

LECTURA: "THE STRING FAMILY"

The most important string instruments in a symphony orchestra are: the violin, the viola, the violoncello (or cello) and the double bass. Instruments in this group have more in common with each other than those in any other family group. They are all made of wood, but in four different sizes, starting with the smallest, the violin and ending with the largest of the four, the double bass. Their tones are produced by playing a bow across a set of four strings, which may be made of wire or gut. Sometimes the strings are plucked with the fingers. This is called pizzicato, meaning snapped with the fingers.

The importance of the strings in the orchestra cannot be overestimated. In the orchestra the violins are divided into the first and second groups; the first violinists take the more complicated passages. The chief violinist, or first violinist, is also called the concertmaster, and is second in command after the conductor. The singing qualities of the violin and the violoncello make it possible for them to carry the principle melody either alone or reinforced by the wind instruments. Some other string instruments that are not usually found in bands or orchestras are the guitar, banjo, ukelele and the zither.

The violin is the smallest instrument of the string family. As the soprano voice it can produce the highest notes of all the strings. As small as the violin may seem, it is made up of about 70 different parts. Of these, 57 are used in the construction of the violin itself and 13 are removable parts. The bow of the violin is made of Pernambuco wood which comes from Brazil. The hair used for the bow comes from the tail of a horse, and is always bleached white before it is set on the bow.

The viola, which is slightly larger than the violin, has thicker and longer strings. It is also held under the chin and bowed. This instrument is often referred to as the alto or tenor voice in the orchestra. The tone of the viola is not as brilliant as that of the violin. The standard size of the viola is about a seventh larger than the standard violin.

The violoncello is the third in size in the string family. The body of this instrument is much higher in relation to its length than those of the violin and the

viola. The cello can play lower than the viola, yet reach higher notes with greater brilliance.

The double bass is the largest instrument of the string family. It is about six feet high and the player usually has to stand up or sit on a high stool to play it. It is the bass voice of the orchestra and plays the lowest notes in the string family. The bow of the double bass is heavier and shorter than that of the cello.

The harp is one of the most ancient of instruments. The Bible speaks of its existence and pictures of it are found on Greek vases many centuries old. The modern harp has 47 strings and seven pedals. The twelve longest strings are made of wire; the rest are made of sheep gut. Nylon harp strings are also used by many harpists. Only four fingers of each hand are used to pluck the strings. The little finger is never used since it is too short. Though technically a string instrument, the harp is not played with a bow and is not constructed like any other instrument in the family.

PRACTICA 1. Coloca en el paréntesis la letra que corresponda para completar correctamente los siguientes enunciados en base a la Lectura "The String Family".

1. The violin is _____ the viola. ()

- a) larger than
- b) as large as
- c) smaller than
- d) the same size as

2. In an orchestra the string instruments are very important because _____ ()

- e) They are played with a bow.
- f) They can carry the principle melody alone.
- g) They are made of wood.
- h) There are four in different sizes.

3. "Pizzicato" is _____ ()

- i) A from of playing the string instruments.
- j) The singing quality of the violin.
- k) The wood from wich the string instruments are made.
- l) A type of bow.

4. The harp is played with only four fingers of each hand because _____ ()

- m) It has 47 strings.
- n) The strings are made of wire.
- o) It has seven pedals.
- p) The little fingers are too short.

5. The violoncello is _____ ()

- q) Can play higher than the viola.
- r) Smaller than the violin.
- s) Larger than the viola.
- t) The same size as the double bass.

RESUMEN

Los siguientes cuadros te muestran un resumen de los temas vistos en la unidad.

1. COMPARATIVOS DE IGUALDAD Y DE DIFERENCIA

COMPARATIVOS:	TIPO:	INGLES:	ESPAÑOL:
IGUALDAD	TOTAL	1) THE SAME AS 2) ALIKE	IGUAL A IGUALES
	PARCIAL	1) THE SAME + sust. + AS 2) AS + adj/adv. + AS 3) AS + MANY + sust. plural + AS 4) AS + MUCH + sust. sing. + AS	DEL(A) MISMO(A) + sust. + AS TAN + adj./adv. + COMO TANTOS(AS) + sust. plural + COMO TANTO(A) + sust. sing. + COMO
	VERBAL	verbo + LIKE	verbo + COMO
DIFERENCIA	—	DIFFERENT FROM	DIFERENTE A (DE)

2. COMPARATIVOS Y SUPERLATIVOS DE SUPERIORIDAD Y DE INFERIORIDAD

USOS	SUPERIORIDAD		INFERIORIDAD		
	Adjetivos y adverbios de 1 sílaba y de 2 sílabas terminados en Y	+ Adjetivos y adverbios de 2 sílabas no terminados en Y y de 3 ó más sílabas	sustantivos en Plural	+ Sustantivos en Singular + Adjetivos + Adverbios	+ Sustantivos + Adjetivos y adverbios
	-ER THAN (MAS QUE)	MORE THAN (MAS QUE)	FEWER ... THAN (MENOS ... QUE)	LESS... THAN (MENOS QUE)	—
	THE... -EST EL LA LO -MAS LOS LAS	THE MOST EL LA LO -MAS LOS LAS	—	—	THE LEAST EL LA LO MENOS LOS LAS

