

## Word Stress in Spanish

- A. Most words which end in a vowel, and in **n** or **s** (plural endings of verbs and nouns, respectively), are stressed on the next to the last syllable:  
*cla-se, to-mo, ca-sas, en-tran, Car-men*
- B. Most words which end in a consonant, except **n** or **s**, are stressed on the last syllable:  
*pro-fe-sor, ha-blar, pa-pel, ciu-dad, es-pa-ñol.*
- C. Words not pronounced according to these two rules have a written accent on the stressed syllable:  
*ca-fé, in-glés, lec-ción, tam-bién*
- D. The written accent is also used to distinguish between two words spelled alike but different in meaning:  
si = if, **sí** = yes; el = the, **él** = he
- E. The written accent is also used on the stressed syllable of all interrogative words:  
¿Qué = What?; Cuándo = When?; Quién? = Who?

Yo **soy** = I am

Tú **eres** = You are

Él, Ella, Usted **es** = He, She, You are

Nosotros/as **somos** = We are

(Vosotros/as **sois**) = You-all are

Ellos, Ellas, Ustedes **son** = They, You'all are