

AIRC22

C: Hello and welcome to "Aprender Inglés con Reza y Craig", episodio 22. Hi, Reza!

R: Hi, Craig, how are you?

C: I'm very well, how are you doing?

R: I'm very well, thank you.

C: Jumping straight in this episode with some feedback from Marian. I don't know where Marian is from, but she's written to us three times and the last time she left a message on inglespodcast.com. She says: "Oh, I'm very happy with your podcasts. I think these are a perfect way for me to learn English, especially for the listening, which is my difficulty. This is the third time I've contacted you". Well, Marian actually says "This is the third time I contact you", but probably better in present perfect, don't you think Reza?

R: Yeah.

C: This is the third time I've contacted you, I have contacted you. "This time to say that I think there is a mistake in a Spanish verb translation; take care in Spanish is cuidar, not cuidarse, because it is not a reflexive verb, that doesn't mean that you can't use it a reflexive one when you are speaking about taking care of yourself." And Marian gives two examples: "¿Qué tal tu padre? Está major pero tendrá que cuidarse más, si no, tal vez no pueda ir al partido el próximo domingo." What do you think Reza? It's right, isn't it? It can be cuidar o cuidarse depending on the use.

R: Yes, it can be reflexive or non-reflexive. For example, "Cuídate", just take care in English, that's all.

C: Yeah, which is something I say sometimes when I say goodbye, "Hey, goodbye, take care".

R: Yeah. But you could also say "Take care of your mother, oh, she's very old, take care of your mother".

C: So, yeah, thanks for your message, Marian, keep listening and we're very happy that you are sending us feedback, and take care.

C: Ok, next we have a message from David from Valencia, and David sent us an audio file in mp3, so let's listen to David:

"Hi, Craig and Reza, my name is David, I'm from Valencia, I'm fan from La Mansión del Inglés from a long time ago. I have all your CDs. You always do a good job".

Thank you, David, we try to do a good job and we are happy that you have all of our CDs.

"You have helped me very much in my English but I need to improve my speaking. Yesterday I was listening your podcast 19 (Reza didn't have a good lunch and neither Craig). It was very clarifying for me about the use of me too, me neither, so do I and neither do I. I was listening the podcast in the gym, doing exercise".

David says he was listening to the podcast in the gym, good idea David, but remember, it's listening to, listening to the podcast.

"And yes, yes, me too! I have my wardrobe full of clothes that they don't fit me so I have to work out in the gym, I need to lose weight. "

So, David, like me, is working out at the gym and trying to lose weight, I hope you're being successful, David.

"My best trousers are a 42 size and now I use a 46 size. I want to put on those trousers, so I'll never give up until they suit me."

Don't give up, don't give up David, keep working out and they will fit you. Be careful, not suit you, fit you. If they fit you está bien de talla, if they suit you, they look good.

"I'd like you to record the podcast summarising the use of all tenses verb in English. Thank you very much for your good job, you help a lot of people to improve our English. Thanks again, David."

Thank you, David, thank you for sending us your message, and we will be studying more verb tenses in the future. I don't think it's a good idea to do one episode on all of the verb tenses together, but we will be studying verb tenses in detail in future podcasts.

C: Gramática this week, we have a question from Geraldine Nieto Serrato who asked us on Facebook: "Hello, ¿cuál es la dieferencia entre too y also? ¿Cuando debo utilizar too y also?". Reza, do you want to help me with this?

R: Yes, well, Craig, the most basic thing I would say is that the meaning is pretty much the same, would you agree? The meaning.

C: In Spanish, también.

R: Too, también, also, también. The only difference is really where do you put the word that's the question, isn't it?

C: ¿Cómo colocarlo en la frase?

R: Yeah, so for example, I speak Spanish badly.

C: Nooo, ¡Que va! No, you speak Spanish wonderfully, much better than me.

R: No, not sure about that. Anyway, let's say I speak Spanish and Craig speaks Spanish, so I speak Spanish and Craig speaks Spanish too.

C: Ok, so too goes at the end of the phrase. What about also? Can I say Craig speaks Spanish also?

R: Yeah.

C: Yeah, so it could also go at the end...

R: It can go at the end as well, but also can go in a different place, we can say Reza speaks Spanish and Craig also speaks Spanish. So, also can go at the end or it can go, also speaks, also before the verb.

C: Reza drinks tea, he also drinks Guinness.

R: That's right. So, also can go before the verb but not too, too goes at the end of the sentence or clause.

C: Ok.

R: Also can go at the end of the sentence or clause but it can also go before the main verb. But, Craig, what if the main verb is the verb to be? What about that?

C: Aha, then it goes after the verb to be, so I'm also going to the party, you voy a la fiesta Tambien, I'm, I'm also going, so it's after the verb to be.

R: Yeah, or, well, I don't want to get into politics, bore you all listeners, but I could say "Reza is British. Reza is also Irish". I'm proud. Both things, Reza is also Irish.

C: But you're British, so you're Irish too?

R: Yeah, why not? You can be British and you can also be Scottish, for example, so I said Reza is British and Reza is also Irish. So, also generally goes after the verb to be.