3. COMPARATIVOS Y SUPERLATIVOS IRREGULARES

ADJ./ADV.	COMPARATIVO	SUPERLATIVO
BAD	WORSE than	the WORST
GOOD/WELL	BETTER than	the BEST
MUCH/MANY	MORSE than	the MOST
LITTLE	LESS than	the LEAST
FAR	FARTHER than	the FARTHEST

GLOSARIO

1. Both	Ambos (as)
2. Calories	Calorías
3. Climate	Clima
4. Double Bass	Contrabajo
5. February	Febrero
6. Gold	Oro
7. Haircut	Corte de cabello
8. January	Enero
9. June	Junio
10. March	Marzo
11. Natural	Natural (es)
12. Personality	Personalidad
13. Plastic	Plástico
14. Resources	Recursos
15. Road	Camino
16. Salt	Sal
17. Scissors	Tijeras
18. Silver	Plata
19. Size	Tamaño
20. Sport's section	Sección de deportes
21. Strawberries	Fresas
22. String instruments	Instrumentos de cuerdas
23. Summer	Verano
24. To contain	Contener
25. To smile	Sonreír
26. To swim	Nadar
27. To taste	Probar
28. Tower	Torre
29. Town	Pueblo, ciudad
30. Violin	Violín
31. Widht	Ancho
32. Winter	Invierno

REFERENCIAS BIBLIOGRAFICAS

Mallery, Richard D.

Grammar Rhetoric and Composition,
2a. edición, Harper & Row Publishers,
New York, 1967.

Stockwell, Robert P.: Bowen
Donald; Martin. John W.

The Grammatical Structures of En-
glish and Spanish, The University of
Chicago Press, Chicago 1965.

Watkins, Floyd C.: Dillingham,
William B.: Martin. Edwin T.

Practical English Handbook, 4a. edi-
ción, Houghton Mifflin Company,
Boston, 1970.

AUTOEVALUACION

I. INSTRUCCIONES: Completa correctamente los siguientes enunciados de acuerdo a las palabras entre paréntesis.

1. My father is _____ generous _____ you.
(tan) (como)

2. My coat is _____ style _____ that one.
(del mismo) (que)

3. Susan's car is _____ mine.
(igual a)

4. Our climate is _____ theirs.
(diferente a)

5. Your hat and Sally's hat are _____
(iguales)

6. Carlos smiles _____ his mother.
(como)

II. INSTRUCCIONES: Utiliza AS MUCH... AS o AS MANY ... AS para completar los siguientes enunciados.

7. This book has _____ pages _____ that one.

8. I drank _____ lemonade _____ you did.

III. INSTRUCCIONES: Utiliza FEWER... THAN o LESS... THAN para completar correctamente los siguientes enunciados.

9. That painting is _____ artistic _____ this one.

10. This building has _____ rooms _____ the other one.

11. I made _____ coffee _____ last time.

IV. INSTRUCCIONES: Utiliza -ER THAN o MORE... THAN con los adjetivos o adverbios entre paréntesis para completar correctamente los siguientes enunciados.

12. Glass is _____ plastic. (transparent)

13. Jose is _____ Carlos. (thin)

14. You run _____ Pepe. (slowly)

15. A truck is _____ a car. (heavy)

16. Luey is _____ Joaquín. (young)

17. She was _____ I was. (careful)

V. INSTRUCCIONES: Utiliza THE... -EST o THE MOST con los adjetivos y adverbios entre paréntesis para completar correctamente los siguientes enunciados.

18. Sandra is _____ of all the secretaries. (efficient)

19. That was _____ test of all. (easy)

20. Summer is _____ season of the four. (hot)

1020115274

21. He is _____ actor of all Mexico. (famous)

22. She is _____ girl of all the class. (attractive)

VI. INSTRUCCIONES: Traduce los siguientes enunciados al español.

23. My house is the farthest of the three.

24. Elsa's speech was better than mine.

25. This was the most difficult problem of all.

26. He has fewer friends than Lucy.

27. This dress is prettier than the green one.

28. This suit is less expensive than the white one.

29. My book is the same as yours.

30. This school has fewer pupils than mine.

31. Physics is as important as Mathematics.

32. My coat and your coat are alike.

33. That was the funniest joke of all.

34. This chair is more comfortable than the sofa.

35. My pencil has the same length as yours.

36. This is the softest of all the fabrics we bought.

37. I bought less milk than you.

38. He has as much money as his brother.

39. The store has as many departments as that one.

40. She swims like a professional.

41. My friends are different from yours.

RESPUESTAS A LA AUTOEVALUACION

1. as — as
2. the same — as
3. the same as
4. different from
5. alike
6. like
7. as many — as
8. as much — as
9. less — than
10. fewer — than
11. less — than
12. more transparent than
13. thinner than
14. more slowly than
15. heavier
16. younger than
17. more careful than
18. the most efficient
19. the easiest
20. the hottest
21. the most famous
22. the most attractive
23. Mi casa es la más lejana de las tres.
24. El discurso de Elsa estuvo mejor que el mío.
25. Este fue el problema más difícil de todos.
26. El tiene menos amigas que Lucy.
27. Este vestido está más bonito que el verde.
28. Este traje es menos caro que el blanco.
29. Mi libro es igual al tuyo.
30. Esta escuela tiene menos alumnos que la mía.