

## Guidelines of summer reading for students entering Spanish 2

- Your book is Cuentitos Simpáticos A reader for advanced beginning Spanish students.
- You are required to read the first 15 stories of the book which end at page 89
- The other readings will be done through next year
- Each reading has four sections to fill after is done
  - Comprension
    - You only need to answer in one word or a phrase format to check the understanding of the reading
  - Vocabulario
    - You are adding vocabulary to your knowledge, this is one of the reasons we are reading during the summer, when searching for definitions look first at the vocabulary section pages 158-176
  - Estructuras
    - This grammar is mostly a review. You will find that there is only a few items that it would seem new to you.
  - Verbos
    - This is a drill section of conjugation or creation of other grammatical activities
- **You have to write on the book with legible handwriting, you may write in pencil as long as it is written with # 2 pencils, which is dark lead.**
- The first day of class you will be required to bring and turn in the book as it is your first grade of the year
  - I will be looking for the answers and the work you did on the book
  - Please, do it on you own, don't copy from others. **If you copy from others you would have defeated the purpose of reading during the summer ☹**
- After all books are turned in and checked, the class will be talking about the grammar and readings leading to the first quizzes of the year, which will be administered during the following classes.
- There is an opportunity to stay connected as a class during the summer through the internet.
- You don't have to register for the class account, **this is not a requirement.**
- If you make an account you probably will see an update every other week, maybe more. It will all depend on the popularity of the site among the class members.
- There I will write about different readings, grammar, sending you to different sites on the internet, etc.
- **Remember, the summer reading is a requirement, the Nicenet account and the use of the account is not required to fulfill your readings.**
- Your class has a Nicenet account and the Class Key number is **66BL6W48**
- This class key is not the same as your password

## What is Nicenet?

Nicenet is a bulletin board on the World Wide Web. Is not a chat room and is not live. It can be used in several ways:

- As a discussion area where you will have asynchronous classroom discussions. “Asynchronous” means that not everyone will be online at once, so responses are not immediate. It is like email in that responses trickle in over several days, but unlike regular email, when you use the Conferencing function, everyone on the class roster will receive your message. By contrast, “synchronous” discussions are what you probably are familiar with as “chat”.
- As a place where you may leave assignments. This is especially handy if you want to ask for help or opinion on your writing. If sent to Nicenet, these writings can be read by everyone in the class; this creates a sense of a real audience which is lacking during the summer. In essence, you are publishing your writing on the World Wide Web.

Private email such as questions students wish to ask me personally, rather than address to the class as a whole (although I don't expect this to happen) are sent to me; send these direct emails to me do not go through Nicenet.

You will need to register on Nicenet to take part in the group discussions for this class.

To register follow these steps:

- 1) Get the class key from the teacher. A key code is needed in order to register for the correct class.
- 2) Remember the exact way to enter your user name and your password. If you don't remember them precisely you won't be able to sign back on. (Spaces and capital letters do make a difference.) You may also be asked for your e-mail address during registration. Also, you **cannot** remain anonymous. If you don't post your actual name as your username, you will have to remember to sign each and every posting.
- 3) Once you have the class key and have decided on your password, please go to the URL below and follow the instructions on the screen.

Here is the Nicenet URL: <http://www.nicenet.org/>

### How to make an Original Entry on Nicenet

- (1) Sign in with your username and password.
- (2) Click “Conferencing” on the left side of the screen to enter the area set aside for class discussions.
- (3) Select the topic you want by clicking the appropriate word.
- (4) Select “Post Message to [topic name]”.
- (5) The message window appears.
- (6) Enter your name in the “From” box.

- (7) Enter the message in the message box. If you are sending brief messages as part of a class discussion, you can best capture the “feel” of an oral discussion by composing directly into the message box. However, do be mindful of how easily one’s tone can be mistaken in e-mail.
- (8) Finally, click the “Post New Message” button near the bottom to send your message.

#### How to make a response on Nicenet

- (1) Go to the Conference and topic you want.
- (2) When you reach the chosen topic, make sure you are looking at the full messages, not just a list of titles. (Click “View Entire Messages” if you see only the titles.)
- (3) Read all the messages and find the one you want to respond to.
- (4) **IMPORTANT:** Click “Reply” at the bottom of the message when you’re done. **DO NOT** click “Send a Personal Message to...”
- (5) The message window appears.
- (6) Fill in an appropriate subject or title in the top box.
- (7) Compose your response into the text box.
- (8) Click the “Post New Message” button at the bottom.
- (9) There is no need to enter your own name anywhere. However, if you are responding to what another specific classmate has said, you should mention that person’s name in the body of your message, being mindful that unless you do that, no one will know who you are responding to. Forgetting to do this is a common oversight for those who have never used this kind of electronic conferencing.