

**HEALTH'S MODERN LANGUAGE
SERIES; EXERCISES IN SPANISH
COMPOSITION FOR FIRST AND
SECOND YEAR CLASSES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649329694

Health's Modern Language Series; Exercises in Spanish Composition for First and Second Year
Classes by J. D. M. Ford

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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Heath's Modern Language Series

EXERCISES
IN
SPANISH COMPOSITION

FOR FIRST AND SECOND YEAR CLASSES

BY

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D. C. HEATH & CO., PUBLISHERS
BOSTON NEW YORK CHICAGO

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Reference
No. 134710 - $\frac{100}{113}$

NO. 134710 -
ADDITIONAL

PREFACE

THIS little book is published in the hope that it may facilitate the work of composition in first and second year Spanish classes. The exercises are grouped under three heads. Parts I and II were prepared by Professor A. R. Marsh, and used by him, in his courses at Harvard University, with excellent results. To these portions of the book I have added (1) foot-notes with references to Ramsey's *Text Book of Modern Spanish*, (2) a vocabulary, and (3) a third part comprising exercises modelled upon selected passages of Alarcón's *El Capitán Veneno* (published by D. C. Heath & Co.). It is intended that the student, having before him the original Spanish text, shall translate the English text of Part III without having recourse to a dictionary. The efficacy of this system of translation has been amply proved by the success of Professor C. H. Grandgent's Italian and French composition books. In the near future, I hope to apply it more largely in another set of exercises based upon some good Spanish texts. As Part II—and this may be said particularly of the extracts from Macaulay and Burke—is much

more difficult than Parts I and III, the student had best not attempt it, until he has translated I and III.

My obligations to Professor Marsh are evident, since I owe him more than half the material of this book. I am deeply grateful to him and to Professor P. B. Marcou, who, in the compilation of the notes and vocabulary, has aided me with many valuable suggestions.

J. D. M. F.



EXERCISES IN SPANISH COMPOSITION

PART I

1

Good evening, Fernando. How are you? I am glad to see you. — Thanks, I am well. How are you? — Nothing new,¹ thank you. I was thinking of² you this afternoon. I wanted to ask you to accompany my sister and me tomorrow. We are going to the palace to³ see the review. — At what time does it take place? — At half past seven in⁴ the morning. — Dear me, how early one has to get up⁵ in order to see it! — Yes, it is pretty early; but taking chocolate at quarter of seven, we shall have time enough. — Well, I shall take pleasure in going⁶ with you.

¹ *en*. ² *para*. ³ *de*; cf. R., § 390. ⁴ one has to get up:
se ha de levantar. ⁵ I . . . going: *me gustará ir*.

⁶ *Sin novedad*.

2

Joe, where is my watch? — I don't know; I haven't seen it. Why do you need it? — I have to study forty minutes still, and I want to see when they are up.¹ — It seems to me that you observe your times of study with much pre-

cision. — Yes, that's so.² I don't want to lose a moment of liberty. — Do you call it 'losing³ your time,' when you are studying? — Well, perhaps not⁴; but I like to have plenty⁷ of⁷ time for amusing myself. — Let's see⁵; what are you reading? — A Greek book. Does it interest you? — I can't understand a single word of it. — Nor I either, or rather⁴ not many. But one learns by⁶ reading a little every day.

¹ *acabarse.* ² *eso es.* ³ Infinitive. ⁴ *más bien.* ⁵ Omit; cf. R., § 530.
⁶ *tal vez que no.* ⁷ *bastante.* ⁸ *¿ver.*

3

My¹ friend, if you meet my cousin Joseph Blanco, in Malaga, will you tell him that I am sorry that he never writes² me how he is? — Why, man alive, your cousin is in Madrid at this very moment. He has just arrived from Malaga by the 4.20 train, on which I also came. He left³ the station by the coach of the Northern Hotel, where he always stays⁷ in this city.⁴ — Then why did he not write me something⁸ of⁸ his intention? He ought to know that he has his house at 10 Barquillo St.,⁶ instead of going to a bad inn. — I am sure that⁶ if he had understood your wish, he would have preferred to stop at your house. — I am ashamed that persons of the same family should understand² each other so little.

¹ Use the absolute form of the possessive pronoun, placed after the noun; cf. R., § 414. ² Subjunctive; cf. R., § 889. ³ *salir de.*
⁴ *corte (f.).* ⁵ at ... St.: *calle del Barquillo, número 10.*
⁶ *de que.* ⁷ *para.* ⁸ *acerca de.*

4

Good morning, Henry; are you in bed still? — Gracious! Is it time to get up? I have not heard the bell. — Why, it's ten minutes of nine. Haven't you a lecture at nine o'clock? — Yes, I have; and I don't know how I can't dress in time. I have been told¹ that some years ago the students used to go to the first lecture of the day in² their night-gowns and with long overcoats and rubber boots on.³ But now one has to wash himself, and shave, and comb his hair, as if he were going⁴ to a party. It's too bad, according⁵ to my idea.⁵ And then,⁶ one must breakfast, even if he takes⁷ nothing more than chocolate and bread. This life is too difficult for me. — And so you stay in bed and grumble. What a fine fellow you are!

¹ *Se me ha dicho.* ² *en.* ³ *puesto.* ⁴ were going: *estuviese para ir.*
⁵ *á mi parecer.* ⁶ *además.* ⁷ Subjunctive; cf. R., § 908.

5

How handsome you are this afternoon, cousin Mariana; you're beauty itself. — Be still, Joe; you college-boys can say nothing to a girl but compliments.¹ Do you think that those stupidities interest¹ us? I can tell you we have more serious things in our² heads. — Dear me, how disdainful you are! Whence comes this indifference? One can't even tell you the truth. — Well, of course,³ if you really mean it, I shall not become angry. But I don't want people to think⁴ me frivolous. Perhaps you haven't heard that I am a student in Radcliffe College. — Good gracious, what courses are you taking? — Two in philosophy,⁵ one