i>
<b>¡Estás mejorándote!</b>	<i>You're improving!</i>
<b>¡Estudia un poco más!</b>	<i>Study a bit more!</i>
<b>¡Mejor!</b>	<i>Better!</i>
<b>¡Mucho mejor!</b>	<i>Much better!</i>
<b>¡Sigue estudiando!</b>	<i>Keep on learning!</i>
<b>¡Sigue hablando!</b>	<i>Keep on talking!</i>
<b>¡Sigue trabajando!</b>	<i>Keep on working!</i>
<b>¡Sigue tratando!</b>	<i>Keep on working!</i>
<b>¡Sonríete!</b>	<i>Smile!</i>
<b>¡Un poquito más!</b>	<i>Just a little bit more!</i>