

# 5

## Regular Verbs

All Spanish verbs belong to one of three classifications, called conjugations, depending on the ending of the infinitive.

All infinitives end in **-ar**, **-er**, or **-ir**.

Each conjugation has its own set of endings that are added to the stem of the verb.

verb stem + infinitive ending = infinitive

**cant** + **ar** = **cantar**

**com** + **er** = **comer**

**viv** + **ir** = **vivir**

Verbs are considered *regular* if there is *no change in the stem* when it is conjugated.

### Uses of the Present Tense

The present tense is used to express the English simple present (*I sing*) and the English present progressive tense (*I am singing*).

Ella canta una canción triste. { *She sings a sad song.*  
*She is singing a sad song.*

Questions are formed by inverting the subject and the verb. In this case, the translation of the Spanish present tense includes the English helping verb *do*. Questions can also be indicated by rising intonation, without a change in word order.

¿Cantas tú los domingos?  
¿Tú cantas los domingos?

*Do you sing on Sundays?*  
*You sing on Sundays?*