

Stem-Changing Verbs: e:i

Remember, there are three types of infinitives: -ar, -er, -ir. Infinitives are made up of two parts: the ending and the stem. In the following examples, the stem is **bold** and the ending is in **highlighted**.

AR Verbs	ER Verbs	IR Verbs
hablar	comer	vivir
to speak	to eat	to live

With regular verbs, the stem stays the same, and <u>the ending changes as they are conjugated</u> .			
Pronoun	HABLAR	COMER	VIVIR
Yo	Hablo	Como	Vivo
Tú	Hablas	Comes	Vives
Él, ella, Usted	Habla	Come	Vive
Nosotros/as	Hablamos	Comemos	Vivimos
Vosotros/as	Hablaís	Coméis	Vivís

Ellos/as/Uds.	Hablan	Comen	Viven
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With some verbs, the **stem** also changes when you conjugate them. In the present tense, there are three groups of stem-changing verbs.

o:ue	e:ie	e:i
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With the second group of stem-changing verbs, the letter **e** in the stem changes to **i** in all forms except the nosotros and vosotros.

Pronoun	REPETIR (to repeat)
Yo	repito
Tú	repites
Él, ella, Usted	repite
Nosotros/as	repetimos
Vosotros/as	repetís
Ellos/as/Uds.	repiten

Here's another e:ie stem changing verb.	
Pronoun	COMPETIR (to compete)
Yo	comp it o
Tú	comp it es
Él, ella, Usted	comp it e
Nosotros/as	comp e t im os
Vosotros/as	comp e t ís
Ellos/as/Uds.	comp it en

Here's another e:ie stem-changing verb. Notice how the stem <u>doesn't change in the nosotros and vosotros forms.</u>	
Pronoun	PEDIR (to ask for)
Yo	pid o
Tú	pid es
Él, ella, Usted	pid e

Nosotros/as	pedimos
Vosotros/as	pedís
Ellos/as/Uds.	piden

Here is a list of common e:i stem-changing verbs.	
decir	to say, tell (<i>Yo digo</i>)
bendecir	to bless (<i>Yo bendigo</i>)
maldecir	to curse (<i>Yo maldigo</i>)
pedir	to ask for, to order
despedir	to dismiss, fire
impedir	to impede, to prevent from
vestir	to dress
desvestir	to undress
colegir	to deduce
competir	to compete
medir	to measure

seguir	to follow, continue
conseguir	to get, obtain
perseguir	to pursue, to persecute
corregir	to correct, to assess
reír	to laugh
sonreír	to smile
repetir	to repeat
elegir	to elect
freír	to fry
servir	to serve
gemir	to groan, moan

PRACTICE LINKS:

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