

Piece #9
E. Siler

**LESSON FOCUS: IMPORTANT
TRANSITIONAL/ADVERBIAL PHRASES IN ACADEMIC
SPANISH**

Important Prepositional Phrases

**Grammar note: Prepositions work in similar ways in English and Spanish. In both languages, we expect the preposition to be followed by either a noun phrase or a verbal. In English, the verbal is formed with – ing. In Spanish, the verbal is formed with the infinitive.

A partir de – at the beginning of, starting from

A traves de – across

Al inicio de – at the beginning of

Bajo -- under, below

Con respecto a – with respect to, regarding

De resultas de – as a result of

Dentro de -- within

Desde – from

Durante – during, for

En torno a – around, about

Entre – among, between

Hacia - towards, in the direction of

Incluso -- even

Junto a – by, next to, along with

Junto con -- together with, with

Mediante – by, by means of

Pese a – despite

Por encima de -- above and beyond

Por parte de – on the part of
Respeto de – regarding
Sobre – about, over

Prepositions that Show Attribution/Citation

Según - according to
De acuerdo con -- according to, in accordance with

Preposition + Infinitive Structure

Grammar note: This word is always followed by an infinitive verb form.

Al – upon, on, (sometimes this word can be omitted in the translation)

Two-Part Structures

***Grammar note: In both languages, we expect to see parallelism after the parts of a two-part structure.

Desde . . . hasta (from . . . to)
No solo . . . sino (not only . . . but also)
No tanto . . . sino -- not so much as X but Y
Por un lado . . . por el otro: on the one hand . . . on the other

Important Adverbial Words

****Grammar note:** These words work as they do in English. They are translated as adverbials at the beginning of independent clauses.

Además -- moreover

Así -- thus, in this way

De hecho -- in fact, in reality, in actual fact

Más bien – rather

Por otra parte – on the other hand

Sin embargo – however

****Grammar note:** As in English, these words combine clauses by joining an independent clause to a dependent clause.

Al igual que – just as

Aunque – even though

En cuanto que -- in so much as/ insofar as

Para que – so that

Pues – since

Si bien – although, even though

Ya que – because, since

Puesto que -- given that/since

****Grammar note:** As in English, these words combine two independent clauses and show some contrast.

Mas (without an accent) – but

Sino -- but rather

****Grammar note:** As in English, these words form relative adjective clauses. They are often formed by putting a preposition in front of them.

Preposition + Lo que/ la que/ los que / las que – what, which
Pre + Lo cual/la cual/ los cuales/ las cuales . . which
Preposition + que

Important Adverbs

Al mismo tiempo – at the same time
Apenas -- hardly
Aún -- still /not yet
Aun -- even
Casi – almost
Desde – since
Hace – ago
Hasta -- until
Hasta el momento – until now
Hasta hace poco – until a little while ago
Por fin -- finally
Sobre todo -- above all
Tan -- so
Tarde o temprano -- sooner or later
Ya – already

Important Comparatives

****Grammar Note:** Comparatives form a special class of words. Look for the words *mas* and *como* as important words in many comparative structures.

Tales . . . como -- such . . . as
Tan . . . como -- as . . . as
Mas que -- more than . . .
Menos que -- less than
Por mas que -- no matter how much

Important Verbal Phrases

**Grammar note: These are important verbal constructions and should be memorized cold.

Convertirse en – to become
Se quiera --might be
Se trata de (tratarse de) -- to be about/ to deal with/ to treat
the subject of/ to be a question of . . .

