

## El pretérito de los verbos que terminan en "ar"

In Spanish, the past tense is called **el pretérito (the preterite)**. The process for using preterite tense endings is the same as for present.

### **Preterite tense endings for all regular AR verbs:**

#### **Singular**

yo - é

tú - aste

él - ó

ella - ó

usted (Ud.) - ó

#### **Plural**

nosotros/nosotras - amos

ellos - aron

ellas - aron

ustedes (Uds.) - aron

Modelos:

¿Qué mir**aste**? (What did you watch?)

(Yo) mir**é** una película. (I watched a movie.)

¿Nad**aron** ustedes ayer? (Did you swim yesterday?)

Sí, nad**amos** por dos horas. (Yes, we swam for two hours.)

## Things to remember:

1. Verb endings not only tell who does an action, but also when that action takes place.
2. **Yo** and **él/ella/Ud.** each have an accent mark in the ending.
3. **Nosotros** has the same ending as in the present tense. (Words like **ayer**, **anoche**, and **el mes pasado** indicate past tense.)
4. Verbs whose infinitive ends in **-gar (jugar, pagar, llegar)** end in **-gué** in the **yo form** of the preterite.

(Yo) **llegué** tarde. (I arrived late.)

but (Tú) **llegaste** temprano. (You arrived early.) (no change)

5. Verbs whose infinitive ends in **-car (buscar, tocar, sacar)** end in **-qué** in the **yo form** of the preterite.

(Yo) **sacué** mi computadora. (I took out my computer.)

but (Tú) **sacaste** tu tarea. (You took out your HW.) (no change)

6. Verbs that have a stem change (boot verbs) do not have a stem change in the preterite.

¿**Juegas** tenis los lunes? (Do you play tennis on Mondays?)

¿No **jugaste** tenis ayer? (You didn't play tennis yesterday?)

(Didn't you play tennis yesterday?)