

# Los Verbos Reflexivos

Compare the non-reflexive and reflexive verbs in the following sentences:

Juan **lava** su coche.

Después **se lava**.

Luis **despierta** a sus hermanos.

Sus hermanos **se despiertan**.

Present indicative of *levantarse*

yo me \_\_\_\_\_

nosotros \_\_\_\_\_

tú \_\_\_\_\_

él, ella, usted \_\_\_\_\_

ellos, ellas, ustedes \_\_\_\_\_

In the infinitive construction the pronouns usually come after the infinitive and are attached to it.

Voy a comprar \_\_\_\_\_ un coche.

\_\_\_\_\_ a comprar un coche.

Paco no quiere \_\_\_\_\_.

No \_\_\_\_\_ quiere levantar.

Acabamos de mudar \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ acabamos de mudar.

## Uses

They are used to indicate that the subject is performing the action on or for himself.

*She is looking at herself in the mirror.* \_\_\_\_\_.

- Me, te, nos are sometimes = the pronouns myself, yourself, ourselves.
- With verbs relating to personal care, Spanish generally uses the definite article.

*I take off my shoes.*

\_\_\_\_\_ quito \_\_\_\_\_ zapatos.

*You are brushing your teeth.*

\_\_\_\_\_.

They are often used to express a change in physical, mental, or social condition.

In English this is expressed by verbs such as *to get*, *to be getting*, *to become*, *to be growing*.

*We are getting up.* \_\_\_\_\_.

*Why are you getting angry?* ¿\_\_\_\_\_?

*Alicia is getting married.* \_\_\_\_\_.

*I want to become a member of the team.* \_\_\_\_\_.

They are often used idiomatically. In such cases, Spanish reflexive verbs correspond to non-reflexive verbs in English.

*He complains about everything.* \_\_\_\_\_.

They are used to express a reciprocal action. In English, reciprocal action is often rendered by the construction *each other* or *one another*.

*Tomás and Elena love one another.* \_\_\_\_\_.

*We are going to write (each other).* \_\_\_\_\_.

What is the difference?

Yo como fruta.

Yo me como la fruta.