

Rosa's Sunny Spanish Greetings

Learning objective: To understand and apply formal and informal Spanish greetings within a conversational context.

Read the text carefully, paying attention to how Rosa changes her language depending on who she is speaking to. Answer the questions in full sentences.

Rosa the parrot is an expert linguist who loves flying across the village to greet her friends. When she spots her best friend, Kit the fox, she chirps, '¡Hola, Kit! ¿Cómo estás?' She uses the informal 'tú' form because they are close companions. Kit replies with a cheerful smile, happy to see her.

Later, Rosa visits the local library to see the village librarian. Because the librarian is older and they are in a professional setting, Rosa switches to formal Spanish. She bows her head politely and says, 'Buenos días. ¿Cómo está usted?' The librarian appreciates her good manners and replies with a warm greeting. Rosa explains that using the correct greeting is like wearing the right outfit for an occasion; it shows respect and builds a bridge between people. As she prepares to fly home, she calls out, '¡Adiós!' to everyone she passes. Whether it is a quick '¡Hola!' to a peer or a polite 'Buenas tardes' to an elder, Rosa knows that language is the most colourful way to connect with the world around us.

Word bank: ¡Hola! (Hello) · Buenos días (Good morning) · Buenas tardes (Good afternoon) · ¿Cómo estás? (How are you? - informal) · ¿Cómo está usted? (How are you? - formal) · Encantado (Pleased to meet you - masculine) · Encantada (Pleased to meet you - feminine) · Adiós (Goodbye)

1. Identify the two different ways Rosa asks 'How are you?' and explain why she chooses one over the other. (2 marks) (2 marks)

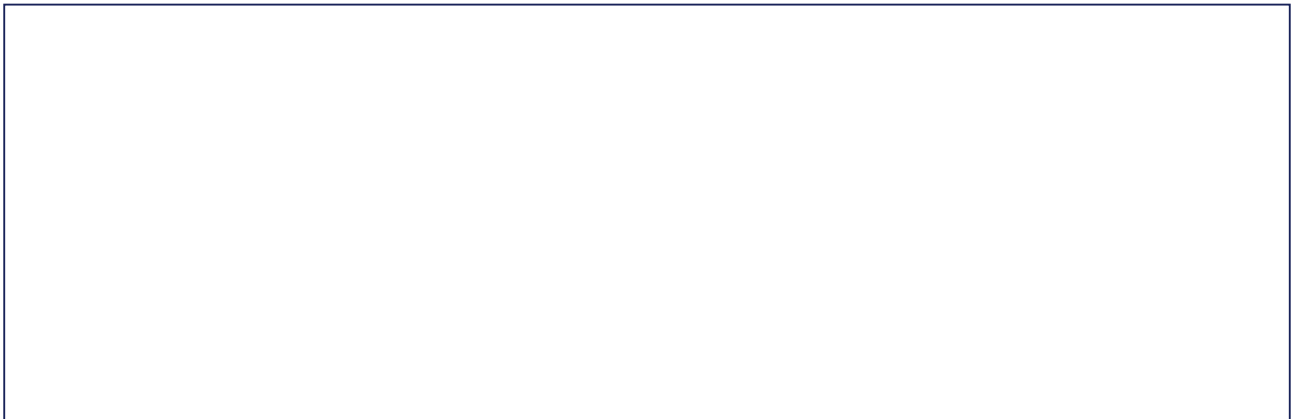
2. According to the text, what does Rosa compare language to, and what does this comparison suggest about her attitude towards communication? (2 marks) (2 marks)

3. Infer why Rosa uses the phrase 'Encantado' or 'Encantada' when meeting someone new for the first time. (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. What might happen if Rosa used the informal '¿Cómo estás?' when speaking to someone she did not know well? Justify your answer. (3 marks) (3 marks)

5. Do you agree with Rosa that using the correct greeting is 'the most colourful way to connect'? Justify your opinion. (3 marks) (3 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene showing Rosa the parrot greeting two different characters: one a friend she is playing with, and one a shopkeeper she is treating with formal respect. Include speech bubbles with the correct Spanish phrases.



Extension challenge: Research the cultural significance of 'tú' versus 'usted' in Spanish-speaking countries. Write a short paragraph explaining why maintaining this distinction is important for social harmony, and create a dialogue between two characters who accidentally use the wrong register.