

**THE SPANISH VERB; WITH
AN INTRODUCTION ON
SPANISH
PRONUNCIATION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649083664

The Spanish verb; with an introduction on Spanish pronunciation by Peter E. Traub

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PETER E. TRAUB

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION ON

SPANISH PRONUNCIATION

BY

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UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

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NEW YORK · · · CINCINNATI · · · CHICAGO
AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY

PREFACE

OWING to the acquisition of our new territory in the Atlantic and Pacific as the result of the Hispano-American War of 1898, an intimate knowledge of the Spanish language has suddenly become of great military, naval, industrial, and commercial importance. The Pronunciation and the Verb are the prime factors of this knowledge, since without them the intelligent expression of thought would be impossible.

The necessity for writing this book lies in the fact that there is no treatise on the Spanish verb in existence, and no satisfactory work on Spanish pronunciation.

This book embodies the results of the corresponding portion of the system in vogue at the United States Military Academy, whereby a thorough knowledge of the essentials of Spanish is imparted to the cadet in the short period of three months.

The portion treating of pronunciation is in accordance with the latest teaching of the Spanish Academy, and takes into account the peculiarities attending the Spanish-American speech as found to-day in our Island possessions. The system followed in the verb is that of constant repetition, every verb being fully written out, even the English translation in each case. Experience in teaching convinces nearly all instructors that constant and unabridged repetition, not only for the ear but also for the eye, is the only correct way to teach a language, and more especially the verbs of a language.

A constant reference was of course necessary to the Grammar of the Spanish Academy, the foundation of all works on this language published here and abroad.

I wish to tender my grateful acknowledgments to Professor E. E. Wood, Department of Modern Languages, U. S. M. A., for nearly everything of value and originality in this book, both in the material and in the arrangement. The explanation of the reflexive substitute for the passive, the lucid method of writing out the imperative affirmative and negative, the presentation of the reflexive verbs, the uses of *ser* and *estar*, and nearly all the remarks concerning the formation of the verb and the use of the tenses, are original with him, have been constantly made use of by him in the section-room at West Point, and now appear in print for the first time. Even when occupied with most pressing duties, he would kindly consent to go over the manuscript patiently, advising, correcting and suggesting points that invariably enhanced its value.

PETER E. TRAUB.

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 1, 1899.

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