

The educational system in Ecuador is kind of crazy.

If a highschool student fails a subject, they don't really fail it, at least not immediately.

They can take an extra exam right after the school year finishes, to try to fix it, and if they fail that exam too, they have another chance one month later.

Too many opportunities if you ask me.

I'm teaching some English classes to a student who has to take that very last exam, and the experience is interesting.

She has been taking English at school for about six years, and to be honest, she knows nothing.

Kind of.

We had to start from phrases like "my name is" and "I live in," because she didn't know how to use them, but as long as she learned how to use them in a more real context, and with some humor, she started doing really better.

In the first class she was already saying things like "my brother has an old phone," and by class number 5 she was able to say "my brother has had his phone since 2019" (all grammar structures she needs to learn for the exam.)

Of course, that wouldn't be possible if she actually didn't know anything about the language. But she does.

The problem is different.

She has learned some grammar and vocabulary, but not necessarily in a way she finds interesting.

And as a result, she thinks:

a) she doesn't understand English

b) English is boring

And it only took me teaching her how to say things like "my mom loves *telenovelas*," "my niece never cleans up her room," or "I don't like *caldo de patas* (a soup that it's delicious but looks gross)" for her to start understanding the language.

Even she feels surprised.

Last week, when I told her "ok, that's all for today," she was like "wow, I didn't notice I was already an hour here."

It felt nice, and that's exactly how I try to make all my students feel while I teach them how to use the language in real life situations.

That being said, if you are looking for a Spanish teacher:

[Online lessons with an Ecuadorian teacher..](#)

P.S. Did you take Spanish classes at school? How did they were?

---

El sistema educativo en Ecuador es un poco loco.

Si un estudiante de secundaria reprueba una materia, en realidad no la reprueba, al menos no de inmediato.

Pueden tomar un examen adicional justo después de que termine el año escolar para intentar arreglarlo, y si también reprueban ese examen, tienen otra oportunidad un mes después.

Demasiadas oportunidades, si me preguntas.

Le estoy dando clases de inglés a una estudiante que tiene que tomar ese último examen, y la experiencia está siendo interesante.

Ella ha estado tomando clases de inglés en la escuela durante unos seis años, y siendo honesto, no sabe nada.

Bueno, más o menos.

Tuvimos que empezar con frases como "*my name is*" y "*I live in*", porque no sabía cómo usarlas, pero una vez que aprendió a utilizarlas en un contexto más real y con un poco de humor, empezó a mejorar mucho.

En la primera clase, ya estaba diciendo cosas como "*my brother has an old phone*", y para la quinta clase ya podía decir "*my brother has had his phone since 2019*" (todas, estructuras gramaticales que necesita aprender para el examen).

Por supuesto, eso no sería posible si en realidad no supiera nada del idioma. Pero sí sabe.

El problema es diferente.

Ha aprendido algo de gramática y vocabulario, pero no necesariamente de una manera que le resulte interesante.

Y como resultado, ella piensa que:

a) no entiende el inglés

b) el inglés es aburrido

Y solo me bastó enseñarle cómo decir cosas como "*my mom loves telenovelas*", "*my niece never cleans up her room*" o "*I don't like caldo de patas* (una sopa que es deliciosa pero parece asquerosa)" para que empezara a comprender el idioma.

Incluso ella se siente sorprendida.

La semana pasada, cuando le dije "bueno, eso es todo por hoy", ella dijo "wow, no me di cuenta de que ya había pasado una hora aquí".

Eso se sintió bien, y así es exactamente como trato de hacer que todos mis estudiantes se sientan mientras les enseño a usar el idioma en situaciones reales.

Dicho esto, si estás buscando un profesor de español:

[Clases en línea con un profesor Ecuatoriano.](#)

P.D. ¿Tomaste clases de español en la escuela? ¿Cómo fueron?

---

**Andrés Trujillo**

Valle de los Chillos, Sangolquí - Ecuador

☐ If you liked this email, forward it to a friend.

☐ If a friend forwarded this email to you, **[you can subscribe to my emails here.](#)**

☐ **[Stop receiving emails.](#)**

---

