

## Easy Shortcuts to Talk about the Past in Spanish Shortcut #1

In this lesson we will review a few easy conversational shortcuts to talk about the past in Spanish, without having to memorize lots of conjugations.

This first shortcut is a simple and effective tool for beginners who want to speak basic Spanish quickly and get their message across when they are getting started.

It's simple, you only have to add the word for "before" in Spanish, which is "antes," at the end of the sentence.

The shortcut looks like this:

## Shortcut #1 to Talk about the Past:

“Yo” + Unconjugated verb + “antes”

Here are a few examples:

- “Yo comer antes”
- “I, to eat before” (this is a basic way to express the idea “I ate”)
- “Yo comer antes”
  
- “Yo vivir en Canadá antes”
- “I, to live in Canada before” (this is a basic way to express the idea: “I lived in Canada”)
- “Yo vivir en Canadá antes”
  
- “Yo visitar Francia antes”
- “I, to visit France before” (this is a basic way to express the idea “I visited France”)
- “Yo visitar Francia antes”

If you want to express the opposite idea, you just need to add the word “no” before the verb.

Like this:

**“Yo” + “no” + Unconjugated verb + “antes”**

Here are a few examples:

- “Yo **no** comer antes”
- “I **do not**, to eat before” (this is a basic way to express the idea “I didn’t eat”)
- “Yo **no** comer antes”
  
- “Yo **no** vivir en Canadá antes”
- “I **do not**, to live in Canada before” (this is a basic way to express the idea “I didn’t live in Canada”)
- “Yo **no** vivir en Canadá antes”
  
- “Yo **no** visitar Francia antes”
- “I **do not**, to visit France before” (this is a basic way to express the idea “I didn’t visit France”)
- “Yo **no** visitar Francia antes”

That’s all for this lesson. Well done!