

HDHS #4: Verbos con Cambios Radicales

■ Some verbs are unique and have some spelling changes in the stem. The stem is the first part of the verb; the part of the verb that does not include the -ar, -er, or -ir. The only way to know if a verb is a stem-changer is by memorizing them.

■ There is one rule to remember with present tense stem-changers:
*All forms change EXCEPT nosotros!

■ There are four types of stem-changers in the present tense.

E → IE E → I O → UE U → UE

NOTE: E → I are much less common than E → IE

■ Here's how they change...

PENSAR = to think

yo	pienso
tú	piensas
él, ella, Ud.	piensa
nosotros (as)	pensamos
ellos, ellas, Uds.	piensan

DORMIR = to sleep

yo	duermo
tú	duermes
él, ella, Ud.	duerme
nosotros (as)	dormimos
ellos, ellas, Uds.	duermen

JUGAR = to play

yo	juego
tú	juegas
él, ella, Ud.	juega
nosotros (as)	jugamos
ellos, ellas, Uds.	juegan

■ So... If you wanted to say "I play soccer." You would normally think it is...
Yo **jugo** fútbol.

BUT... that is not correct! Jugar is a stem-changer so the U becomes UE
Yo **juego** fútbol.

■ Some common stem-changing verbs are:

E → IE	cerrar, empezar, entender, merendar, perder, preferir, querer
E → I	servir, pedir, repetir
O → UE	poder, volver, mover, contar, encontrar
U → UE	jugar is the only U → UE