

### Written Accents

When a word does not follow one of these two rules, it will have a written accent on the syllable that is stressed.

tel <u>é</u> fono	canc <u>ió</u> n
l <u>á</u> mpara	lecc <u>ió</u> n
<u>m</u> úsica	diff <u>í</u> cil
ca <u>f</u> é	f <u>á</u> cil

If a one-syllable word has a written accent, it means that there is another word in the language that has the same spelling, but another meaning.

el	<i>the</i>	él	<i>he</i>
si	<i>if</i>	sí	<i>yes</i>
tu	<i>your</i>	tú	<i>you</i>
se	<i>oneself</i>	sé	<i>I know</i>

If a two-syllable word has a written accent that does not affect the pronunciation, it means that there is another word that has the same spelling, but a different meaning.

este	<i>this</i>	éste	<i>this one</i>
ese	<i>that</i>	ése	<i>that one</i>

Interrogative words have an accent mark that does not affect pronunciation.

¿qué?	<i>what?</i>	¿cómo?	<i>how?</i>
¿quién?	<i>who?</i>	¿por qué?	<i>why?</i>
¿dónde?	<i>where?</i>	¿cuál?	<i>which?</i>

### Spelling Changes

#### • z to c

Nouns and adjectives that end in **z** change to **c** to form the plural.

el lápiz	los lápices
la nariz	las narices
feliz	felices

**Z** followed by **a** or **o** changes to **c** before an **e** or **i**. The sound of **z** and **c** are the same.

comienza	comience
empiezo	empiece