C: And what happens when there is an auxiliary verb? Or a modal verb. For example, present perfect, "I have been to Cuba".

R: I have also been to Cuba.

C: Ok, so it's after the modal verb, sorry, after the auxiliary verb before the main verb, justo antes del verbo principal.

R: Usually, but I would say that's not a strict rule. You could also say "I also have been to Cuba". I have also been to Cuba, I also have been to Cuba, both are ok, aren't they? But which one's more common, would you say?

C: Well, I think we touched on this, we spoke about this before, when... I'm not sure if you agree with me, but I feel if the word is closer to the beginning of the sentence or phrase is usually to give more emphasis, to stress the word. You've been to Cuba, I've also been to Cuba. So, the further it is to the beginning of the sentence the more emphasis it gives to the comment.

R: I agree with that Craig, although I think I remember what we were talking about now in an episode. I agree with that, however, I would also say that when you put a word at the very end it also has extra emphasis.

C: Especially if you're stressing the word, you're really making it muy fuerte.

R: Yeah, so you can emphasize the importance of the word either by putting it near the beginning or at the very end. For example, Craig would say "I also have been to Cuba" or he could say "I have been to Cuba also". I think in both cases also gets stressed.

C: Absolutely. Good, ok, any other points on too and also? Or do you think we have covered it?

R: Well, just to go back to too, then, too goes at the end of a sentence or at the end of a clause. A clause is a part of a sentence which will have a subject and a verb in it, so for example...

C: Santa Claus?

R: Jaja, not Santa Clause, no. Well, I don't want to go into much details of what a clause is, but if you just divide a sentence logically, for example. So, too most frequently goes at the end of a sentence, but it can go at the end of a clause.

C: So, "if he wants to go too, he should meet us at 8 o'clock". So, that's a sentence with a comma in the middle. If he wants to go too, también, he should meet us at 8 o'clock.

R: So there we have the word too in the middle of a sentence, you can easily divide it into two parts so at the end of the first part we

have the word too. It's not the end of the sentence but it's the end of a logical division, you can also use the word too.

C: Right.

R: Craig, there's another slightly different positioning of too, for example what about this: As you know listeners, I'm working hard to find a recipe for dulce de leche.

C: You still haven't got one?

R: Not yet.

C: Are you kidding me? Really? Come on you, Argentinians, send us a recipe for dulce de leche, please.

R: I'm working hard to find one but I haven't found a good one yet. Craig too is working hard on a recipe for dulce de leche.

C: Ah.

R: I said Craig too, so there I have the word too right after Craig to emphasize that it's both myself and Craig. So, that's another positioning for the word too for emphasis. For example, let's see, we could say "Valencia has very nice weather most of the year. Alicante too has nice weather".

C: I can also say "Alicante has nice weather too", but you put it further forward, más al principio de la frase, para dar más énfasis.

R: Or of course we could also use the word also. We could say "Valencia has very nice weather. Alicante also has very nice weather".

C Yeah.

R: Or we could say "Alicante has very nice weather also".

C: Ok, I think that's clear Well, shall we move on?

R: Yes, good idea.

C: I think so also, sorry, I also think so, I think so too.

R: Me too.

C: So, moving on to the vocabulary section and this episode I thought, Reza, we could look at some vocabulary connected with the family.

R: Ah, la familia.

C: Do you have a big family?

R: I've got two brothers and a sister.

C: Yeah, my immediate family is fairly small and I'm not really in touch with my extended family in the UK but I have a couple of cousins and nieces and nephews, so let's look in detail at some of these family expressions. How do you say tia in English?

R: Aunt.

C: Aunt, you say it the same as me, aunt, the vowel sound "au" like car, aunt. What about tio?

R: Uncle.

C: Uncle, now, be careful with uncle, tio, because it can be confused with tobillo.

R: Oh, yes, that's right.

C: It's a common Spanish speaker mistake, ankle.

R: Ankle is tobillo.

C: Yeah, my ankle is coming to visit.

R: Jaja.

C: So, ankle, with "a" like hat, sad, Matt and cat, that's "a", it's ankle, tobillo, and "u", like up, under, up, is uncle.

R: I've just remembered that funny thing happened in a class of mine, was a student said mistakenly, it was a mistake, she said "My ankle speaks too much". I said "What?" She said it again, "My ankle speaks too much". Of course, she meant to say my uncle and I said "Your ankle speaks too much? You should be on TV if you have a talking ankle, Jaja!".

C: Jaja. How do you say sobrina in Spanish?

R: Sobrina... niece. Can I just say something of niece? The number of people who say nice.

C: Yeah, my nice is coming to visit.

R: Niece. How would you say mi sobrina bonita?

C: My beautiful niece.

R: You could say beautiful or you could say... go on, say it.

C: Oh, my nice niece.

R: My nice niece, yeah, you could say it, my nice niece.

C: Isn't there a biscuit called Niece?

R: Niece biscuits, yeah.

C: My nice niece eats Niece biscuits. So, I say it after a pint of Guinness.

