Look out for the following icons throughout the book:

- **‘Shortcut’ Phrase**
  Easy to remember alternative to the full phrase

- **Q&A Pair**
  ‘Question-and-answer’ pair – we suggest a response to the question asked

- **Look For**
  Phrases you may see on signs, menus etc

- **Listen For**
  Phrases you may hear from officials, locals etc

- **Language Tip**
  An insight into the foreign language

- **Culture Tip**
  An insight into the local culture

### How to read the phrases:

- Coloured words and phrases throughout the book are phonetic guides to help you pronounce the foreign language.
- Lists of phrases with tinted background are options you can choose to complete the phrase above them.

### These abbreviations will help you choose the right words and phrases in this book:

- **f** feminine
- **m** masculine
- **pol** polite
- **inf** informal
- **pl** plural
- **sg** singular
- **lit** literal
About Mexican Spanish
Learn about Mexican Spanish, build your own sentences and pronounce words correctly.

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Ready-made phrases for every situation – buy a ticket, book a hotel and much more.

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5 Phrases to Learn Before You Go

1. Where can I buy handicrafts?
   ¿Dónde se puede comprar artesanías?
   *don-de se pwe-de kom-prar ar-te-sa-nee-as*

   Star buys in Mexico are the regional handicrafts produced all over the country, mainly by the indigenous people.

2. Which antojitos do you have?
   ¿Qué antojitos tiene?
   *ke an-to-khee-tos tye-ne*

   ‘Little whimsies’ (snacks) can encompass anything – have an entire meal of them, eat a few as appetisers, or get one on the street for a quick bite.

3. Not too spicy, please.
   No muy picoso, por favor.
   *no mooy pee-koo-so por fa-vor*

   Not all food in Mexico is spicy, but beware – many dishes can be fierce indeed, so it may be a good idea to play it safe.

4. Where can I find a cantina nearby?
   ¿Dónde hay una cantina cerca de aquí?
   *don-de ai oo-na kan-tee-na ser-ka de a-kee*

   Ask locals about the classical Mexican venue for endless snacks, and often dancing as well.

5. How do you say ... in your language?
   ¿Cómo se dice ... en su lengua?
   *ko-mo se dee-se ... en su len-gwa*

   Numerous indigenous languages are spoken around Mexico, primarily Mayan languages and Náhuatl. People will appreciate it if you try to use their local language.
10 Phrases to Sound Like a Local

- Hey! | ¡Oye!/¡Oiga! inf/pol | o·ye/oy·ga
- How’s things? | ¿Qué tal? | ke tal
- What’s new? | ¿Qué onda? | ke on·da
- Cool, dude! | ¡Chido, güey! | chee·do gway
- Awesome! | ¡Cámara! | ka·ma·ra
- Check this out! | ¡Checa ésto! | che·ka es·to
- Wow, really? | ¡Órale! | o·ra·le
- Are you serious? | ¿Te cae? | te kai
- You must be kidding! | ¡No manches! | no man·ches
- Whatever. | Me vale. | me va·le