

## Impersonal opinion - The Spanish Subjunctive (b1/b2)

The subjunctive is also used after impersonal expressions followed by 'que'. Impersonal expressions that indicate doubt, uncertainty, disbelief, emotion, necessity, denial, etc, require the subjunctive in the dependent clause. They are called impersonal expressions because they do not have a specific subject and most of them are formed with the third-person singular of the verb 'ser' and an adjective that is always in the masculine form:

*'Es bueno que hagas ejercicio todos días'*

*'Es necesario que salgamos pronto de casa hoy'*

Note that sentences with impersonal expressions that indicate certainty require the indicative and not the subjunctive: *'Es cierto que volvemos hoy'*, *'Es seguro que lloverá mañana'*.

*conviene que* - it is advisable that

*es conveniente que* - it is advisable that

*es fantástico que* - it is fantastic that

*es importante que* - it is important that

*es bueno (positivo) que* - it is good that

*es malo que* - it is bad that

*es imposible que* - it is impossible that

*es una vergüenza que* - it's a disgrace that

*es increíble que* - it is incredible that

*es (una) lástima que* - it is a pity that, it is a shame that

*es mejor que* - it is better that

*es necesario que* - it is necessary that

*es saludable que* - It is healthy that  
*es posible que* - it is possible that  
*es preferible que* - it is preferable that  
*es probable que* - it is probable that  
*es de mala educación que* - it is bad manners that  
*es ridículo que* - it is ridiculous that  
*es estupendo que* - it is great that  
*es terrible que* - it is terrible that  
*más vale que* - it is better that  
*puede ser que* - it might be that  
*ojalá (que)* - I hope (that), God willing (that)

## **PRACTICE QUIZ**

1. It's better that we leave sooner rather than later (cuanto antes).
2. It's necessary for you to read all those books by next month.
3. It's preferable that you finish studying before dinner.
4. It's unlikely that they will attend (asistir a) the ceremony.
5. It's advisable that you go to class every day.
6. It's important that you don't skip (saltarse) your lessons.
7. It's ridiculous that you don't know where you put it.
8. It may be that (es posible) they know all those things.
9. It's ridiculous that you don't tell me what you know (lo que sabes).
10. It's impossible for me to guess (adivinar) how many people will come.
11. It's a shame that he can't stay any longer (quedarse más tiempo).
12. I hope that (Ojalá) it doesn't rain on the day of the wedding.
13. It's bad manners that you arrive late to your classes.
14. It may be (puede ser que) that the books are cheaper now than before.
15. It's impossible for me to do all of those things at once (al mismo tiempo).

16. It is better that (más vale que) we prepare lunch before everyone arrives.

17. It's incredible that he can't (saber) swim.

### **ANSWER KEY**

Es mejor que salgamos cuanto antes. / Es necesario que leas todos esos libros antes del mes que viene. / Es preferible que termines de estudiar antes de la cena. / Es improbable que asistan a la ceremonia. / Es aconsejable que vayas a clase todos los días. / Es importante que no te saltes tus clases. / Es ridículo que no sepas dónde lo pusiste. / Es posible que sepan todas esas cosas. / Es ridículo que no me digas lo que sabes. / Es imposible que adivine cuantos invitados van a venir. / Es una pena que no pueda quedarse más tiempo. / Ojalá que no llueva el día de la boda. / Es de mala educación que llegues tarde a las clases. / Puede ser que los libros sean más baratos ahora que antes. / Es imposible que yo haga todas esas cosas al mismo tiempo. / Más vale que preparemos el almuerzo antes de que llegue todo el mundo. / Es increíble que no sepa nadar.