

# Negatives in Spanish

- Up to this point we have only used “no” to make a negative sentence.
  - ex. No tengo mascotas.
- In Spanish, other negative words can be used with “no”
  - Can also use other words for “no”, such as, “nunca” and “nadie”
- Double Negatives or more are OK!

- There must be a negative word before the verb.
  - Word order is flexible
  - No one ever comes.
  - Nadie nunca viene. = No viene nadie nunca. =
    - Nunca viene nadie.

A linguistics professor was lecturing to his class one day. “In English,” he said, “a double negative forms a positive. In some languages though, such as Russian, a double negative is still a negative.

“However,” he pointed out, “there is no language wherein a double positive can form a negative.”

A voice from the back of the room piped up, “Yeah. Right.”

- He doesn't eat anything.
- No come nada. = Nada come.

- He never goes out with anyone.
- Nunca sale con nadie. = No sale nunca con nadie.
- Now you try

- He never goes.
- Nunca va. = No va nunca.

- Nobody is coming.
- Nadie viene. = No viene nadie.

- I'm not going either.
- No voy tampoco. = Tampoco voy.

- No one ever gives me anything either.
- Nadie nunca me da nada tampoco.

- I see someone.
- Veo a alguien.
- I don't see anyone.
- No veo a nadie. = A nadie veo.

- Is Elena inviting anyone?

- ¿Elena invita a alguien?

- She never invites anyone.

- Nunca invita a nadie. = No invita a nadie nunca. =

- A nadie invita nunca.

- No one ever invites Elena.

- Nadie nunca invita a Elena.

- He never buys anything.
- Nunca compra nada. = No compra nada nunca. =
- Nada compra nunca

- I don't see anything either.
- No veo nada tampoco. = Tampoco veo nada.

- He never talks to anyone.
- Nunca le habla a nadie. = A nadie le habla nunca.

- No one ever buys either dresses or skirts.
- Nadie nunca compra ni vestidos ni faldas.