R: Jaja.

C: So, I think I said, how do you say sobrina in Spanish, which is obviously wrong, I should have said how do you say sobrina in English, how do you say sobrino?

R: So, the male is completely different, nephew.

C: Nephew. What about prima and primo?

R: The same word, cousin.

C: Cousin.

R: Male and female is the same in that case.

C: And also be careful with the pronunciation of the word, listeners, because the spelling is a little bit difficult and doesn't really explain how to pronounce it, C-O-U-S-I-N, which a Spanish speaker may say "causin". It's "a", the same word "a" as in uncle is the sound in the first part of cousin. What about nieto?

R: Nieto is grandson.

C: Grandson, exactly, and I often get confused in Spanish, or I forget sometimes, mother-in-law, father-in-law, I get those two confused. Mother-in-law, father-in-law, son-in-law and daughter-in-law. In Spanish mother-in-law suegra, is that right?

R: Yes, and father-in-law, I guess, suegro.

C: Suegro, and yerno is son-in-law.

R: That's right. Now, what about, I think that the trickiest, the hardest of all for we English speakers to remember, how do we say in Spanish, Craig, daughter-in-law? Ahh, it's a tricky one, because son-in-law is yerno but daughter-in-law is not...

C: Is not yerna?

R: No.

C: What is it?

R: As far as I know, nuera.

C: Really?

R: Yeah, it's a tricky one, isn't it? Nuera. Yeah, that's what trips us we foreigner when we speak.

C: I had no idea, not having a daughter-in-law I had no idea about that. Grandmother is very confusing, abuela, because there are many different ways to say it. How would you call... your grandmother is alive?

R: No.

C: Mine neither.

R: But for me the natural word is granny.

C: Granny. For me, the natural word is nan.

R: Ok.

C: Or nanny, nanny when I was smaller and nan. So, you can say gran or granny, you can say nan or nanny and more, perhaps more American English, would be grandma.

R: Yeah, grandma.

C: Grandpa, grandma... more in American English and gran, granny, nan, nanny, in British English. And finally, cuñado.

R: Brother-in-law.

C: Cuñada.

R: Sister-in-law.

C: Absolutely.

R: What about, Craig, what about the Spanish for stepfather?

C: Padrastro?

R: I think so, yeah.

C: What about stepbrother?

R: Uhh...

C: Cuñastro? Jeje.

R: Is it hermanastro?

C: No idea.

R: We should check out.

C: Yeah, we should check.

Actually, we did check it, and stepbrother is hermanastro in Spanish.

C: Moving on to phrasal verbs and this episode we have a question from Mabel, who sent us a message through our website inglespodcast.com, and Mabel says "Hi, I hope you're having a good day!" Are we? Are we having a good day?

R: I'm having a great day, thanks a lot Mabel.

C: "I would like you to explain a little bit about the prepositions that are used in English after some verbs, for example "The building burned down". I mean, why can't I simply say the building burned?". Well, you can, Mabel, and to be honest, there isn't much difference. The idea of down in this example is completion, it makes it more complete that the building was completely burned, everything down to the ground. So, the building burned could be maybe partly, en parte, or just like a little, but if it burned down it adds emphasis and gives the idea of completion. Do you agree with that?

R: Completely, yeah.

C: But very often it really doesn't matter, and as we've said before, phrasal verbs are often used in more informal English, so you have, often you have the option, the choice, of the full verb or the verb with the preposition or article.

R: It's hard to get fixed rules, as you said to burn down means to burn completely, there's nothing left, but that doesn't mean that down always has that meaning. For example, if any of the listeners have good memory, they might remember a few episodes ago we talked about write down, the difference between write and write down, and we said that write down always has the meaning of writing it immediately, immediately and quickly. "I'm gonna give you my telephone number, write it down", so do it now, and it's not a long piece of writing, that's write down. But I could say write my telephone number, I could, but write down has the meaning of it's immediate and it's not long. So, that use of the word down is not the same as the use of burn down. There's no fixed rules for every preposition.

C; Another example I found is if you have a printer, you can print it off, or if you have a printer you can print it, so that off makes it a phrasal verb... Print is more general, it's a more general way of saying imprimir, but print off or print out of the computer gives it a more specific of coming of the computer. But again, you can use, very often you can use these interchangeably.

R: I can't see any difference between print out or off, can you?

C: NO, but you would print a book perhaps or print a poster, but you wouldn't say print off a poster unless it's something that's got to go very quick or something immediate, so again, it's this idea of immediacy. But it's an interesting point maybe. Anyway, that's all we have time for on this episode, so thank you very much for listening and remember, send us an email or like David from Valencia send us a sound file, mensaje de voz en mp3, with a comment or a question, and send it to craig@inglespodcast.com or belfastreza@gmail.com. And remember you can also find the show notes, las notas de episodio, on our website at inglespodcast.com. Tambien danos algunas estrellas y una corta reseña, a review, in itunes. Thank you very much for listening to this podcast and we'll see you next time.

R: Bye bye!

C: Bye bye!

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