

When I was 18 I worked in a company near my house.

It was kind of close, so I used to walk there from home.

Also, I didn't have any money, so walking was the only option I had.

Once, a woman who also worked there offered to give me a ride. And of course, I said yes.

She told me to get in the car, and I did.

I got in the back seat.

And she laughed!

And I didn't know why, until she said:

"Well, I guess I'll be Andrés' driver today."

And everyone in the office laughed too.

Back then, I used to walk or take the bus all the time, and I didn't know that if you get in the back seat, it looks like you're the boss and the driver is your employee.

I mean, I was trying to be respectful, but I think I did completely the opposite.

Fortunately she just laughed. I guess she understood my intentions were good.

From that day, whenever I get in a friend's car, if I'm the only passenger, I get in the front seat.

And I do the same when I take an Uber. Not because I'm friends with all Uber drivers, but because Uber is not 100% legal in Ecuador.

If I sat in the back seat, the police would know that I am paying for a service, and the driver could be fined.

But if I get in the front seat, that doesn't raise suspicions. That would look like two friends going somewhere.

So, if you ever have to take an Uber in Ecuador, don't be scared if the driver asks you to sit in the front seat.

He is not trying to do anything weird, he is just trying to avoid a fine. Also, that would be a good opportunity for you to practice your Spanish.

A win - win situation.

But if you think you need to improve your Spanish a bit more before that trip:

Online Spanish Lessons with an Ecuadorian teacher.

P.S. Now I only offer 10-lesson packages, but if you need something more specific that could be solved in less time, reply to this email and let me know.

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