

- **Other spelling changes**

All other spelling changes occur in order to maintain a required sound.

Tocar, for example, has a hard *c* sound that must be preserved in other forms of the verb. If you see **toque**, with **qu** replacing the **c**, it is to maintain the *k* sound.

Llegar, for example, has a hard *g* sound, which must be preserved. If you see **llegue**, with **gu** replacing the **g**, it is to maintain the hard *g* sound.

Castilian Spanish

There are only a few differences in pronunciation between the Spanish spoken in Latin America and that spoken in Spain.

- Both the **c** that precedes **e** or **i** and the **z** have the *th* sound heard in English *thought* and *thing*.
- When **j** or **g** precedes **e** or **i**, it has a slightly more guttural sound.



Tips for Pronunciation

- While practicing, remember to keep the vowel sounds short and clear.
- Always use the Spanish *r* sound. Resist the use of the English *r*.
- Implore the sounds of **p** and **t**. Make sure there is no puff of air.
- Always pronounce **z** like the letter **s**.
- Give the syllables an almost equal emphasis, a sort of staccato sound. Pronounce every syllable clearly and precisely in order to develop an even speech pattern.